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NEWS

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In brief: Aixtron, Emcore, SiGe Semiconductor

University of Braunschweig completes installation of a Thomas Swan epitaxy reactor and CV profiler; Emcore buys video transport business Opticomm; SiGe appoints new president and CEO.

Aixtron, WEP benefit as Institute buys German

The University of Braunschweig's prestigious Institute for Semiconductor Technology has been embracing key new technologies to move its research program forward.

The installation of a Thomas Swan "Close Coupled Showerhead" (CCS) reactor, produced by Aachen-based Aixtron, will provide the group with high-quality GaN and ZnO epitaxial materials.

The Institute's Andreas Waag said, "We have been very satisfied with the performance of our existing Aixtron systems. Now we require the newest generation of MOCVD processes for even more sophisticated optoelectronics and nanostructures."

The same group has also purchased a CVP21 profiler from German CV wafer profiling specialists Ingenieurbüro Wolff für Elektronik- und Programmentwicklungen (WEP), for the investigation of layer interfaces and doping levels.

Emcore close initial \$4m Opticomm purchase deal

US compound semiconductor chip maker Emcore has purchased the San Diego fiber-optic systems business Opticomm.

The initial \$4m stock deal may increase in value depending upon additional profit contributed by Opticomm.

Emcore expects the acquired business to be profitable upon completing integration, adding \$7m to its annual sales in 2007.

Opticomm's flagship product is the Optiva Platform, a complete system for optical communications, which complements other technologies gained from Emcore's recent purchase of Force Inc.

New CEO and President at SiGe Semiconductor

Sohail Khan has been appointed as the chief executive officer and president of Ottawa-based wireless components company SiGe semiconductor.

Coming to the company from an entrepreneurial role with Bessemer Venture Partners, Khan includes a period as president of Lucent's Integrated Circuits – Microelectronics division on his impressive CV, growing SiGe's presence in cellular handsets and base stations.

"I look forward to building on the company's strong foundation of leading technology and hope to expand our market share in wireless applications," Khan said.



Sohail Khan