

# STMicroelectronics SiC Mod

## Tesla Model 3 Inverter

Power Semiconductor report by Elena Barbarini  
*June 2018 – version 1*

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# Executive Summary

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Pushed by aggressive legislation, CO2 reduction is one of the key challenges in the 21st century. The best solution currently available to the automotive industry is the electrification of vehicles, with different levels of electrification depending on the strategies of different car manufacturers. 780,000 battery electric vehicles were shipped in 2017, a number expected to grow to almost 2.8M by 2022. Standard inverter power modules integrate silicon IGBTs, but in electric vehicles the available space in the engine compartment is often so limited that it is difficult to accommodate a power control unit (PCU). Thus, it is necessary that the PCU, which controls electric vehicles' traction motors, has a higher power density and therefore is smaller. Thanks to higher thermal and electrical performance, SiC is the new competitor to silicon at high voltages. Nevertheless, high power densities need high thermal dissipation and thus new packages are needed to improve device performance. To achieve these targets, manufacturers have developed different solutions, such as limiting wire bonding or using overmolded structures to efficiently cool the power semiconductor chips.

Tesla is the first high-class car manufacturer to integrate a full SiC power module, in its Model 3. Thanks to its collaboration with STMicroelectronics the Tesla inverter is composed of 24 1-in-1 power modules assembled on a pin-fin heatsink.

The module contains two SiC MOSFETs with an innovative die attach solution and connected directly on the terminals with copper clips and thermally dissipated by copper baseplates.

The SiC MOSFET is manufactured with the latest STMicroelectronics technology design, which allows reduction of conduction losses and switching losses. Based on a complete teardown analysis, the report also provides an estimation of the production cost of the SiC MOSFET and package.

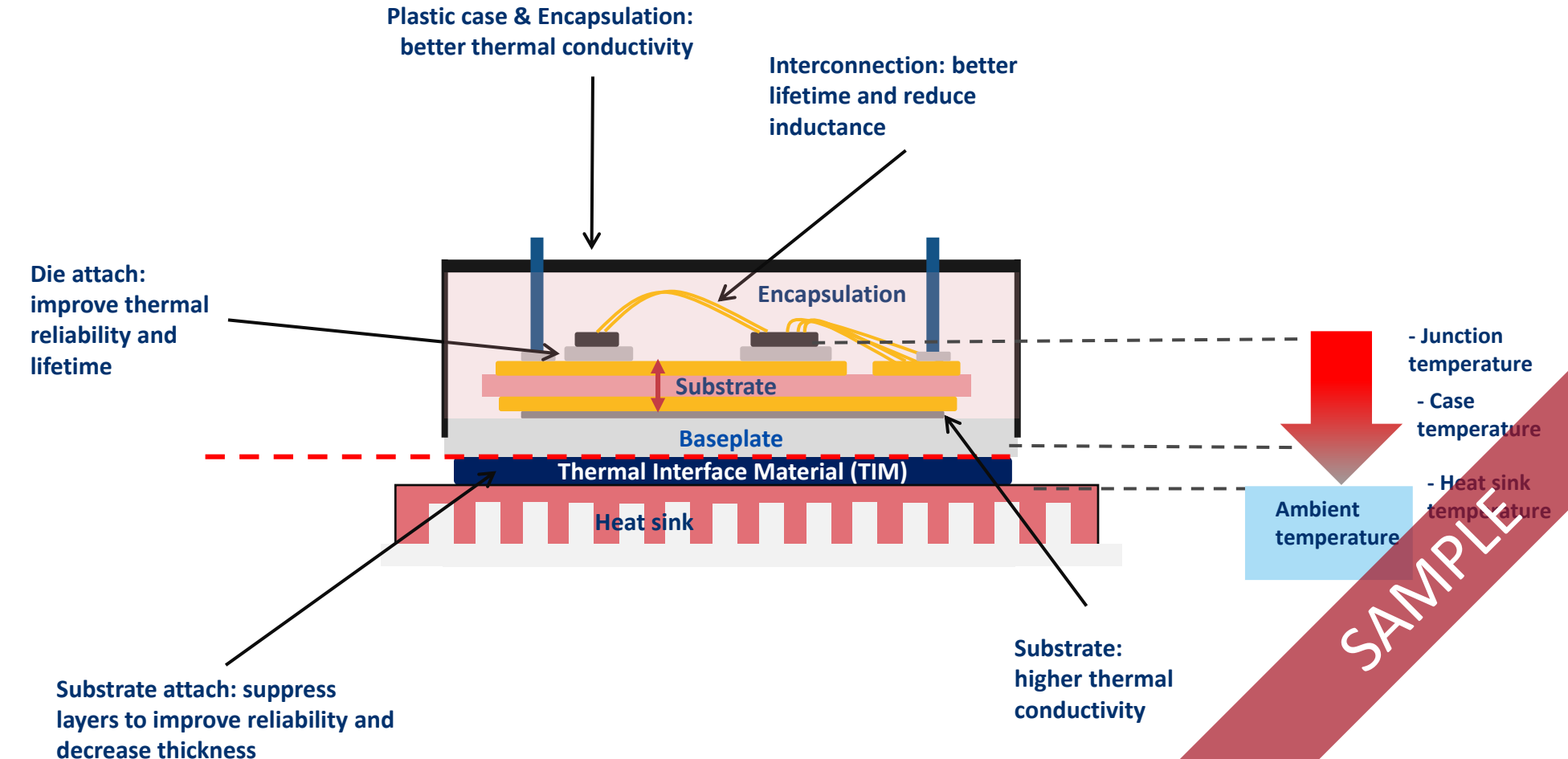
Moreover, the report includes a technical and cost comparison with the Mitsubishi J-Series TP-M power module. It highlights the differences in design of the packaging and the material solutions adopted by the two companies.

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# Power Module Issues

In Si modules , mismatching CTE (coefficient of thermal expansion) makes layers detach from one another.

With the introduction of SiC this problem is much more highlighted; in fact the main problem of SiC is thermal dissipation because of material density; thus an adapted package and system integration is needed.



