

FutureHorizons



The Global Semiconductor Industry Analysts

FH MONDAY

10 June 2019

Intel Says EUV Ready but Still Faces Challenges

Extreme ultraviolet (EUV) lithography is “ready for introduction...and running in volume for technology development,” said the head of Intel’s EUV program. But engineers still face several challenges harnessing the complex and costly systems to make leading-edge chips in high volume

[read more](#)

QKD Doesn't Make you Quantum Secure

Quantum encryption is here but encrypting quantum computing data is a little way off. A recent report released by Inside Quantum Technology found that quantum key distribution (QKD), an encryption technology designed to protect critical data in the quantum computing era that was only in the experimental stage a couple of years ago, is now being supplied by major companies, including Fujitsu, Nokia, Raytheon, and Toshiba,

[read more](#)

Mediatek Claims 5G Silicon Parity

SAN FRANCISCO — In recent years, Mediatek has risen to become the No. 2 supplier in the baseband processor market in terms of market share, mostly by offering lower-cost chips for low- and mid-tier smartphones. It was still a distant No. 2, though.

[read more](#)

FutureHorizons



TALK TO US



AR Glasses Worn in GF Fab

LONDON — Seeking an edge in productivity over its rivals, GlobalFoundries recently started equipping a handful of its workers with augmented-reality (AR) glasses. It hopes that its effort, already in progress a year, will set a standard that others will follow

[read more](#)

EVENTS

[Silicon Chip Industry Seminar](#)

10 June - 2019 – London UK

[Industry Forecast Briefing](#)

– 17 Sept 2019 – London UK

**DON'T MISS OUT.-
BOOK NOW BY
CALLING**

+44 1732 740440

OR EMAIL

mail@futurehorizons.com

Qualcomm is the Newest Investor in SiFive

Qualcomm Ventures is the newest investor in SiFive, the RISC-V processor IP startup. It's a clear signal Qualcomm plans to exploit the potential of the RISC-V architecture in wireless and mobile. SiFive announced it raised \$65.4 million in funding, with another \$11m for its Chinese sister company SaiFan China

[read more](#)

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

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

e-mail: mail@futurehorizons.com • <http://www.futurehorizons.com/>

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

Intel Says EUV Ready But Still Faces Challenges

Extreme ultraviolet (EUV) lithography is “ready for introduction...and running in volume for technology development,” said the head of Intel’s EUV program. But engineers still face several challenges harnessing the complex and costly systems to make leading-edge chips in high volume, she said.

Britt Turkot, a fellow and director of EUV at Intel, said the room-sized systems are running in its giant Portland, Oregon fab. She would not say how or if EUV will be used for the company’s 10nm products ramping now or its planned 7nm node.

Intel was among the semiconductor companies that helped pioneer the technology more than two decades ago, but is among the last to confirm its use. Last year, rival Samsung and TSMC separately announced they were ramping 7nm nodes using EUV systems to print their finest features.

QKD Doesn't Make you Quantum Secure

Quantum encryption is here but encrypting quantum computing data is a little way off. A recent report released by Inside Quantum Technology found that quantum key distribution (QKD), an encryption technology designed to protect critical data in the quantum computing era that was only in the experimental stage a couple of years ago, is now being supplied by major companies, including Fujitsu, Nokia, Raytheon, and Toshiba, among others.

The research firm is projecting that the QKD distribution market will grow to more than \$980 million by 2024 with the telephone companies being the primary purchasers of QKD gear for their networks, which is being developed by Nokia, ZTE, BT and NTT. The first specialist QKD carrier, Quantum Xchange, is creating a QKD link between Manhattan and northern New Jersey.

Mediatek Claims 5G Silicon Parity

SAN FRANCISCO — In recent years, Mediatek has risen to become the No. 2 supplier in the baseband processor market in terms of market share, mostly by offering lower-cost chips for low- and mid-tier smartphones. It was still a distant No. 2, though.

With the transition to 5G, however, the Taiwanese firm believes that it can go head to head with larger rival Qualcomm.

“This is the first opportunity for us to lead the market, not to fast-follow,” said Russ Mestechkin, Mediatek’s seniordirector of corporate sales and business development, in an interview with EE Times.

AR Glasses Worn In GF Fab

LONDON — Seeking an edge in productivity over its rivals, GlobalFoundries recently started equipping a handful of its workers with augmented-reality (AR) glasses. It hopes that its effort, already in progress a year, will set a standard that others will follow.

“To increase profit margins, we need to ship more wafers at lower cost, so we are looked at every part of our process and developed an integrated AI and AR/VR strategy,” said D.P. Prakash, who leads implementation of the augmented/virtual reality project that he claims is a year ahead of his competition.

In early May, GF gave 10 workers AR glasses from Realwear to provide 2D displays of documentation inside the fab. The foundry has identified 30 use cases for the application developed by PTC using its Vuforia platform acquired from Qualcomm in 2015.

Qualcomm Is The Newest Investor In SiFive

Qualcomm Ventures is the newest investor in SiFive, the RISC-V processor IP startup. It's a clear signal Qualcomm plans to exploit the potential of the RISC-V architecture in wireless and mobile. SiFive announced it raised \$65.4 million in funding, with another \$11m for its Chinese sister company SaiFan China.

SiFive also said it has achieved its 101st design win. The company is claiming it has significant traction in embedded markets as device manufacturers rapidly adopt domain-specific application processor designs to enable efficient computing in edge devices. It puts this down to the scalable capabilities of RISC-V that enable semiconductor companies to move through the selection, customization and enhancement phases of designs in just months.