



Future Horizons Newsletter

October & November 2014

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Industry News By Company

[Chip Deal Provides A Ray Of Hope For Silicon Startups](#)

Venture capitalists have a well-known aversion to putting money in chip startups. The fear is frequently traced to the heavy cost of developing products plus the dodgy prospect that investors will make any money.

A company called SiTime has emerged as an exception. MegaChips, a publicly held chip maker in Japan, this week announced it will buy the Silicon Valley startup for \$200 million in cash.

“It’s a real lesson,” says Rajesh Vashist, SiTime’s CEO. “If you have the right market and find the right team, you can still have a very good outcome in good old silicon.”

SiTime’s silicon fits a special niche. The company developed an alternative way to generate the timing pulses that help coordinate activity in most electronic devices.

[Chip Designer ARM Holdings Unveils Operating System](#)

ARM Holdings ARM.LN -2.51% PLC, whose chip designs already dominate the smartphone market, is making a push to get its technology into the next wave of connected objects.

Britain-based ARM on Wednesday introduced an operating system and a software system to manage data that it believes will smooth the way for companies to start churning out products connected to the Internet, a semiconductor market that analysts estimate could be valued at as much as \$50 billion by 2020.

While ARM doesn't have the global name recognition of Cisco Systems Inc. CSCO +1.88% or Intel Corp. INTC +1.72% , its chip designs are found in more than 95% of all smartphones. It designs the basic architecture of the chips, which are then made by the likes of Qualcomm Inc. QCOM +1.81% and others.

ARM traditionally earns its money in two ways: selling intellectual-property licenses for its designs to manufacturers, and charging royalties when the chips ship.

[AMD, Synopsys Extend IP Deal](#)

Synopsys Inc. and AMD have entered a multi-year partnership that gives AMD access to a range of Synopsys DesignWare interface, memory compiler, logic library and analogue IP on advanced 16/14nm and 10nm FinFET process technologies. Synopsys is also hiring nearly 150 AMD IP R&D engineers and gains access to AMD's interface and foundation IP.

Synopsys is developing silicon-proven IP for advanced process technologies, providing designers with a broad range of high-quality IP for integration into SoCs and delivering expert technical support. For 45 years, AMD has developed and integrated many forms of complex IP into advanced processors, graphics cards and related SoCs, the company stated. By licensing proven, standard IP from Synopsys and transferring interface and foundation IP to Synopsys, AMD can focus its valuable engineering resources on its

ongoing product differentiation and IP reuse strategy and realise long-term cost efficiencies.

Crocus Launches The Multismart Project To Develop The First Ever Multibit Technology For Secure Applications

Crocus Technology, a leading provider of magnetically enhanced semiconductor technologies and products, today announces it will develop a Multibit Magnetic Logic Unit® (MLU) technology for secure transaction applications and the Internet of Things (IoT). This will be the first secure microcontroller designed with a Multibit MLU architecture. By expanding the density of memory with no trade-off in the size of the die, customers will gain two important advantages. One is greater flexibility to offer additional features and functions. The other is the benefit of a more compact product that will ease integration in complex devices.

Today, secure elements are based on flash memory or EEPROM, which are single bit per cell memory only. Crocus will be the first in the smart card and secure element market to release a product integrating a multibit per cell memory. Multibit per cell memory exists in standalone NAND and NOR storage applications, which always need larger density.

Crocus' engineering teams at its security division based in Rousset, France, will develop this new enhanced capacity secure microcontroller through the Multismart project consortium. The Secured Communications Solutions (SCS) competitiveness cluster, which focuses on contactless, M2M and mobile services, digital security and identities, the French Government and regional authorities are all supporting this collaborative project.

CSR And Lenovo Deliver World's First Fully Featured Bluetooth® Smart Television Remote Control

CSR plc (LSE: CSR; NASDAQ: CSRE) today announces that it has partnered with Lenovo to make its new S9 and S52 Smart TVs, the world's first TVs with fully featured Bluetooth Smart remote controls. The remotes, which are currently available in China, are not only low power but also have increased responsiveness, and make controlling TV content a much more user-friendly experience.