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# ST SiC products

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- ST's 650 V and 1200 V silicon carbide (SiC) MOSFETs feature very low  $R_{DS(on)}$ \*area combined with excellent switching performance, translating into more efficient and compact systems. Compared with silicon MOSFETs, SiC MOSFETs exhibit low on-state resistance\*area even at high temperatures and excellent switching performances versus the best-in-class IGBTs in all temperature ranges, simplifying the thermal design of power electronic systems.

Part Number	VDSS	Drain Current (Dc) (A)	P<sub>TOT</sub> (W)	Package	RDS(on) ( $\Omega$ ) (@VGS=20V)
SCT10N120	1200	12	150	HiP247 IN LINE	0.69
SCT20N120	1200	20	175	HiP247 IN LINE	0.239
SCT30N120	1200	45	270	HiP247 IN LINE	0.1
SCT50N120	1200	65	318	HiP247 IN LINE	0.069
SCTWA50N120	1200	65	318	HIP247 LONG LEADS	0.069
SCTW100N65G2AG	650	100	390	HiP247 IN LINE	-

★ Similar to analysed device

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# Heatsink

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- Synthesis
- ▶ Package
- Die design
- Die Cross-Section

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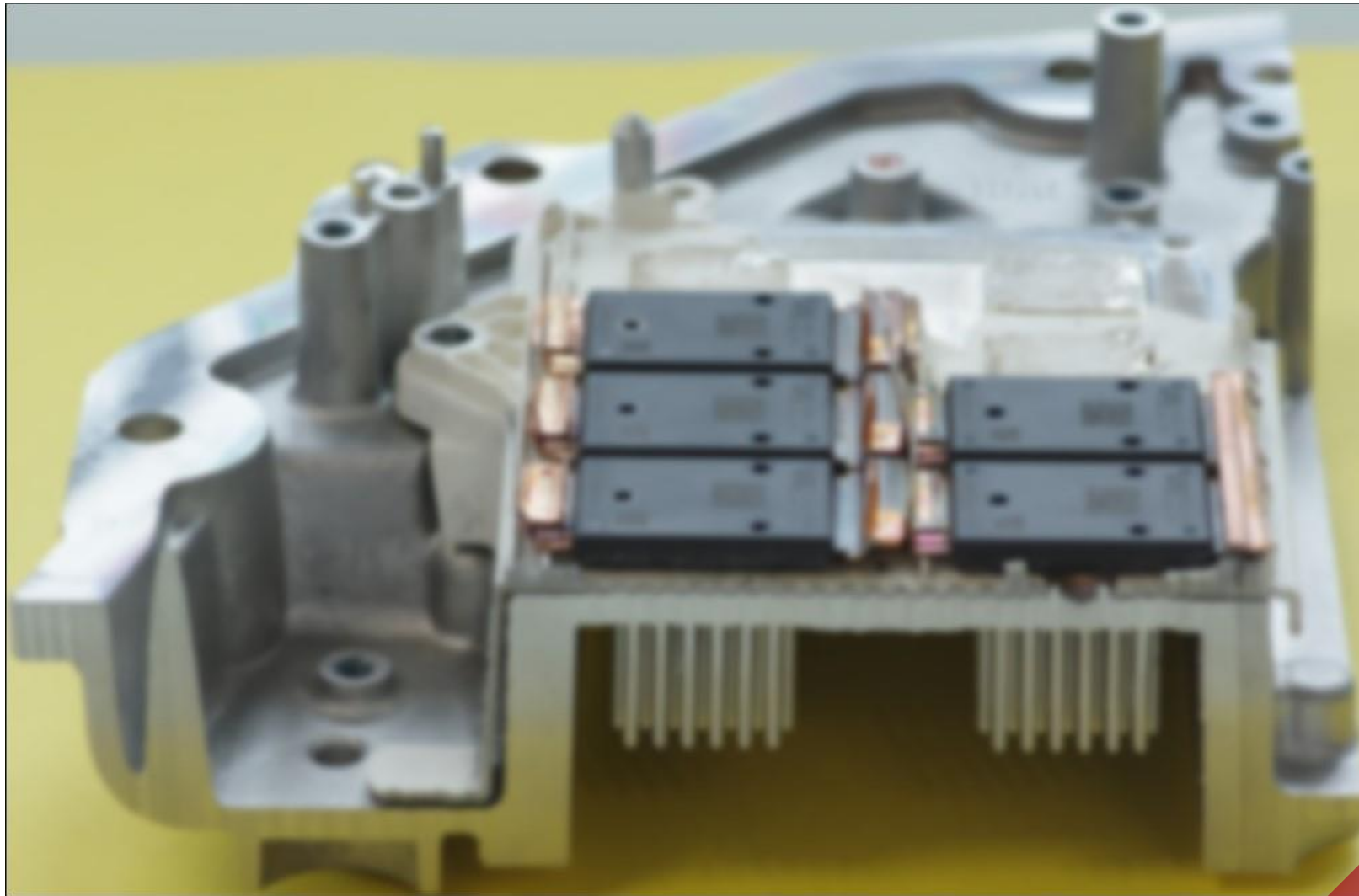
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*Package Cross section*

