# FutureHorizons

# **FH MONDAY**

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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: <u>mail@futurehorizons.com</u>• <u>http://www.futurehorizons.com/</u> Affiliates in Europe, India, Israel, Japan, Russian, San Jose California, USA

# China Startup's Take On Trade War

The Huawei ban has shaken many who believed the U.S./China trade war was all bark and no bite. Now that the U.S. government has taken a formal step into the fray, limiting the global reach of Huawei devices and the entire relationship between the American economy and Chinese products has fallen under scrutiny.

Huawei was under the protective wing of the Chinese government since 1987. When it was ready to fly on its own and compete with Samsung and Apple on a global scale, the government sold their shares back. Whether earned or not, talk of such a close association with the Chinese government paired with their phenomenal growth and success around the globe made Huawei an easy target for U.S. government action.

### **Startup Puts AI Core in SSDs**

SAN JOSE, Calif. — Startup InnoGrit debuted a set of three controllers for solid-state drives (SSDs), including one for data centers that embeds a neural-network accelerator. They enter a crowded market with claims of power and performance advantages over rivals.

The chips emerge as NAND flash prices are showing signs of bottoming out. OEMs and data centers are expected to take advantage of the lower prices to continue the shift from hard-disk storage in notebooks and servers that require performance, power, or size advantages.

In data centers, the adoption of SSDs is "happening fast, especially with last year's price drops," said Zining Wu, who co-founded InnoGrit in October 2016 after 17 years at Marvell, where he rose to be its chief technology officer. "When we talk to data center customers, all their new designs are flash-based."

#### **Infineon Confident Despite Market**

Reporting its Q3 results today for the period ending 30 June 2019, Infineon Technologies was confident it would reach its targets for the year despite a sluggish market. The company also said the acquisition of Cypress, which it hopes will complete at the end of 2019 or early 2020, will put Infineon into a 'new dimension'.

Infineon said its revenue grew by 2% from  $\leq$ 1,983 million (roughly US\$2.4 billion) to  $\leq$ 2,015 million quarter-on-quarter. The slightly stronger US dollar compared to the second quarter had a positive impact. All four of its segments — automotive, industrial power control, power management & multimarket and digital security solutions — contributed to growth with modest revenue growth in the third quarter.

# Scientists Create The World's Thinnest Gold

Scientists at the University of Leeds have created a new form of gold which is just two atoms thick—the thinnest unsupported gold ever created.

The researchers measured the thickness of the gold to be 0.47 nanometres—that is one million times thinner than a human finger nail. The material is regarded as 2-D because it comprises just two layers of atoms sitting on top of one another. All atoms are surface atoms—there are no 'bulk' atoms hidden beneath the surface.

The material could have wide-scale applications in the medical device and electronics industries—and also as a catalyst to speed up chemical reactions in a range of industrial processes.

# **5G Will Prove Transformative For Enterprise**

Mobile technology's latest and most powerful connectivity tech, 5G, is being implemented worldwide at varying levels. According to LiveScience, the technology has brought with it several crucial talking points for the wider technology sphere; for example, the sub-millisecond latency required for artificial intelligence (AI) and automated machines that has most recently been promised. Business network administration perhaps will have more to learn from the roll out of the technology than any other new trend.

#### Outsourced tech and development is king

The rapid release of 5G and other big tech stories of the year show that development is continuing at a rate of knots and shows no signs of letting up. Tech-focused business aside, it's arguable that companies can't — and shouldn't try to — keep up. Already, according to U.K. HR experts HRNews, in-house checking systems are damaging productivity.