Advancing the forms of control in line with advances in television content, the remote, powered by the CSR1011™, part of the CSR µEnergy® range, and CSR8510™ platforms, enables consumers to take advantage of voice control, as well as easily adding motion navigation and gesture recognition functionality. The end-to-end solution allows users to more easily navigate content, browse the web and play games on their Lenovo Smart TVs.

CSR Dual Mode Bluetooth® Platforms Enable Faster Development Of Low Power, Next-Gen Wireless Gaming Controllers

CSR plc (LSE: CSR; NASDAQ: CSRE) today announces the launch of a new series of dual mode Bluetooth® 4.1 compliant platforms, designed to give greater flexibility to developers looking to create low latency and ultra low-power wireless gaming controllers. The CSR5341™ and CSR5342™, part of the CSR BlueCore® range, will provide

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developers with turnkey solutions for wireless gaming controllers and HID applications from a single device.

“CSR is committed to helping OEMs create exciting new functionality for the next generation of low-energy wireless gaming devices,” says Anthony Murray, Senior Vice President, Business Group at CSR. “With the CSR534x series we are delivering a powerful, flexible and feature rich platform that can be used with multiple operating systems.”

[IBM Leaves Semiconductors - End Of An Era](#)

October 29, 2014 -- IBM last week agreed to transfer its semiconductor business to GlobalFoundries. GlobalFoundries will acquire wafer fabs in East Fishkill, New York and Essex Junction, Vermont; IBM’s commercial microelectronics business, which includes ASIC and foundry; over 10,000 IBM patents related to semiconductor manufacturing; and over 5000 fab and ASIC employees. GlobalFoundries will supply all IBM’s 22nm, 14nm and 10nm ICs for the next 10 years. IBM will take a \$4.7 billion pre-tax charge to write down the assets of the semiconductor business and to cover paying GlobalFoundries \$1.5 billion over the next three years.

[Infineon Technologies AG To Acquire International Rectifier Corporation For US-Dollar 40 Per Share, Approximately US-Dollar 3 Billion In Cash](#)

Infineon Technologies AG (FSE: IFX / OTCQX: IFNNY) and International Rectifier Corporation (NYSE: IRF) today announced that they have signed a definitive agreement under which Infineon will acquire International Rectifier for US-Dollar 40 per share in an all-cash transaction valued at approximately US-Dollar 3 billion. The acquisition combines two semiconductor companies with leadership positions in power management technology. By the integration of International Rectifier, Infineon complements its offerings and will be able to provide customers with an even broader range of innovative products and services. Infineon will also benefit significantly from greater economies of scale as well as a larger regional footprint.

Dr. Reinhard Ploss, CEO of Infineon Technologies AG, says: “The acquisition of International Rectifier is a unique opportunity. With their great knowledge of specific customer needs and their application understanding, International Rectifier employees will contribute to Infineon’s strategic development from product thinking to system understanding and system solutions. The combination of Infineon’s and International Rectifier’s products, technological and innovative excellence, as well as distributional strength will unleash great potential.”

[Infineon motors ahead with Dresden fab, 48V battery](#)

Once impossible, closely working with Japan's leading automakers is fast becoming a reality to some of non-Japanese automotive chip companies, because Renesas—the world's leading automotive chip vendor—has begun losing its grip in recent years.

Infineon is no exception. In a press briefing held Wednesday, September 24, Jochen Hanebeck, president of Infineon's automotive division, told EE Times that the German

chip company, ranked sixth on the Japanese automotive market in revenue in 2010, has climbed up to third place in 2013.

Infineon, whose focus is on powertrain, safety and body in cars, has a broad automotive product portfolio. It ranges from power to MCUs and sensors. All in all, though, the German chip company is banking on its expertise in MCUs and power semiconductors to expand the company's presence in the global automotive market. Infineon's secret weapon could be its Dresden facility, where the company runs one of the most highly-automated 200mm fabs and bringing its home-grown 300mm "thin" wafers on line in producing power semiconductors.