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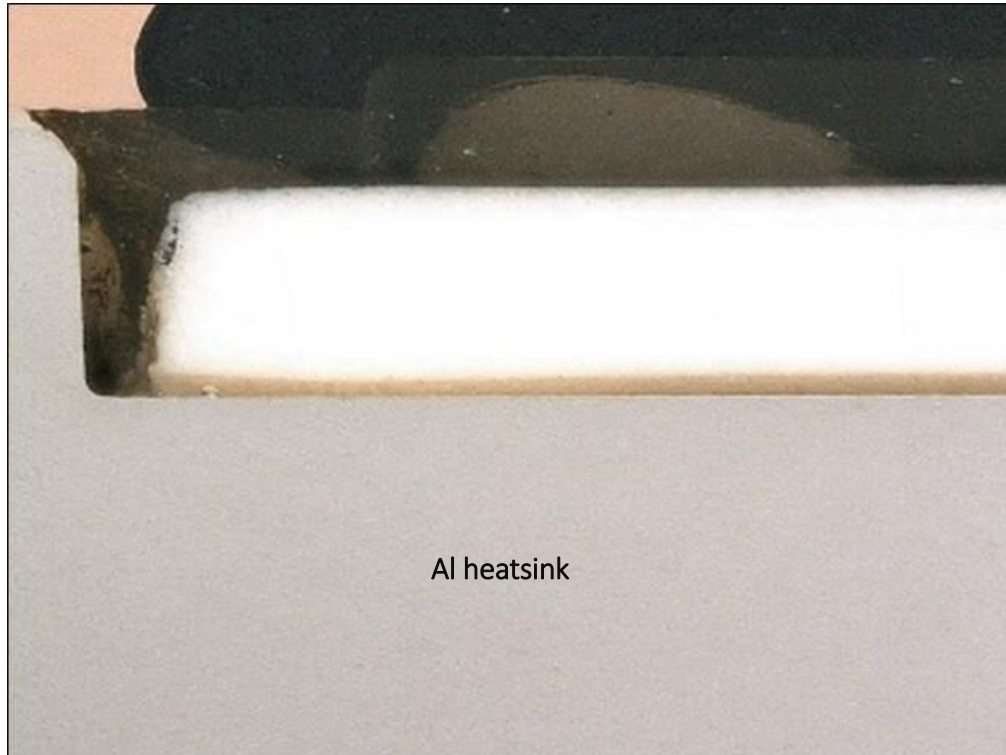
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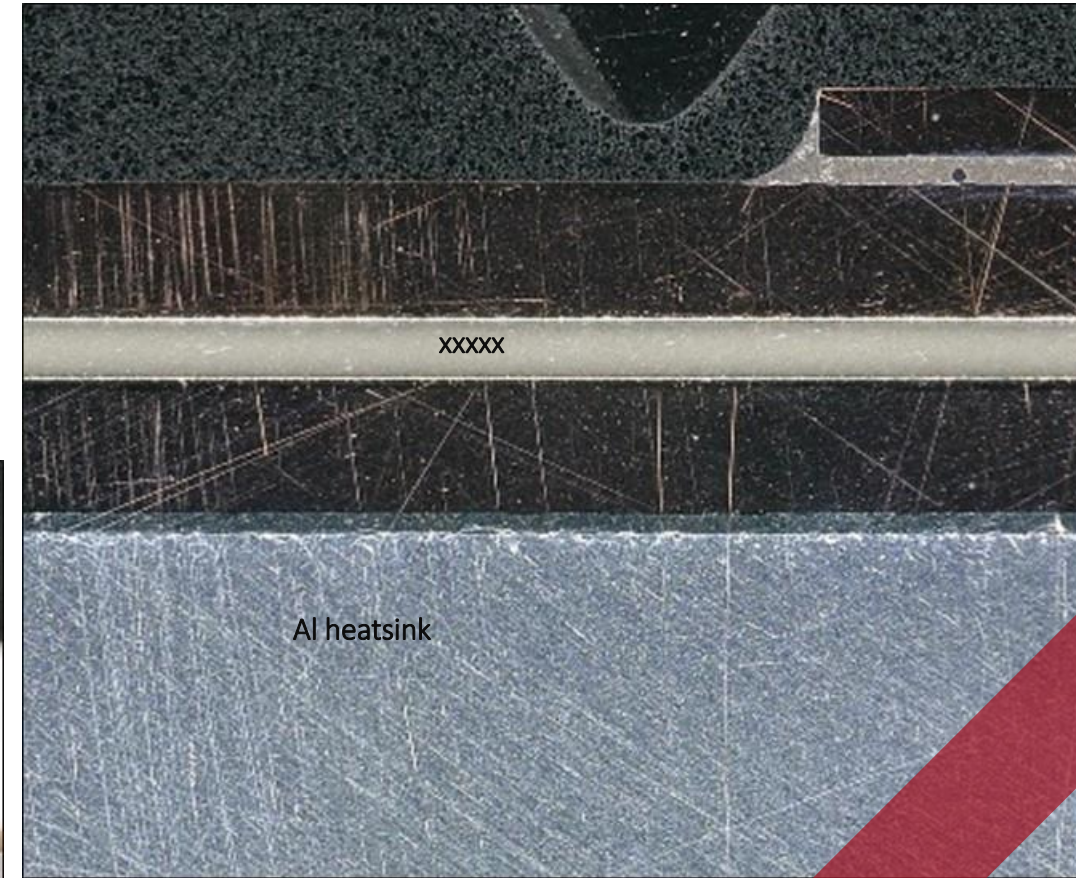
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Package Cross section



