



Websites

Morgan Advanced

Morgan Crucible is a familiar name to the silicon industry, and Morgan Advanced Ceramics in its typical applications does give pride of place to chamber parts for etching silicon wafers: chamber parts for deposition on silicon wafers; polishing of silicon wafers and end effectors for handling silicon wafers. But it also has topics of interest for the compound industry in targets for thin film deposition, high voltage feed throughs for ion implant chambers and crucibles for growing gallium arsenide ingots.

Typical Materials include: high purity aluminium oxide, 94% - 99.9%; CVD silicon carbide; aluminium nitride; pyrolytic boron nitride; ceramic/metal brazed assemblies and precious metal braze alloys. It also has a intriguing list of markets which include aerospace laser and optoelectronics, medical, processing equipment, semiconductor processing telecommunications and microelectronics, not to mention thermal management. For those hunting for the major trade bodies, the site has a succinct list.

Web: <http://www.morganadvancedceramics.com/links.htm>

Siteless Selex

Intrigued by a UK company being awarded an apparent US contract, the hunt for SELEX Sensors and Airborne Systems Ltd, Basildon, Essex, UK, they can be found as part of <http://www.airforcetechnology.com/contractors/indexAtoZ.html> which brings to mind that combining BAE Systems Avionics and Galileo Avionica into SELEX Sensors & Airborne Systems, Finmeccanica has created Europe's 2nd largest defence electronics business.

SELEX S&AS employs 7,800 people, has operations in Italy, England, Scotland and the USA. Specialising in world-class integrated sensor solutions, SELEX S&AS involves surveillance, protection, tracking, targeting, imaging systems and avionic suites.

It is also being awarded a \$6.1m firm-fixed-price, time and materials contract for the procurement of Ground Counter Fire sensor systems with spares, technical support, depot maintenance and new equipment training. Options, if exercised, will bring the total cumulative value of this contract to \$32,3m. Work will be performed in Basildon, UK, and is expected to be completed by May 2010.

Infinera talks orders

Jagdeep Singh, CEO of Infinera had an interesting interview at <http://www.investors.com/editorial/tech01.asp?v=5/28>, which suggests more orders in the offing for the company.

Singh: We began shipping in the fourth quarter. Freenet in Germany (an ISP) is one of our early customers. They (and Level 3) are our only announced customers. We have a number of other announcements that will come out shortly. Freenet has over 6m subscribers. All that traffic is going over these PICs.

IBD: Infinera built its own chip factory. Is that to make prototypes, or is it meant for volume production?

Singh: This is very much a volume production fab. We're pioneering the whole photonic circuit model (SOC optical chip). There really isn't a chip foundry that can do it. We can't, for example, go to a TSMC (the largest chip foundry).

IBD: Isn't it expensive to design and make your own chips, as well as design and sell the network gear you put them in?

Singh: It was a big challenge. The key was we needed to be capitalised at the right level. We've raised just north of \$200m in capital. And the more important piece is the quality of our management people. Look at Fred Kish, the person who runs our fab. He ran Agilent's (A) III-V group (communications chip unit).

IBD: Do you plan to take Infinera public?

Singh: We don't comment on plans to go public. We will continue to build revenue. If it makes business sense, we would consider it.

Silicon carbide

WTC - Wicht Technologie Consulting - 2005 has a very straight forward site, and as such seems to be doing something right, because it is currently looking for two more consultants. Meantime it forecasts that the SiC components market is to exceed \$50m by 2009, while the RF MEMS market is to exceed \$1.1bn by 2009.

Work in hand is the NEXUS *Market Analysis for Microsystems*, a recognised source of market figures for Microsystems worldwide. The Task Force Market Analysis led by WTC is currently preparing the updated report entitled "*Market Analysis for Microsystems III 2004-2009*." It follows on from the highly successful 1996-2002 and 2000-2005 reports that have become industry standards.

The updated report will be available in September 2005. New features include new products: as in MEMS microphones, MEMS based RFID tags, micro-reaction products, micro energy sources, micro pumps... New application field are: logistics; ambient intelligence (presumably that means humans with solar panel jackets, but could be including robots too).

Anyone hoping to meet up with the team could spot them at MEMSWAVE Workshop, from 23-24 June 2005 at Lausanne, Switzerland, or at the IMS International Microwave Symposium, 17 June 2005, Long Beach US.

Web: <http://www.wtc-consult.de/english/aktuell/akte.html>