[Inphi Completes Acquisition Of Cortina Systems](#)

SANTA CLARA, CA--(Marketwired - Oct 6, 2014) - Inphi Corporation (NYSE: IPHI), a leading provider of high-speed, mixed signal semiconductor solutions for the communications, data center and computing markets, today announced that it has completed the acquisition of Cortina Systems, Inc., including its High-Speed Interconnect and Optical Transport product lines, as announced on July 30, 2014, in a transaction valued at \$131 million. The acquisition does not include Cortina's Access and Digital Home business, which was divested prior to the closing of the acquisition and will continue as an independent company.

The close of the acquisition further extends Inphi's market leading position for high-speed optical and networking interconnects. Already a market leader with its 100G PHY/SerDes Gearbox and CDR ICs, Inphi's comprehensive Networking Interconnect product portfolio is now extended by the addition of Cortina's 10G/15G/40G PHY interconnects. Additionally, adding Cortina's 10G/40G/100G Transport and Interconnect products to Inphi's strong Optical Interconnect 100G amplifiers and drivers positions Inphi as an industry leader for Optical and Networking interconnects.

[Intel Ships Over 100m Chips For First Time](#)

Intel reported record revenue and, for the first time, shipped more than 100m chips in a quarter, indicating that the California-based semiconductor manufacturer is finding tentative success in its efforts to mitigate the struggles of a declining PC market.

Its shares were up 2.2 per cent in after-market trading, adding to a 2.1 per cent rise during the day.

[Lantiq Introduces Industry's First G.fast Residential Gateway Reference Design](#)

Munich/Neubiberg, Germany – October 07, 2014 – Lantiq, a leading supplier of broadband access and home networking technologies, today announced the EASY330 G.fast reference board, the industry's first residential gateway reference design built around G.fast. The EASY330 uses the Lantiq AnyWAN™ concept based on Lantiq's GRX330 multicore networking processing unit with Gigabit routing performance to provide maximum flexibility in CPE design and deployment. It also includes an embedded 11n offloading engine, maximized 802.11ac Wi-Fi throughput, Gigabit

Ethernet switch and PHYs, carrier grade VoIP and built-in G.fast chipsets from Scipio Technologies, the leader in G.fast modems.

Dan Artusi, CEO of Lantiq: “With the introduction of the EASY330 G.fast reference design we enable our customers to enter the next stage of designing leading-edge and future proof broadband gateways. The system marks a cornerstone in Lantiq’s G.fast roadmap, enabling telcos to cost-efficiently leverage and upgrade their copper based networks to Gigabit speeds.

[Lantiq Enables Internet Of Things By Integrating HAN FUN Into Its Broadband Gateways](#)

Munich/Neubiberg, Germany – October 14, 2014 – Lantiq, a leading supplier of broadband access and home networking technologies, has now advanced its strategy to make the broadband gateway the central node for smart home networks by integrating support for the ULE Alliance’s HAN FUN protocol into its software powering the xRX 200/300 Gateway System-on-Chip families.

Integration of the HAN FUN (Home Area Network FUNctionality) protocol makes it easy for gateways based on Lantiq chipsets to act as a home automation hub with support for “Internet of Things” (IoT) devices such as climate sensors and control units, smart meters, lighting and smart appliances.

[Microsoft Rounds Out Job Cuts, Leaves 3,000 Jobless](#)

Microsoft Corp. gave marching orders to some 3,000 workers on Wednesday, Oct. 29, rounding out its plan to cut 18,000 jobs or 14 per cent of its workforce, Reuters reported.

The latest in the series of the tech giant's largest layoff sweep involved 638 positions in the company's Redmond headquarters in Washington, according to a Microsoft spokesperson. The rest was spread across numerous business units in many countries.

First announced in July, the first wave of layoffs left approximately 13,000 unemployed. The next came in September where another 2,100 was dismissed. Upon completion of the job reductions, Microsoft's workforce will be around 110,000 employees.