Package Cross section

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# MOSFET die dimensions

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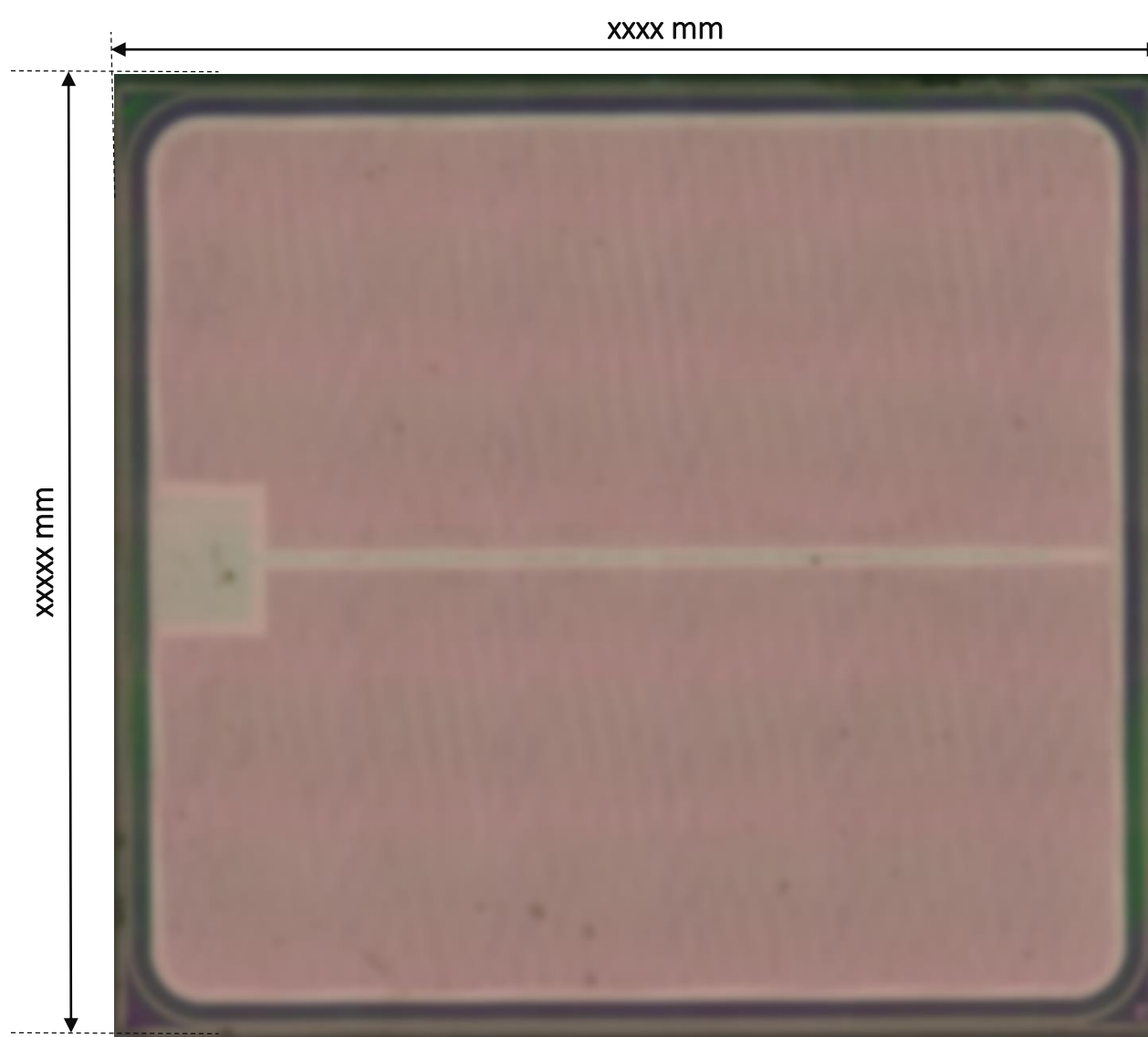
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MOSFET Die – Optical view

- Die dimensions:  
 $xxxx \text{ mm}^2$  ( $xxxx\text{mm} \times xxxx\text{mm}$ )
- There is no marking on the die.

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# Die cross section

- Substrate thickness: xxxx  $\mu\text{m}$



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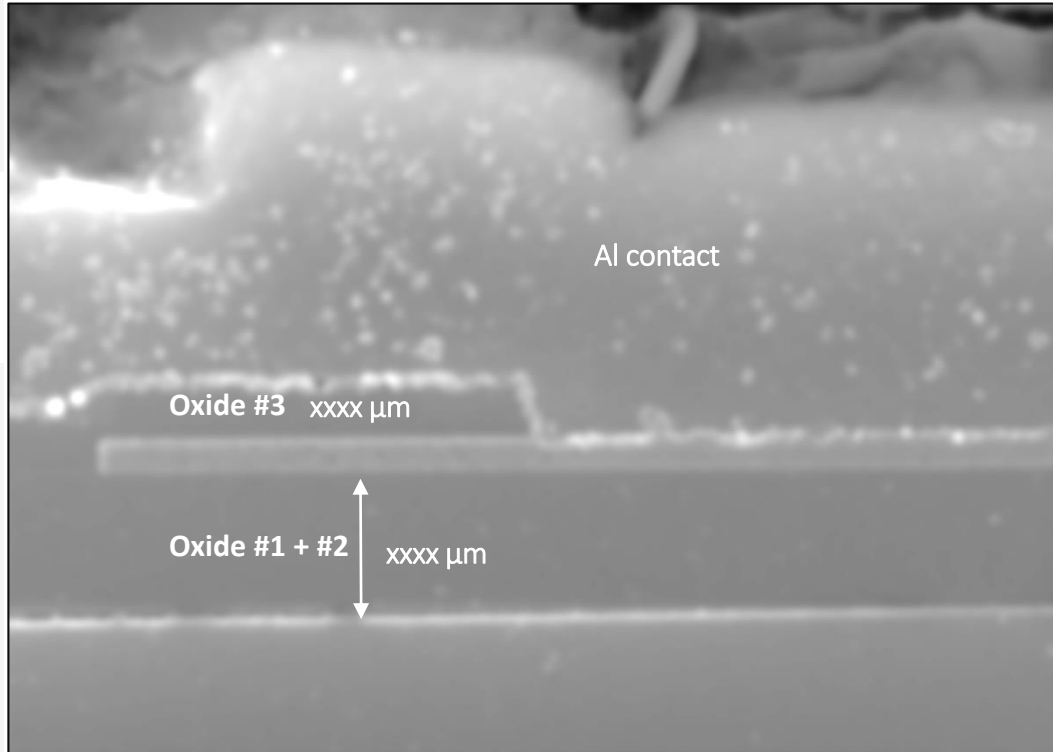
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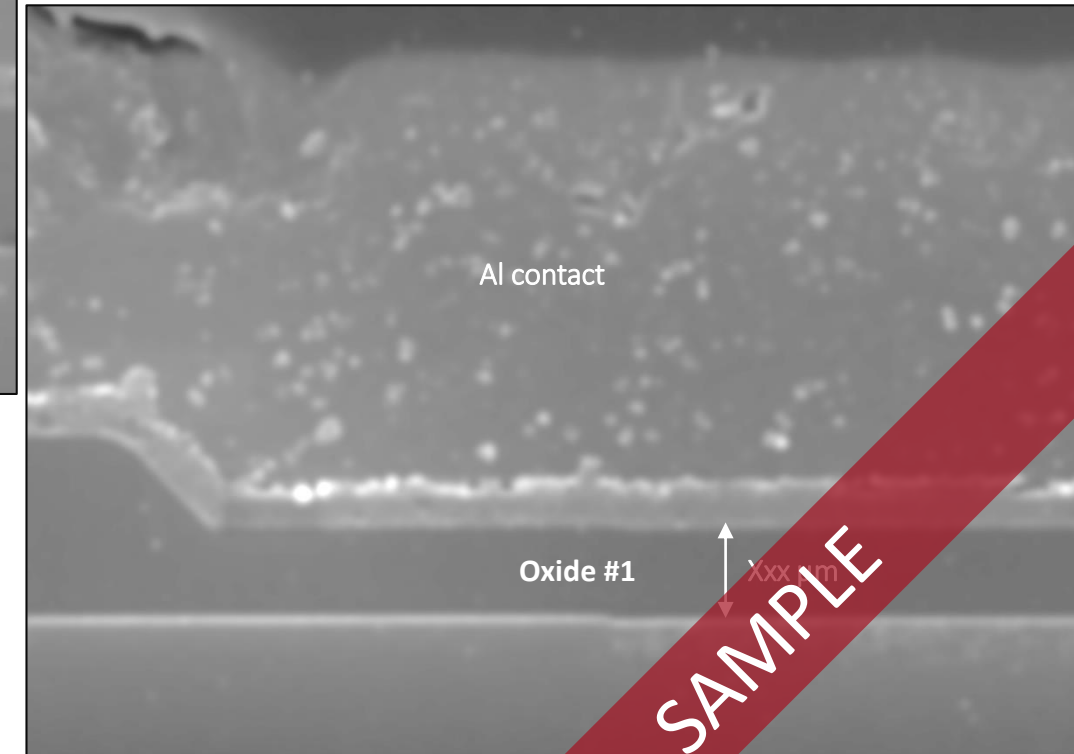
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Die cross section –SEM View



