



# Disruptiver Ansatz additiv hergestellter Schaltungsträger

(Additive Herstellungsprozesse; Beispiel Inkjet)

Source: Semikron Elektronik GmbH & Co. KG

FED & VDE/VDI SAET, 2021-12-08  
M. Schleicher SEMIKRON Elektronik GmbH & Co. KG

# Agenda



1. Introduction

2. Market overview

3. Soldermask

4. Functional fluid (Ag)

5. AME (PCB) & AM

6. Design & Data format

# Brief introduction



Fachverband für Design,  
Leiterplatten- & Elektronikfertigung



Michael Schleicher

R&D IPM & Systems  
PCB Design

Semikron Elektronik  
GmbH & Co KG

DKE K 682, IEC TC91, IPC

SEMİKRON Elektronik  
GmbH & Co KG

One of the worldwide  
leading Power Modul  
manufacturer.

Founded: 1951  
Employee: ~ 3.000  
Turnaround: ~ 540 Mio (2021)

FED e.V.  
& Arbeitskreis 3D-Elektronik

German PCB Designers  
Council; education and  
qualification along the  
value chain of electronics

located: Germany  
founded: 1992  
members: ~ 700



# Brief introduction

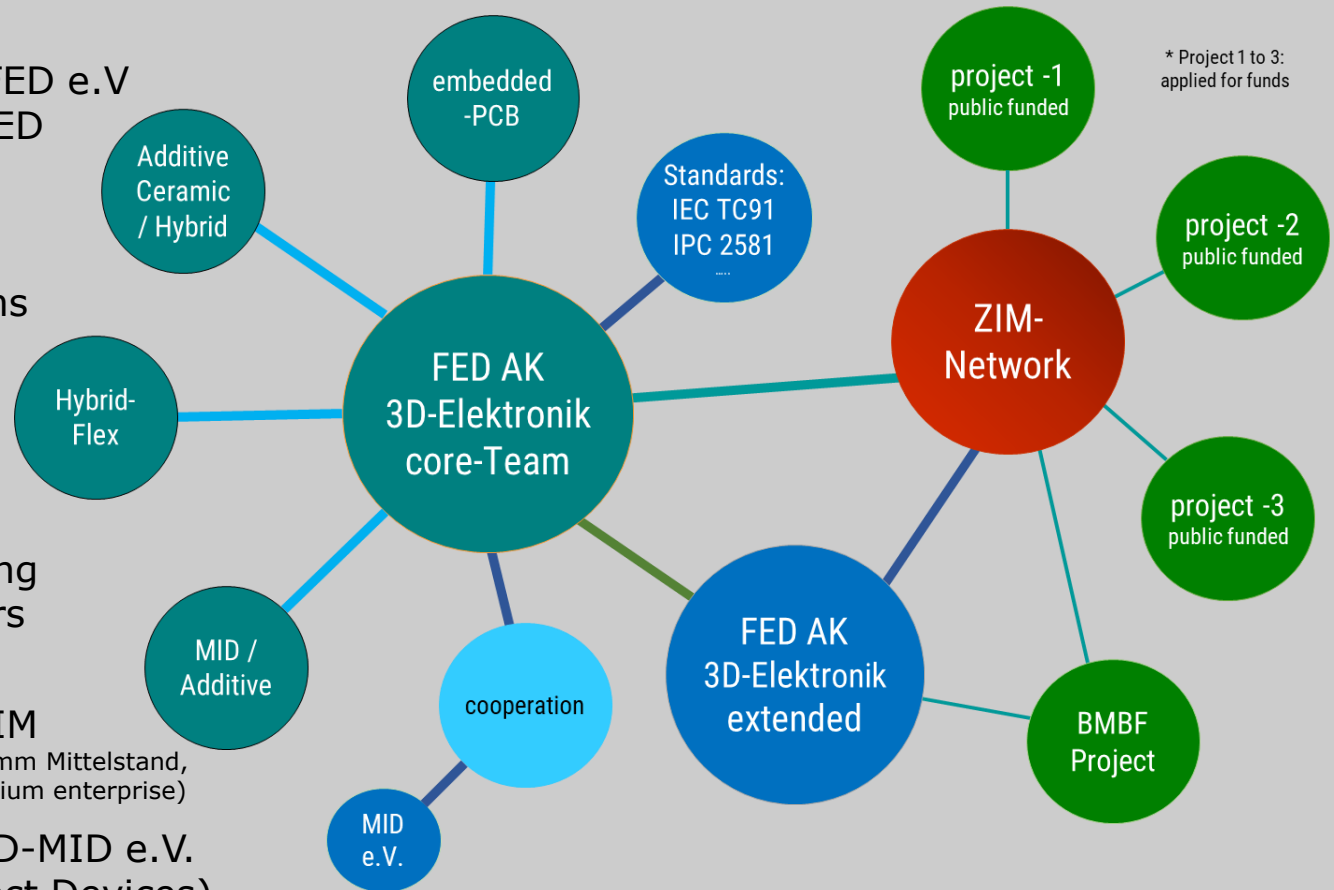
## FED Arbeitskreis 3D-Elektronik, Organization & structure