[ON Semiconductor, Transphorm Partner For GaN Products](#)

ON Semiconductor (ONNN - Analyst Report) recently entered into a strategic partnership with Transphorm, a company engaged in the development and marketing of modular power conversion products. Transphorm is also known for its progress in developing and bringing to market gallium nitride (GaN) solutions.

The two companies will create and market GaN based products for a range of high power industrial, computing, telecom and networking applications. The interest in GaN stems from its efficiency in power conversion, especially at higher frequencies, which in turn helps to save costs.

[RFEL Adds New Wideband DDC To Its Signal Processing Range](#)

RFEL has announced the latest addition to its range of award winning FPGA based signal processing solutions. The flexible Wideband Digital Down-Converter (Wideband DDC)

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IP core is designed to accept wideband digitised data at sample rates of up to 3.6GS/s, supporting first or second Nyquist bandwidths of up to 1.8GHz.

Signals with bandwidths as high as 180MHz can be down-converted to complex baseband (I/Q) from anywhere within the chosen input Nyquist band, within the limits imposed by the signal bandwidth. The down-conversion frequency is tuneable over the entire 1.8GHz range, with an accuracy of better than 1Hz, enabling, for example, the total removal of intermediate frequency (IF) components. The extracted signal bandwidth is precisely selectable in the range 800Hz to 180MHz. This is provided through user control of the output sample rate, which may be programmed in the range 1kS/s to 225MS/s with an accuracy of better than 1S/s.

Samsung To Spend \$14.7bn On Memory Chip Plant

Samsung Electronics is to spend Won15.6tn (\$14.7bn) building a new semiconductor plant in South Korea, the biggest single expenditure on a memory chip factory, to meet growing demand for components used in mobile devices.

Construction of the world's biggest state of the art chipmaking plant will begin in the first half of next year and complete in the second half of 2017, the South Korean company said. The plant will be built in Pyeongtaek, south of Seoul.

Samsung has been on a falling cycle of capital expenditure, which dropped to 10 per cent of sales last fiscal year from 14 per cent in 2010. It plans to devote the bulk of its capex to semiconductors, or Won14.4tn, to semiconductors this year.

TSMC, HiSilicon Unveil 16FinFET Networking Processor

TSMC's 16FinFET process promises impressive speed and power improvements as well as leakage reduction. All of these advantages overcome challenges that have become critical barriers to further scaling of advanced SoC technology. It has twice the gate density of TSMC's 28HPM process and operates more than 40 per cent faster at the same total power, or reduces total power over 60 per cent at the same speed.

"Our FinFET R&D goes back over a decade and we are pleased to see the tremendous efforts resulted in this achievement," said TSMC President and Co-CEO Dr. Mark Liu. "We are confident in our abilities to maximise the technology's capabilities and bring results that match our long track record of foundry leadership in advanced technology nodes."

TSMC's 16FinFET has entered risk production with excellent yields after completing all reliability qualifications in November 2013. This paves the way for TSMC and customers to engage in more future product tape-outs, pilot activities and early sampling.

Industry News & Trends

[Phone's Wireless Transmission Allows Gesture Control](#)

Mobile phones have become second-nature for many people, with almost all of the U.S. population owning at least one cell phone and around 80 per cent carrying a smartphone.

SEE ALSO: Power Integrations LYTSwitch LED drivers for LED blubs, T8, and CC apps.

What's coming next, say University of Washington researchers, is the ability to interact with our devices not just with touchscreens, but through gestures in the space around the phone. Some smartphones are starting to incorporate 3D gesture sensing based on cameras, for example, but cameras consume significant battery power and require a clear view of the user's hands.

UW engineers have developed a new form of low-power wireless sensing technology that could soon contribute to this growing field by letting users "train" their smartphones to recognise and respond to specific hand gestures near the phone.

[Apple Watch, Biggest Breakout Product Since Ipod](#)

Apple made its first foray into the wearable computing market with the Apple Watch. The smartwatch was revealed on Tuesday, alongside two new iPhones and Apple's breakthrough mobile payment technology called Apple Pay.