Die cross section –SEM View

# Die cross section

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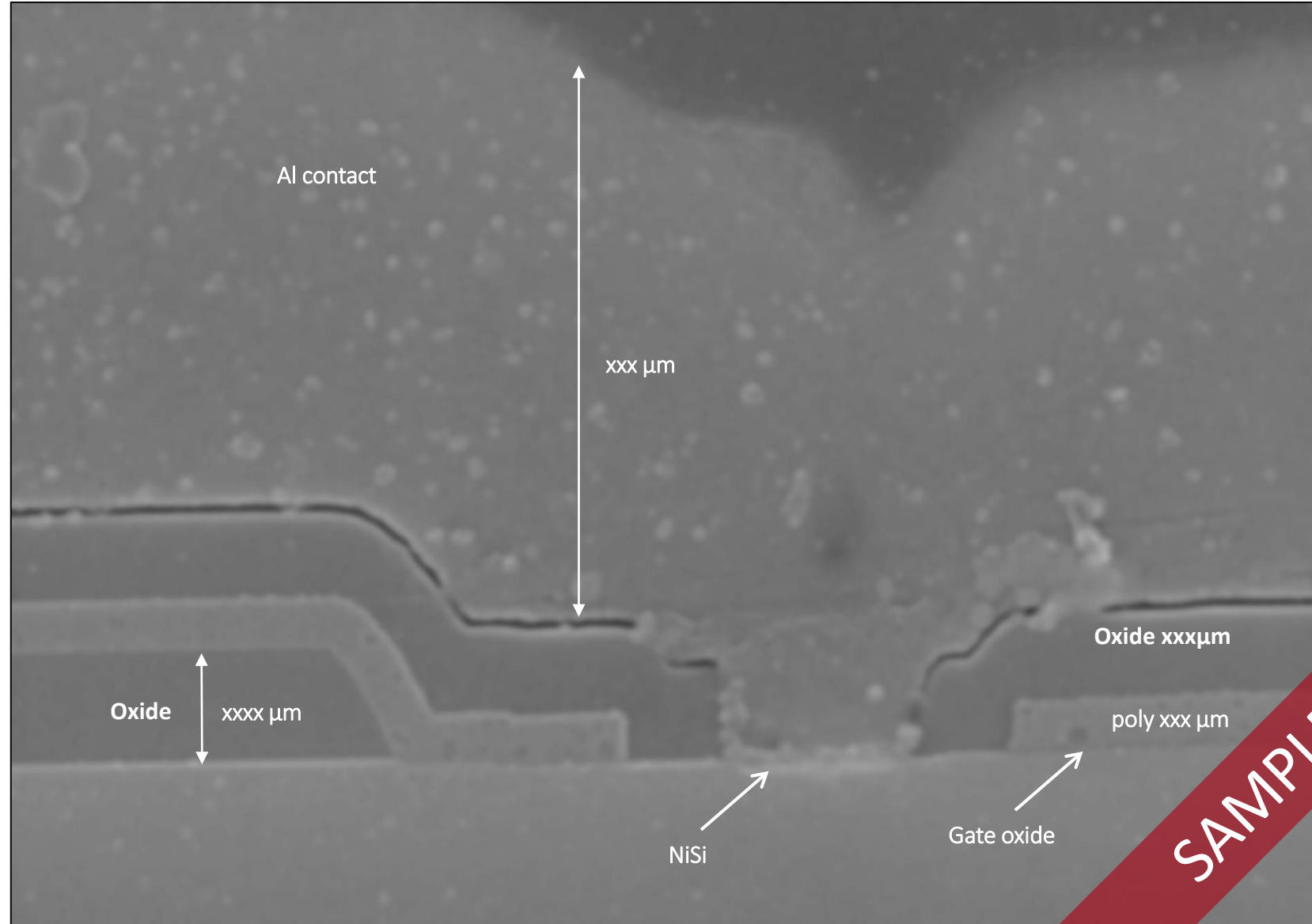
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# MOSFET Process Flow (1/4)

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- Fab Unit
- ▶ Process Flow
- Packaging Fab Unit