### 1. Core- & Extended Team

- FED e.V. Member
- Strong relation to FED e.V.  
(few members of FED advisory board)
- Privat companies
- Research institutions

### 2. Networking

- Industrial networking within FED-Members
- Gouvernement funded Network: ZIM  
(Zentrales Innovationsprogramm Mittelstand, public funded for small & medium enterprise)
- Cooperation with 3D-MID e.V.  
(Molded Interconnect Devices)



Source: FED Arbeitskreis 3D-Elektronik

# Brief introduction Semikron, Product Range

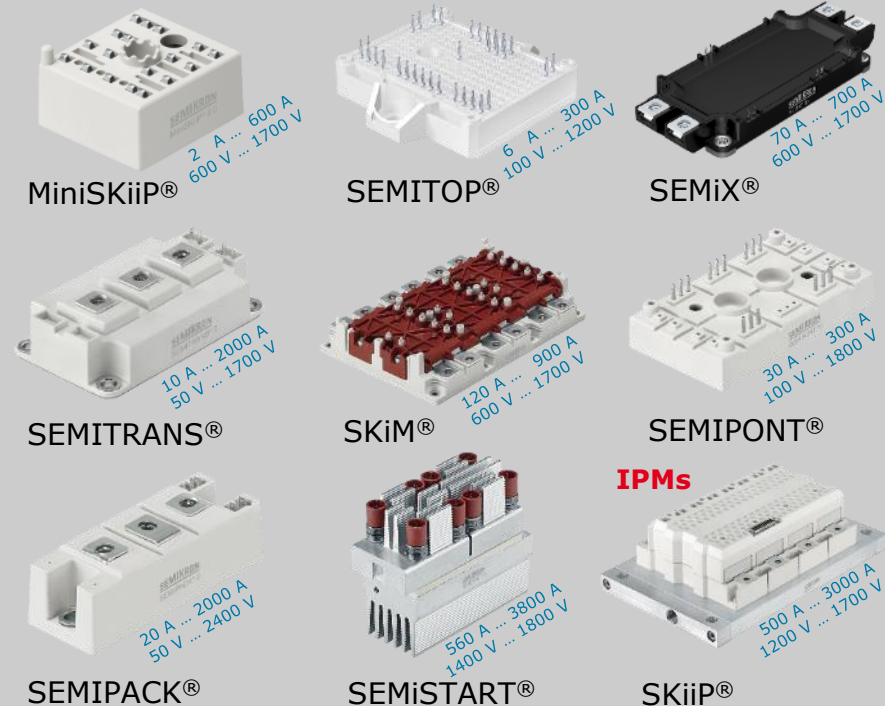
## DISCRETES

1 A ... 6000 A  
50 V ... 3600 V



Diodes/Thyristors/Chips

## POWER MODULES



## IPMs

## STACKS

1 A ... 6000 A  
50 V ... 3600 V