Apple Watch's interface controller, called Digital Crown, features a rotary dial on the side of the device that allows navigation through the watch's screens, much like the reoriented click wheel in the older iPod models.

The digital timepiece needs an iPhone to connect to WiFi and access GPS data. It also includes Siri and can turn heartbeats into physical vibrations that other Apple Watch users can feel. The device comes with Fitness and Workout apps.

[Wireless MCU Delivers Up To 125°C](#)

Texas Instruments debuted its wireless MCU for Bluetooth low energy applications, offering an extended temperature range of -40°C to 125°C and USB connectivity. The temperature range allows for lighting designs with high junction temperature and any other designs requiring working in conditions above 85°C.

The CC2540T enables robust BLE master or slave nodes to be built with very low total BoMs, and can operate up to 125°C. The device combines an RF transceiver with an enhanced 8051 MCU, in-system programmable flash memory and 8KB RAM among others.

The MCU comes in a small form factor for industrial and consumer lighting. It provides low-power sleep modes, featuring short transition times between operating modes to further cut power consumption.

[£300m Cardiff University Investment Includes Compound Semiconductor Institute](#)

Cardiff University's vice chancellor Colin Riordan has outlined plans to invest £300m in four new research and innovation centres including one dedicated to compound semiconductor technology.

A unique facility in the UK, the proposed Compound Semiconductor Research Institute would demonstrate and test compound semiconductor technology in realistic environments, he said.

The aim for the institute is to provide cutting-edge facilities that allow for greater engagement with industry, and excellent research and development, to position Cardiff as the UK and European leader in translational research in this field.

The other three centres planned for a disused, former industrial space include a Translational Research Facility for turning academic research and innovation into real-world applications; an Innovation Centre for start-up companies; and the world's first Social Science Research Park.

[Silicon Labs Launches Industry's Smallest PCI Express Clock IC for Consumer Electronics](#)

AUSTIN, Texas--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Silicon Labs (NASDAQ: SLAB), a leader in high-performance, analog-intensive, mixed-signal ICs, today introduced the industry's smallest PCI Express (PCIe) compliant clock generator targeting consumer and embedded applications where reliability, board space, component count and power consumption are critical design factors. Designed to meet the stringent specifications of the PCIe Generation 1/2/3 standards, the new Si50122 clock leverages Silicon Labs' low-power PCIe and CMEMS® technologies to provide an energy-friendly, crystal-less timing solution for a wide range of applications. The PCIe clock is ideal for digital video and still cameras, IP set-top boxes, HD streaming video players, high-definition digital TVs, home entertainment and audio systems, multi-function printers, consumer and small-business storage, and home gateway and wireless access equipment.

[Race Is On To Build World's First Driverless Car](#)

Fired-up by Google's driverless prototype, carmakers such as Mercedes-Benz and Volvo are already testing autonomous vehicles on public roads. But the advanced sensors and electronics that form the building blocks of self-driving cars are often made by suppliers, not the car manufacturer.

But the advanced sensors and electronics that form the building blocks of self-driving cars are often made by suppliers, not the car manufacturer. Some fear that, in the long term, carmakers that lag behind in autonomous vehicle technology face a future akin to today's PC assemblers – with the big profits accruing to the companies behind the software and electronic content underneath.

“It's all the suppliers into the industry who, in the fullness of time, will gain the power,” says a senior industry analyst, who works closely with the leading carmakers. “If I'm the buyer, I don't care if it's a 1.9-litre car or a 2.4 – because I'm not driving it.”

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Developing ARM-Based Bluetooth-Enabled Wearables

The rapidly evolving market for wearable products will see explosive growth and many new use cases over the next few years. Market research company IHS predicts this market will be worth Rs.1.82 lakh crore (\$30 billion) in revenues and 21 crore (210 million) units by 2018.

Devices worn on the wrist such as fitness activity trackers like Misfit or Misfit Shine, smartwatches like the Pebble mobile smartwatch or the recently announced Omate X smartwatch or products with the potential to form a new category like wristbands that authenticate a user's identity through their electrocardiogram (ECG) are likely to make up a majority of shipments.