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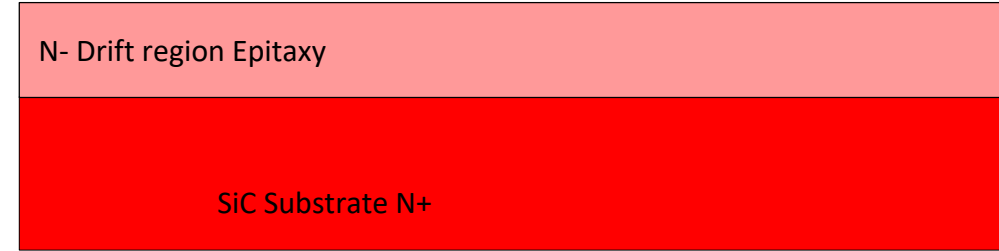
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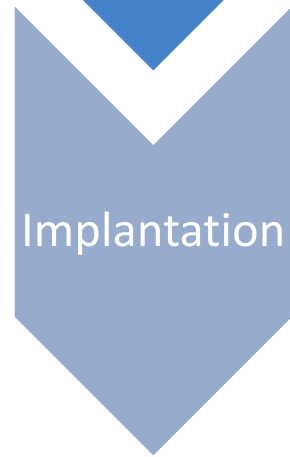
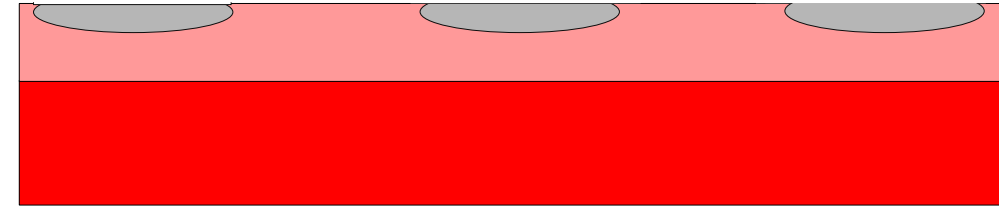
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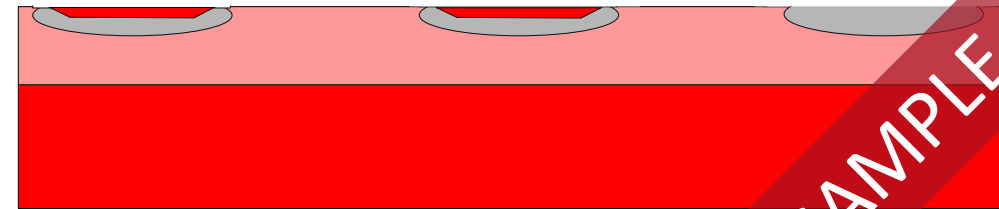
- Epitaxy



- SiO<sub>2</sub> deposition
- Pattern SiO<sub>2</sub>
- P well implantation



- SiO<sub>2</sub> deposition
- Pattern SiO<sub>2</sub>
- N+ source implantation



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Drawing not to Scale

# MOSFET Process Flow (3/4)

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- Fab Unit
- ▶ Process Flow
- Packaging Fab Unit

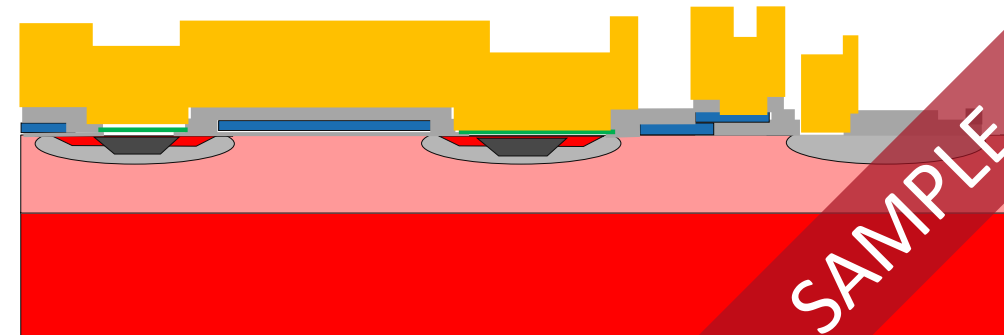
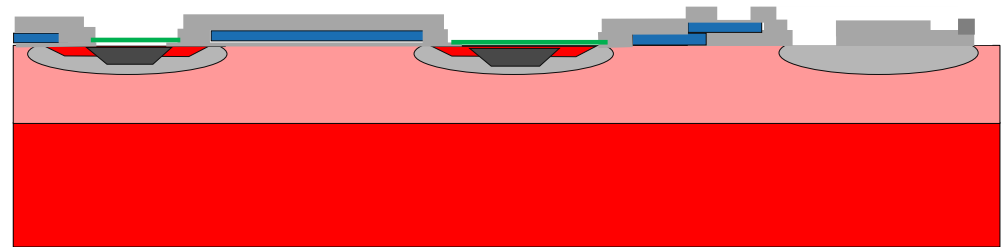
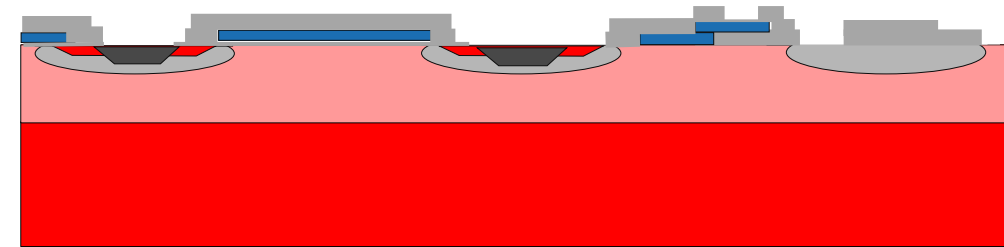
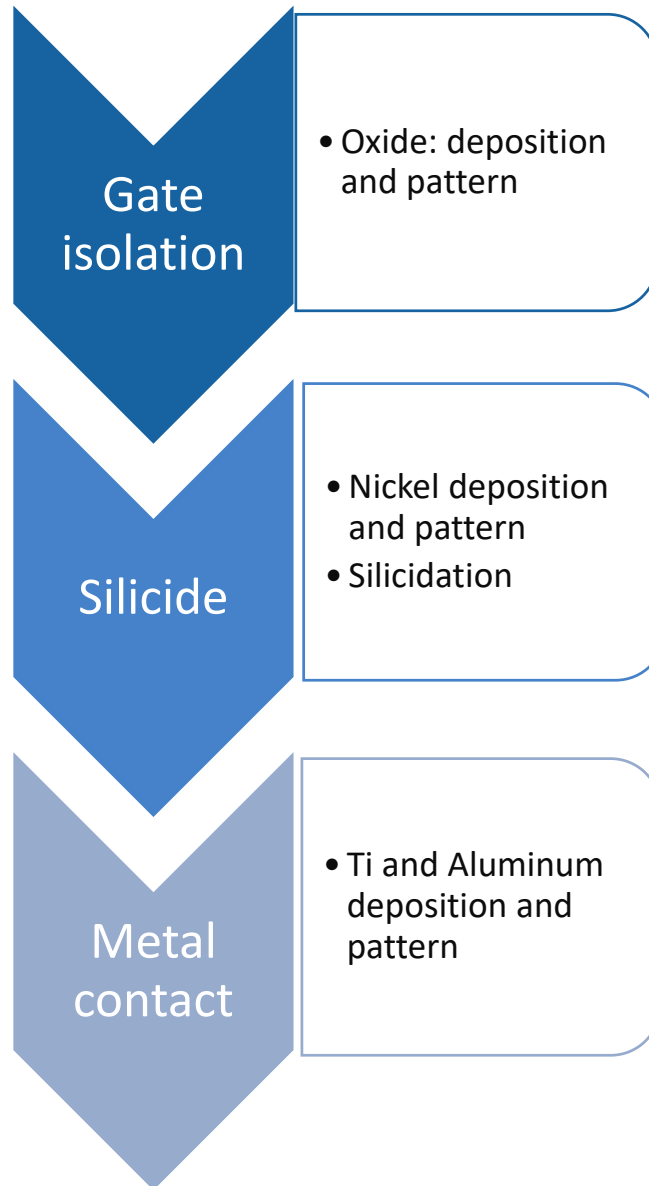
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# MOSFET Front-End Cost

