# FutureHorizons

The Global Semiconductor Industry Analysts

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# ZF Uses Autotalks' V2X Chipset for Connectivity

Vehicles are more and more connected to other vehicles, road infrastructure, pedestrians, and data centers. Vehicleto-everything (V2X) communication technology not only increases safety but also improves traffic and transportation efficiency. ZF Group announced it has integrated Autotalks' V2X chipsets in its 2getthere autonomous shuttles. Initial deployment is planned in a large European airport.

Autonomous vehicles are gradually finding their way on the world's roads, and V2X is the connectivity foundation of autonomous driving. "Autonomous vehicles operating in urban areas or closed zones like universities and airports need to communicate with traffic lights in order to support certain decisions," Hagai Zyss, CEO of Autotalks, told EE Times Europe. "V2X is a technology designed to enable vehicles to communicate with all road users."

## ST Upgrades 2021 Outlook Amid Strong Demand

Benefiting from buoyant demand globally, STMicroelectronics' 2021 second-quarter net revenues and gross margin came in at the high-end of its business outlook range.

The second-quarter net revenues totaled \$2.99 billion, up 43.4% year-over-year. The gross margin of 40.5% and operating margin of 16.3% improved from 35.0% and 5.1%, respectively. And the net income rose to \$412 million.

For the first-half of fiscal year 2021, ST's net revenues totaled \$6.01 billion, up 39.1% year-over-year, and the group's gross margin was 39.7%. The net income amounted to \$776 million.

### Marvell Scoops Up Innovium for \$1.1B

Marvell Technology is acquiring Innovium for roughly \$1.1 billion in stock. Marvell has spent the last four years reorienting itself as a supplier capable of providing many different kinds of ICs needed by data centers and high-speed 5G networks. Innovium gives Marvell another product line that appears to be gaining good traction within that market segment.

Innovium's marquee products are Ethernet switches. Innovium built its TeraLynx switch family from the ground up to cater specifically to data centers. Teralynx switch silicon offers large buffers, telemetry to support operational analytics, low latency, and line-rate programmability. The company claims it has the industry's best power efficiency in terms of performance per watt.

### **ST Sees AR Glasses Replacing Smartphones**

Could a pair of glasses be the next big computing platform?

Marco Angelici, MEMS Micro Actuators Business Unit director at STMicroelectronics, thinks the 2020s will be the decade when augmented-reality glasses replace smartphones. The key technology enabler for the transition will be laser-beam scanning (LBS), according to Angelici and ST.

At the end of 2020, 5.27 billion people — 67% of the global population — subscribed to mobile services, according to the GSM Association. There will be nearly half a billion new subscribers by 2025, taking the total number of subscribers to 5.7 billion, or 70% of the world's people. Providing all those customers with anytime, anywhere access to information is essential, but the smartphone user experience has its limitations.

### **Eutelsat Focuses on Software-Defined Networks**

European satellite network operator Eutelsat is claiming a new era of commercial satellite services with a geostationary satellite said to be the first to incorporate a software-defined architecture.

Dubbed the Eutelsat Quantum, the novel architecture makes the satellite communications network fully reconfigurable, such that it can respond instantly to changing needs and conditions.

Developed by Surrey Satellite Communications (SSTL) in the UK, the bird was launched last week on an Arianespace rocket and will, initially, provide commercial services for the Middle East and North Africa region.