

# FutureHorizons



The Global Semiconductor Industry Analysts

## FH MONDAY

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Intel details GPU Flex Series, next-gen Xeon accelerators

Following its chiplets announcement and CEO Pat Gelsinger's industry pep talk at the Hot Chips event this week, Intel had more to say about boosting GPU performance and flexibility, and how the company primed its CPU processor with accelerator technology to address AI workload demands in data centers.

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CHIPS Act may offer IoT sector a well-timed boost

Like other technology sectors, the Internet of Things ecosystem stands to benefit from the recent passage of the CHIPS Act, and it could not come at a better time for IoT, a market that was reaching new levels of maturity just when the semiconductor supply chain constraints started to become a major problem.

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Nexar to acquire Veniam to leverage vehicle vision sensor data

Nexar, an AI mobility company that is crowdsourcing vision sensor data from vehicles on the road to feed a variety of services and road safety capabilities, has agreed to acquire Veniam, a Portuguese software firm with wireless mesh technology for connecting vehicles to one another and to the internet.

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TALK TO US



Intel, Brookfield Enter \$30B Semiconductor Partnership

As the United States races to grow its domestic semiconductor manufacturing base—and to end its reliance on chips made in Asia—Intel has formed an unprecedented partnership with Brookfield Asset Management to fund a \$30B expansion of Intel's US chip fab facilities.

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Infinion signs multi-year supply agreement

Infinion Technologies AG of Munich, Germany has signed a multi-year supply agreement for silicon carbide (SiC) wafers from II-VI Inc of Saxonburg, PA, USA. Infineon's aim is to secure further access to silicon carbide to meet the strong increase in customer demand in this sector, and to supports its multi-sourcing strategy and increase its supply chain resilience

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Future Horizons Ltd, • 44 Bethel Road • Sevenoaks • Kent TN13 3UE • England

Tel: +44 1732 740440 • Fax: +44 1732 740442

e-mail: [mail@futurehorizons.com](mailto:mail@futurehorizons.com) • <http://www.futurehorizons.com/>

Affiliates in Europe, India, Israel, Japan, Russian, San Jose California, USA

## **Intel details GPU Flex Series, next-gen Xeon accelerators**

Following its chiplets announcement and CEO Pat Gelsinger's industry pep talk at the Hot Chips event this week, Intel had more to say about boosting GPU performance and flexibility, and how the company primed its CPU processor with accelerator technology to address AI workload demands in data centers.

First up, Intel unveiled details of its Data Center GPU Flex Series, which formerly was code-named Arctic Sound-M when it was first discussed in early 2022.

"Flex" in this case refers to a single GPU's capability to handle a growing variety of data center workloads—media delivery, cloud gaming, AI, metaverse and other emerging visual cloud use cases—at optimum performance instead of forcing customers to relegate some of workloads to more siloed, discrete solutions.

## **CHIPS Act may offer IoT sector a well-timed boost**

Like other technology sectors, the Internet of Things ecosystem stands to benefit from the recent passage of the CHIPS Act, and it could not come at a better time for IoT, a market that was reaching new levels of maturity just when the semiconductor supply chain constraints started to become a major problem.

Mike Georgoff, chief product officer at Hologram, a Chicago-based company enabling IoT device roaming via mobile-like SIM cards, said the chip shortage and related challenges affected the IoT market, but also helped IoT companies become more focused.

## **Nexar to acquire Veniam to leverage vehicle vision sensor Data**

Nexar, an AI mobility company that is crowdsourcing vision sensor data from vehicles on the road to feed a variety of services and road safety capabilities, has agreed to acquire Veniam, a Portuguese software firm with wireless mesh technology for connecting vehicles to one another and to the internet.

Vehicles on the road increasingly are being compared to computers or even data centers, but key to this acquisition is the notion of vehicles increasingly becoming data engines. Israel-based Nexar provides vision sensing through dash-cams that can capture crowdsourced, anonymized data "from billions of miles of driving" with the aim of creating a "digital twin of America's roads and cities," the company said in a statement.

## **Intel, Brookfield Enter \$30B Semiconductor Partnership**

As the United States races to grow its domestic semiconductor manufacturing base—and to end to its reliance on chips made in Asia—Intel has formed an unprecedented partnership with Brookfield Asset Management to fund a \$30B expansion of Intel's US chip fab facilities.

The semiconductor giant will maintain operational control of the partnership by contributing 51% of the funding, while Toronto-based Brookfield will contribute 49%, according to a statement issued jointly by the companies this week.

The joint statement said Intel and Brookfield's Infrastructure division will evenly share the revenue generated by new or expanded chip fabs funded by the venture. The deal is expected to close by the end of the year.

## **Infineon signs multi-year supply agreement for II-VI's silicon carbide wafers**

Infineon Technologies AG of Munich, Germany has signed a multi-year supply agreement for silicon carbide (SiC) wafers from II-VI Inc of Saxonburg, PA, USA. Infineon's aim is to secure further access to silicon carbide to meet the strong increase in customer demand in this sector, and to support its multi-sourcing strategy and increase its supply chain resilience. The first deliveries have already taken place.

Infineon claims that its CoolSiC brand is already the industry's largest portfolio of devices for industrial power semiconductor applications. In addition to photovoltaic converters and industrial power supplies, SiC power semiconductors are also used particularly in e-mobility, e.g. in the main inverters for e-vehicle drive trains, in onboard battery charging units and in charging infrastructures, as the material meets the highest quality standards for industrial and automotive applications. As strategic partners, II-VI and Infineon are also collaborating on the transition to 200mm-diameter SiC wafers.