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- ▶ Synthesis
  - Die Cost
  - Packaging Cost
  - Component Cost

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Front End	Low Yield		Medium Yield		High Yield	
	Cost	Breakdown	Cost	Breakdown	Cost	Breakdown
Wafer Cost						
Die Cost						
Assembly Cost						
Test Cost						
Other Cost						
Component Cost						
Material Cost						
Front End Cost						

The front-end cost ranges from \$xxx to \$xxx according to years.

The main part of the wafer cost in 2018 is due to the xxxx (xxx%).



# MOSFET Die Cost

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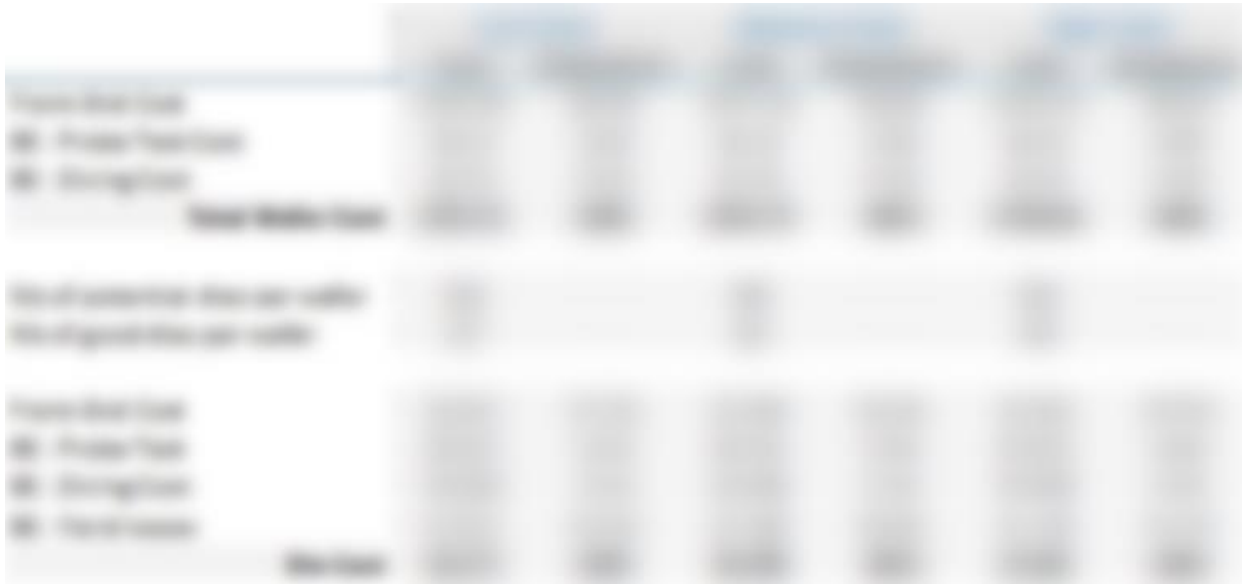
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The MOSFET die cost ranges from \$xxxx to \$xxxx according to years.

The Front-end manufacturing represents xxxx of the component cost in 2018.

Probe test, dicing and scrap account for xxxx of the component cost.