But there are number of other imaginative use cases such as T-shirts with embedded displays that potentially could show a video that is running on the wearer's smartphone, along with a whole host of new applications that will fully grasp the possibilities offered by wearables as part of the Internet of things, linking devices to cloud computing.

World's First Solar Battery Stores Power Using Air, Light

Researchers at the Ohio State University have succeeded in combining a battery and a solar cell into one hybrid device, thus creating the world's first solar battery.

Key to the innovation is a mesh solar panel, which allows air to enter the battery, and a special process for transferring electrons between the solar panel and the battery electrode. Inside the device, light and oxygen enable different parts of the chemical reactions that charge the battery.

The university will license the solar battery to industry, where Yiying Wu, professor of chemistry and biochemistry at Ohio State, says it will help tame the costs of renewable energy.

Bumpy Journey For Driverless Cars

According to Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers fellow Alberto Broggi, the vehicles of tomorrow will no longer need a driver, and will instead have a lounge that can fit in its passengers.

"All the technological advancements will be towards removing steering wheel and pedals, yet keeping safety as one of the biggest criteria," Broggi told Techonline India. "An autonomous car will be safer by definition since the driver will not be distracted, will not drink, and will not drive under the influence of substances."

Google already has the lead when it comes to driverless cars. Over the past few years, Google has made impressive progress in the area of autonomous driving. Recently, California's Department of Motor Vehicles handed out 25 of the total 28 permits to the search engine giant, allowing Google to test more than two dozen of its modified, autonomous Lexus SUVs, according to The Guardian.

LED Chip Kindles More Intelligent Headlamps

Osram Opto Semiconductors and its partners on the μ AFS research project developed a LED chip that controls 256 light points (pixels).

Up to now, pixel systems have been based on a large number of individual LEDs. The project aims to develop the technical principles for a new class of energy-efficient LED headlamps which may then provide the basis for adaptive front lighting systems. These systems will improve the illumination of the road ahead because they actively adapt the distribution of the light according to the driving and traffic situation without dazzling other road users.

East European News & Trends

[Microsoft Teams Up With Russian State Fund To Support Industrial Start-Ups](#)

FRII, the \$200m government-backed start-up fund launched last year, and Microsoft announced earlier this month that they were beginning an industrial accelerator to support start-ups developing IT solutions for education, healthcare, commerce, industry, the service sector, the financial sector, and municipal services.

The project will receive support from Microsoft Ventures, the international subdivision of the corporation that is responsible for multifaceted support to young entrepreneurs worldwide, reported East-West Digital News, the first all English-language online resource dedicated to Russian digital industries.

The accelerator is intended for companies that have already developed a product prototype but are in the early stages of business development. Two four-month acceleration cycles are planned per year, in which ten start-ups can participate after pre-screening for technology viability and fundability. The current application cycle is already underway.

[Russia And South Korea Step Up Cooperation In High-Tech Sectors](#)

Russia and South Korea are ready to step up joint R&D in IT and a number of high-tech areas. According to Rossiiskaya Gazeta, the primary mouthpiece for the Russian Cabinet, envoys of the two partners' political, business and scientific circles reached preliminary agreements on this and other matters earlier this month in Seoul.

Commenting on the results of the talks, Oleg Plaksin of RVC, Russia's state-owned fund of funds for innovation, said that information technologies, biotechnologies, new materials, shipbuilding, robotics, aerospace projects and nanotechnology have been identified as the key sectors for cooperation.

[Far From International Turmoil, Intel Teams Up With Russian Technoparks And Continues Skolkovo Partnership](#)

Earlier this month Intel signed a strategic collaboration agreement with Russia's High-Tech Technopark Association, a nonprofit partnership created in 2011 to implement the Russian government's strategy for innovative development.

The collaboration encompasses the organization of joint initiatives to develop corporate management systems, enhance HR management techniques, adopt best practices, improve relations with emerging entrepreneurs, and conduct joint project expertise, reported East-West Digital News, the first all English-language online resource dedicated to Russian digital industries.

