

# FutureHorizons



The Global Semiconductor Industry Analysts

## FH MONDAY

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### Huawei spat comes as China races ahead in 5G

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### TALK TO US



### IBM Sets AI Goals for 2019

A lot has been accomplished in the last year to improve comprehension, accuracy and scalability of artificial intelligence, but 2019 will see efforts focused on eliminating bias and making decision making more transparent.

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### Infineon Claims First Industrial-grade WLCSP eSIM Chip

Infineon says it has shipped volume quantities of the first industrial-grade wafer level chip scale package (WLCSP) embedded SIM.

Until now, the company said there were only consumer-grade eSIM products being shipped in a WLCSP-package.

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## **Fibre Channel Hits 64G Under Broadcom**

SAN JOSE, Calif. — Broadcom's Emulex group announced next-generation Fibre Channel storage cards and chips, aiming to nudge the market forward. Emulex is bullish on the prospects for its 64-Gbit/s products, although at least one market researcher characterized the overall market as stable.

The Emulex LPe35000 cards and XE601 controller are available today, but they need 64G optical modules that are just starting to sample and PCIe Gen 4 connections that are not yet generally available on x86 servers. "By the end of 2019 or early 2020, we'll see production shipments of those things," said Jeff Hoogenboom, general manager of Broadcom's Emulex division.

Ethernet has been expanding the set of jobs that it handles in computer networks, but Fibre Channel got an uptick recently with the rise of solid-state drive (SSD) arrays.

## **Huawei Spat Comes As China Races Ahead In 5G**

A leaked memo, apparently written by a senior National Security Council official, revealed as far back as the start of this year exactly how worried the US is about Huawei. The rise of the Chinese company to become the world's biggest supplier of telecoms equipment has given China a huge boost over the US in the race to introduce and develop 5G, the next generation of mobile communications, the memo complained. "We are losing," it said. "Whoever leads in technology and market share for 5G deployment will have a tremendous advantage towards [...] commanding the heights of the information domain."

Eleven months on, those fears have mushroomed into open conflict between Washington and Beijing, with American officials pushing allied countries to ban Huawei from building their 5G networks, citing concerns over security and the company's unclear links to the Chinese state.

## **Rohde & Schwarz Improve ELEKTRA EMC Software**

The new R&S ELEKTRA EMC test software fully automates electromagnetic interference (EMI) tests. It also covers electromagnetic susceptibility (EMS) to address both product development and certification in line with international standards. Making the most of today's powerful EMC testing instruments, users can now boost testing efficiency in EMC labs.

EMC market leader Rohde & Schwarz introduces additional options for the existing R&S ELEKTRA EMC test software family to cover even more applications.

Thanks to the extensive automated execution of EMI tests, R&S ELEKTRA helps lab operators and EMC engineers who work in a wide variety of industries or for test houses and regulatory authorities save time and effort in the development and certification of commercial, automotive and A&D products

## **IBM Sets AI Goals For 2019**

TORONTO — A lot has been accomplished in the last year to improve comprehension, accuracy and scalability of artificial intelligence, but 2019 will see efforts focused on eliminating bias and making decision making more transparent.

Jeff Welsler, vice president at IBM Research, says the organization has hit several AI milestones in the past year and is predicting three key areas of focus for 2019. Bringing cognitive solutions powered by AI to a platform businesses can easily adopt is a strategic business imperative for the company, he said, while also increasing understanding of AI and addressing issues such as bias and trust.

When it comes to advancing AI, Welsler said there's been progress in several areas, including comprehension of speech and analyzing images. IBM's Project Debater work has been able to extend current AI speech comprehension capabilities beyond simple question answering tasks, enabling machines to better understand when people are making arguments, he said, and taking it beyond just "search on steroids." One scenario involved asking a question that had no definitive answer — whether government should increase funding for telemedicine.

## **Infineon Claims First Industrial-grade WLCSP eSIM Chip**

Infineon says it has shipped volume quantities of the first industrial-grade wafer level chip scale package (WLCSP) embedded SIM.

Until now, the company said there were only consumer-grade eSIM products being shipped in a WLCSP-package. Infineon says it has managed to get its SLM 97 security controller qualified to industrial qualification requirements as defined per Jedec, including extended temperature range (-40 to 105°C) and reduced failure rates.

Manufacturers of industrial machines and equipment ranging from vending machines to remote sensors and asset trackers are using machine-to-machine communication in the internet of things (IoT), and often rely on mobile networks for data collection and uninterrupted data transmission.

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