# Final Module Cost

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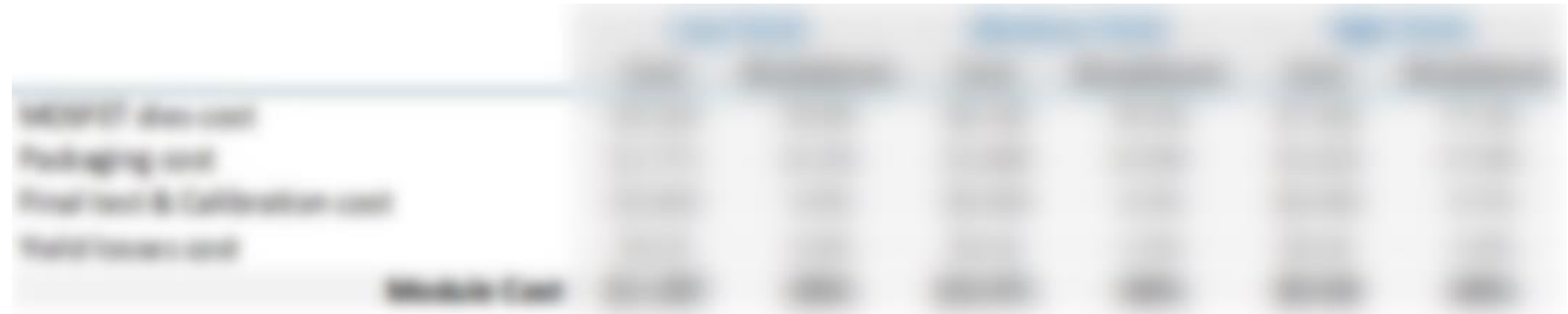
- Synthesis
- Die Cost
- Packaging Cost
- ▶ Component Cost

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The module cost ranges from \$xxx to \$xxxx according to years.

The SiC MOSFET dies manufacturing represents xxx% of the component cost.

The packaging represents xx% of the component cost.

Final test and yield losses account for x% of the component cost.





# Estimated Manufacturer Price

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	Low Yield		Medium Yield		High Yield	
	Cost	Breakdown	Cost	Breakdown	Cost	Breakdown
<b>Module cost</b>	\$10.00		\$10.00		\$10.00	
<b>Manufacturer Gross Profit</b>	\$1.00	-10%	\$1.00	-10%	\$1.00	-10%
<b>Module price</b>	\$11.00		\$11.00		\$11.00	

STMicroelectronics	
Gross Margin	39.0%

The module manufacturing cost ranges from **\$xxx to \$xxx** according to years.

By taking into account a gross margin of 39% for ST (2017 results), the module manufacturer price is estimated to range from **\$xxxx to \$xxxxx** according to years.



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- [Infineon EconoPACK4™ 1200V IGBT4 Module](#)
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- [ROHM 1200V Trench SiC MOSFET](#)
- [Infineon CooliR<sup>2</sup>Die™ Power Module](#)
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### Power Electronics & Compound Semiconductors

- [Power Electronics for EV/HEV 2018](#)
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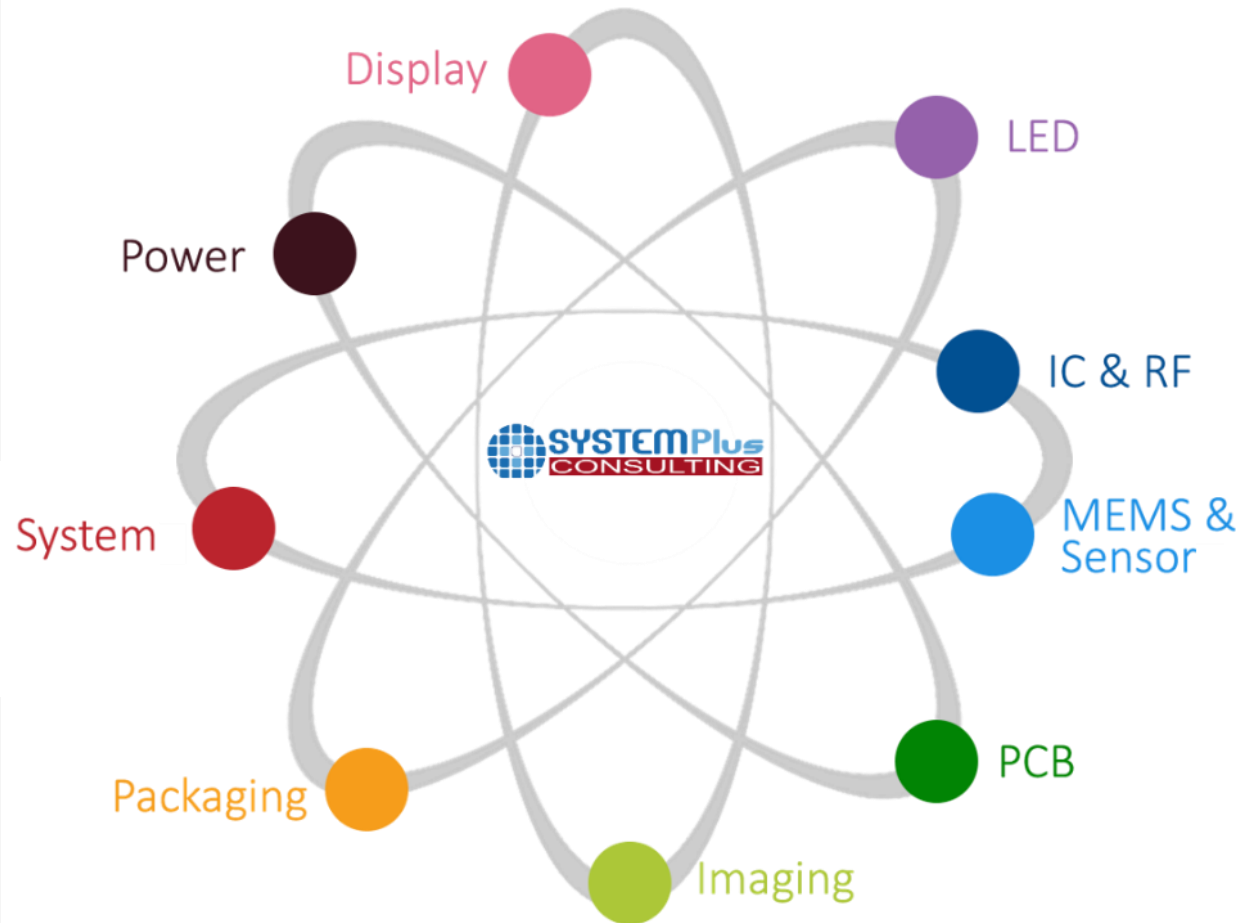
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