The US giant will also help the association analyze and assess Russian tech-park activity. "The parties plan to develop and master the methods, criteria and information acquisition and processing system in order to build up a unique national rating of Russian tech parks," the partners stated.

New Samara Nanotech Hub To Nurture Dozens Of Technology Start-Ups?

Rusnano, Russia's nanotech giant, is co-investing about \$10m in the new nanotech center in Samara, in the Volga area, Bfmsamara.ru reported. The overall tab for the project is said to be about \$25m.

The Samara nanotech center is expected to focus on catalysts for the petrochemical sector, advanced sources of electrical energy, biocompatible materials, and innovation for the construction of sports facilities.

With New 4G/LTE Solution, Arctic Gets Closer, Russian Developer Thinks

Telum, the developer of the Ranberry family of small LTE cells in Russia, has rolled out its new product called Ranberry B1000. The solution is said to enable users to take virtually no time in deploying a 4G/LTE wireless broadband network that supports voice, video and data transmission, the Skolkovo Foundation website reported.

The project is reported to incorporate products by Telum, a Skolkovo resident, and by Intel, a U.S.-based multinational with vested interests in Russia. The developers believe the new system will be of special interest for government emergency agencies when confronting the aftermath of natural disasters or industrial emergencies.

State Fund Seeks To Develop Russian Apple

The Internet Initiatives Development Fund, set up in Russia last year, is expanding its area of interest. Initially established to support Internet start-ups, IIDF now prepares to invest in a range of new fields, such as wearable devices ('smart' watches, glasses, etc.), the Internet-of-things (including 'smart' household appliances, web-connected sensors, etc.), and big data processing.

"I think this country still has the potential to develop a new Apple. As before, we will focus on early-stage projects," IIDF Director Kirill Varlamov told the Russian daily Izvestia.

The Internet Initiatives Development Fund was set up in March 2013 by the Agency for Strategic Initiatives, an entity established two years before by then Prime Minister Vladimir Putin to support socially significant business projects. The new fund was originally designed to back entrepreneurship in the Web and now has a reported \$200m to invest.

Russian Radio Electronics To Reorient Eastwards — Deputy Defence Minister

YALTA, Crimea, October 2 /TASS/. Russian Deputy Defense Minister Yuri Borisov said on Thursday that Russia's radio electronic industry should start looking eastward.

The anti-Russian sanctions which the West imposed on Russia for its policy in southeast Ukraine have created the biggest problems for the national radio electronic industry. So Russia has started re-orienting its economy at new markets in a bid to give additional impetus to improvements in the radio-electronic sector, Borisov went on to say.

Slovenia's Telemach Acquires Mobile Operator

United Group-owned Slovenian cable operator Telemach has struck a deal to acquire mobile operator Tušmobil from its owner Tuš Holding.

Telemach will combine Tušmobil's mobile network with its own fixed infrastructure to offer a full package of multi-play service to subscribers across the country.

World Economic Round Up

The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) has cut its economic growth forecasts for the U.S. and other large developed economies, and said the continued weakness of the recovery demonstrated the need for significant changes in economic policy. In a partial update to its twice-yearly forecasts for economic growth, the OECD cut its 2014 projections for each member of the Group of Seven largest developed economies. It said it now expects the U.S. economy to expand 2.1 percent this year, having forecast growth of 2.6 percent in May, while it expects the euro zone economy to expand by just 0.8 percent, having forecast growth of 1.2 percent in May.

The latest economic news by country to include USA, Europe, UK, Japan, China, Asia Pacific and India can be found each month in our [Semiconductor Monthly Report](#).

Industry Events 2015

Future Horizons Events

- [Industry Forecast Briefing](#), London – 20th January 2015

To book your place on any of our events please contact us on:

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Industry Events

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MARK YOUR CALENDER FOR THE NEXT

INDUSTRY FORECAST BRIEFING

TUESDAY 20th January 2015

BEING HELD AT

HOLIDAY INN KENSINGTON FORUM

LONDON

For weekly semiconductor news and updates follow us on Twitter and Facebook