

# FutureHorizons



The Global Semiconductor Industry Analysts

## FH MONDAY

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### Chip Sector Provides a Lifeline During Pandemic

It could be worse: Despite a pandemic and an economic downturn rivaling the Great Depression, chip makers managed to eke out revenue gains during the first quarter of the Plague Year 2020.

Despite wrenching economic dislocations, the novel coronavirus appears to have stimulated global computer and server sales as workers set up home offices while home-schooling their kids

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### Siemens acquires UltraSoC

CAMBRIDGE, England, June 23, 2020 /PRNewswire/ -- Siemens has signed an agreement to acquire Cambridge, UK-based UltraSoC Technologies Ltd., a provider of instrumentation and analytics solutions that put intelligent monitoring, cybersecurity and functional safety capabilities into the core hardware of system-on-chip (SoC).

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### Tech giants press pause on facial recognition

The debate over the use of facial recognition technology has been growing more fierce as its uses have become more intrusive. This issue has turned into a powder keg over the last few weeks as more groups become more at odds with the government, specifically law enforcement, using the technology for more surveillance and possible profiling.

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### TALK TO US



### The Makings of a Seamless Wireless Experience

We love our world to be connected, and we love for things to just get done for us automatically. Since hitting the sweet spot of personal satisfaction with wireless infrared TV remote control, we have pushed for ever speedier transfers of increasing amounts of data.

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### EVENTS

#### [Silicon Chip Industry Seminar](#)

-9 November 2020– London UK

#### [Industry Forecast Briefing](#)

– 15 Sept 2020 – London UK

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### Qualcomms Snapdragon Near 4100

Qualcomm Technologies, Inc., a subsidiary of Qualcomm Inc., has launched its new Qualcomm Snapdragon Wear 4100 platforms — Snapdragon Wear 4100+ and Snapdragon Wear 4100 — designed for next-generation connected smartwatches.

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## **Chip Sector Provides a Lifeline During Pandemic**

It could be worse: Despite a pandemic and an economic downturn rivaling the Great Depression, chip makers managed to eke out revenue gains during the first quarter of the Plague Year 2020.

Despite wrenching economic dislocations, the novel coronavirus appears to have stimulated global computer and server sales as workers set up home offices while home-schooling their kids. Both require connections to datacenters and public cloud services. The result, observed Hewlett-Packard Enterprise CEO Antonio Neri, himself recovering from Covid-19: "Connectivity is going to be [like] electricity and water."

While overall semiconductor revenues declined slightly during the first three months on 2020, the top 10 chip makers recorded revenue growth just over 2 percent, according to market tracker Omdia. Revenues for Intel, Samsung Electronics, Micron Technology and other market leaders rose \$1.4 billion between January and March to \$63.6 billion

## **Siemens Acquires Ultrasoc To Drive Design For Silicon Lifecycle Management**

CAMBRIDGE, England, June 23, 2020 /PRNewswire/ -- Siemens has signed an agreement to acquire Cambridge, UK-based UltraSoC Technologies Ltd., a provider of instrumentation and analytics solutions that put intelligent monitoring, cybersecurity and functional safety capabilities into the core hardware of system-on-chip (SoC). Siemens plans to integrate UltraSoC's technology into the Xcelerator portfolio as part of Mentor's Tessent™ software product suite. The addition of UltraSoC to Siemens enables a unified data-driven infrastructure that can enhance product quality, safety and cybersecurity, and the creation of a comprehensive solution to help semiconductor industry customers overcome key pain points including manufacturing defects, software and hardware bugs, device early-failure and wear-out, functional safety, and malicious attacks.

## **Tech Giants Press Pause On Facial Recognition**

The debate over the use of facial recognition technology has been growing more fierce as its uses have become more intrusive. This issue has turned into a powder keg over the last few weeks as more groups become more at odds with the government, specifically law enforcement, using the technology for more surveillance and possible profiling.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) and facial recognition are not the same technologies, but they are deeply connected. Facial recognition was developed by using certain aspects of AI. A facial recognition program maps facial features from a video or picture and then compares the information with a database of known faces in order to find a match.

## **The Makings Of A Seamless Wireless Experience**

We love our world to be connected, and we love for things to just get done for us automatically. Since hitting the sweet spot of personal satisfaction with wireless infrared TV remote control, we have pushed for ever speedier transfers of increasing amounts of data.

Consumers today want media streaming and high-bandwidth communication both at home, and on various forms of transport. Enterprise needs vary from connecting simple, low-power sensors to feeding data to complex algorithms running on always-aware equipment that analyzes vast amounts of current and archived information gathered from production lines. Governments want to provide administrative services, conduct surveillance for safety and supervision, as well as operate transport services reliably and efficiently in both urban and rural areas. And that covers just our current aspirations.

## **Qualcomm's New Snapdragon Wear 4100+ Wearable Platform Promises Faster Performance**

Qualcomm Technologies, Inc., a subsidiary of Qualcomm Inc., has launched its new Qualcomm Snapdragon Wear 4100 platforms — Snapdragon Wear 4100+ and Snapdragon Wear 4100 — designed for next-generation connected smartwatches. The new launch couldn't come at a better time when the global wearables market — led by greater adoption of smartwatches, smart hearables, and smart shoes — is forecast to reach 260 million units in 2023, or almost \$30 billion, up from 142 million units in 2019, according to CCS Insight.

Based on Qualcomm's ultra-low-power hybrid architecture, the Snapdragon Wear 4100+ platform includes a super-fast system-on-chip (SoC), a smarter always-on (AON) co-processor, and big improvements in platform power based on 12-nm process technology compared to its previous platform. All these improvements are designed to deliver enhanced experience across interactive, ambient, sports, and watch modes.