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The Global Semiconductor Industry Analysts

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Intel, RISC-V Groups Race to Develop Tomorrow's Processors

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Signalchip designs India's first indigenously designed chip

Co-founded by Himamshu Khasnis and Rajesh Mundhada, Signalchip has designed what is said to be India's first LTE chip with the 4G/LTE modem, LTE baseband modem, LTE transceiver and 5G transceiver under the Agumbe chipset family, all of which will support all LTE/5G-NR bands up to 6GHz

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China start-up undercuts Samsung, Huawei foldables

For a relatively unknown Chinese start-up, Royole has been attracting a lot of attention. The Shenzhen-based manufacturer of flexible displays stunned the smartphone industry last autumn when it beat giants Samsung Electronics and Huawei Technologies to launch the world's first commercialised foldable phone.

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TALK TO US



Swiss optic fibre maker to tap into India 5G market

Swiss optical fibre major Reichle & De-Massari or R&M, will be scaling up its research & development (R&D) and manufacturing activities in India to tap into the demand created by the government's mega fibre push ahead of 5G services rollout

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Facebook Acquires Interconnect IP Vendor

PARIS — Facebook has acquired Sonics Inc., a privately-held Silicon Valley IP provider that specializes in on-chip network (NoC) and power-management technologies.

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Separately, a handful of RISC-V proponents launched the CHIPS Alliance, a project of the Linux Foundation to develop a broad set of open-source IP blocks and tools for the instruction set architecture. Initial members include Esperanto, Google, SiFive, and Western Digital. CHIPS stands for Common Hardware for Interfaces, Processors, and Systems.

The CHIPS Alliance is, by far, the most ambitious of the two efforts and is just one of several open-hardware initiatives in the works at the Linux Foundation. CHIPS aims to create open-source blocks for a variety of embedded cores as well as multi-core SoCs capable of running Linux — and, ultimately, an open-source design flow to build and test them.

Signalchip Designs India's First Indigenously Designed Chip

Bengaluru-based fab-less semiconductor start-up Signalchip, after eight years of relentless R&D work and a never-say-die attitude, has unveiled India's first semiconductor chip for 4G/LTE and 5G NR (New Radio) modems.

Co-founded by Himamshu Khasnis and Rajesh Mundhada, Signalchip has designed what is said to be India's first LTE chip with the 4G/LTE modem, LTE baseband modem, LTE transceiver and 5G transceiver under the Agumbe chipset family, all of which will support all LTE/5G-NR bands up to 6GHz. These chips put India into an elite group of countries that own this widely used technology.

China Start-Up Undercuts Samsung, Huawei Foldables

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At last month's Mobile World Congress in Barcelona, Samsung and Huawei made all the noise with their \$2,000 foldable phones. But it was only at Royole's stand that visitors had the chance to touch and play with the industry's most significant innovation in years. Samsung's Galaxy Fold and Huawei's Mate X, sleeker and significantly more costly than Royole's \$1,300 FlexPai, were kept securely locked away in glass cases.

Swiss Optic Fibre Maker To Tap Into India 5G Market

Swiss optical fibre major Reichle & De-Massari or R&M, will be scaling up its research & development (R&D) and manufacturing activities in India to tap into the demand created by the government's mega fibre push ahead of 5G services rollout.

"We are planning to strengthen our Bengaluru operations for manufacturing as well as R&D," R&M chairman Hans Hess said in a report in The Economic Times. The Switzerland-based company had recently set up manufacturing operations in Bengaluru under the Centre's Make in India initiative to supply fibre to telecom carriers and data centres worldwide.

Hess, however, didn't mention any investment figures in the report.

Facebook Acquires Interconnect IP Vendor Sonics

PARIS — Facebook has acquired Sonics Inc., a privately-held Silicon Valley IP provider that specializes in on-chip network (NoC) and power-management technologies. The deal is another sign that big systems companies like Apple and platform vendors such as Google and Facebook are designing in earnest their own SoCs for captive use.

After our initial story went public on EE Times' website early Wednesday morning, a Facebook spokesperson called us and stated, "I can confirm that we have acquired Sonics." She said, "We're rapidly developing new VR and AR products and deepening our technology expertise in silicon is an important step for our 10-year roadmap. We're excited to welcome the remarkable Sonics team and technology to AR/VR at Facebook."