

# FutureHorizons



The Global Semiconductor Industry Analysts

## FH MONDAY

Insert date

First bio-inspired directional MEMS microphone unveiled

Soundskrit has introduced what it claims is the first bio-inspired directional microelectromechanical systems (MEMS) microphone designed to bring high quality audio to current and future connected consumer devices.

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LG Energy Solution and Honda to build joint battery factory in the US

LG Energy Solution and Honda said on Monday that the pair plans to form a joint venture to build a battery factory in the US. The two companies will spend a total of US\$4.4 billion on the factory which will have an annual production capacity of 40GWh.

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LOT Vacuum to develop dry vacuum pump tech for ALD

LOT Vacuum is planning to develop dry vacuum pump technology for atomic layer deposition (ALD) equipment, which is being used more and more in advanced semiconductor process nodes. The technology is aimed at application in the latest memory chip processes, sources said.

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TALK TO US



Nvidia, Dell, VMware look to offload CPU traffic

Nvidia and Dell unveiled an integrated solution at VMware Explore 2022 this week that matches Nvidia BlueField-2 DPUs, GPUs and AI Enterprise software with Dell PowerEdge servers, and is optimized for VMware vSphere 8 enterprise workload platform that also was unveiled at the event.

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### EVENTS

[Silicon Chip Industry Seminar](#)

- September 2022- London UK

[Industry Forecast Briefing](#)

- September 2022- London UK

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Intel details GPU Flex Series

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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## **First Bio-Inspired Directional MEMS Microphone Unveiled**

Soundkrist has introduced what it claims is the first bio-inspired directional microelectromechanical systems (MEMS) microphone designed to bring high quality audio to current and future connected consumer devices.

Called the SKR0400, the MEMS microphone integrates a new transducer design for maximum audio performance and combines proprietary software for a wide range of devices and use cases

The MEMS microphone eliminates unwanted noise at the hardware level with a highly directional pickup pattern that filters background noise and reverberation from audio, isolating a user's voice with high-fidelity. The sensor eliminates the need for large omnidirectional microphone arrays for small, low power and lightweight solutions for improved performance. Minimal signal processing enables noise and echo reduction, true stereo recording for audio content and voice tracking.

## **LG Energy Solution And Honda To Build Joint Battery Factory In The US**

LG Energy Solution and Honda said on Monday that the pair plans to form a joint venture to build a battery factory in the US. The two companies will spend a total of US\$4.4 billion on the factory which will have an annual production capacity of 40GWh.

It is the first joint venture between a South Korean and Japanese battery companies. The factory will start manufacturing pouch battery cells and modules near the end of 2025, the pair said.

The batteries made will be used in Honda and Honda Acura electric vehicles.

## **LOT Vacuum To Develop Dry Vacuum Pump Tech For ALD**

LOT Vacuum is planning to develop dry vacuum pump technology for atomic layer deposition (ALD) equipment, which is being used more and more in advanced semiconductor process nodes. The technology is aimed at application in the latest memory chip processes, sources said. The company already supplies chemical vapor deposition (CVD) equipment to memory chip makers.

LOT Vacuum was part of a government-backed project to develop ALD technology, sources said. Wafer fabrication requires vacuumed environment as the wafers may be contaminated by particles in the air. Vacuum pumps are used for this reason for deposition and etching processes.

The deposition of chemical vapors has been the standard for mass production as they deposit on the wafer surface well and it is convenient.

## **Nvidia, Dell, VMware look to offload CPU traffic in busy AI environments**

Nvidia and Dell unveiled an integrated solution at VMware Explore 2022 this week that matches Nvidia BlueField-2 DPUs, GPUs and AI Enterprise software with Dell PowerEdge servers, and is optimized for VMware vSphere 8 enterprise workload platform that also was unveiled at the event.

The combined solution, now available through the Nvidia LaunchPad hands-on lab environment, delivers advanced AI training, AI inference, data processing, data science and zero-trust security capabilities for enterprises that are rapidly expanding their AI use cases and comfort zones. As they continue to do so, they will need to find ways to offload AI applications from overloaded CPUs, and that is what the DPU/GPU/AI software packages running on Dell servers can provide, according to Kevin Deierling, Senior Vice President of Networking at Nvidia.

If you look at the challenges with today's data centers, you see that with modern applications with massive processing that data is consuming CPU cycles," he said.

## **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.