**Water-cooled IGBT**  
SEMISTACK® RE



**Air-cooled IGBT**  
SEMIKUBE®



**Diode/Thyristor**  
SEMISTACK® CLASSIC



**Customised Applications**

## IGBT DRIVERS

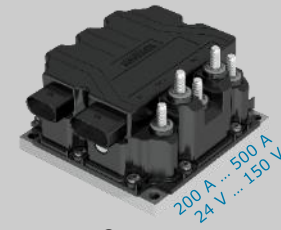


SKYPER®/SKHI

## SYSTEMS



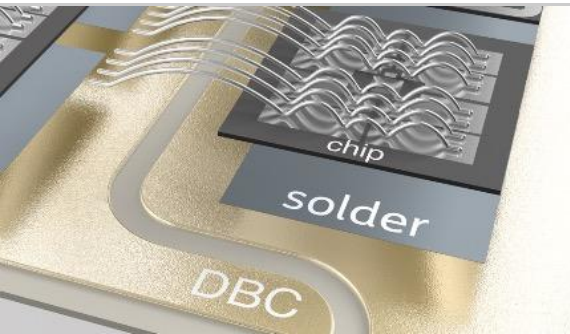
SKAI® 2 HV



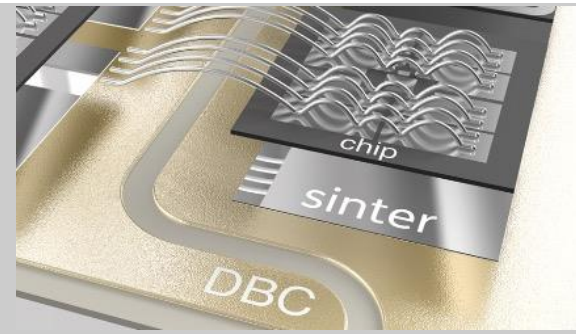
SKAI® 3 LV

Source: SEMIKRON Elektronik GmbH & Co. KG

## Brief introduction Semikron, Basic Module Technologies

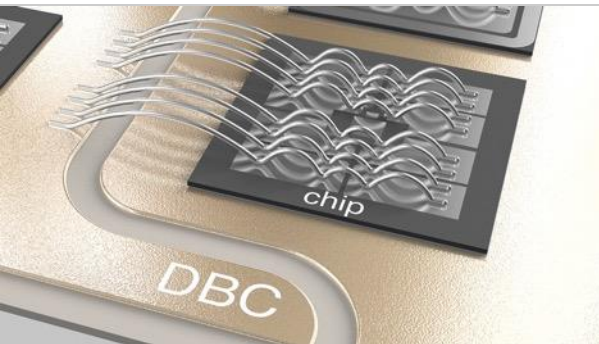


Solder



Single Sided Sintering

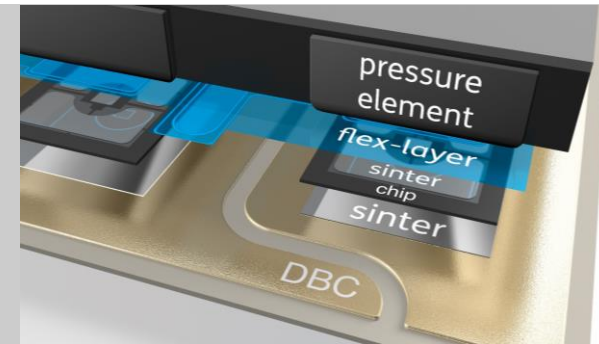
# Die Attach



Bonding: Al, AlCu, Cu



Double Sided Sintering



Direct Pressed Die

# Die Connection

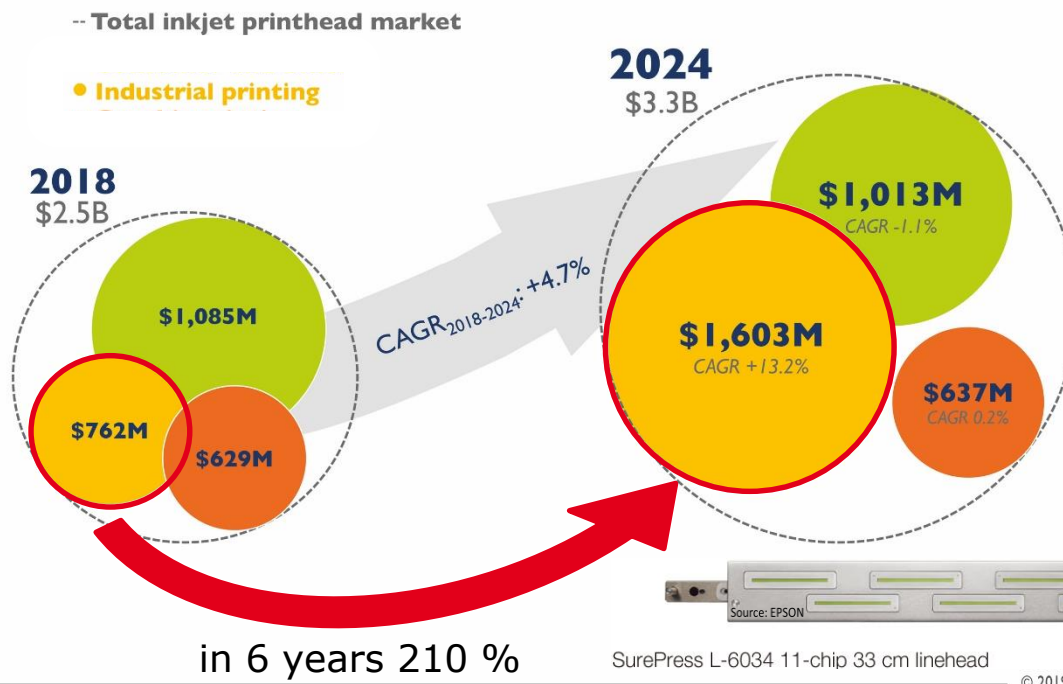
Source: SEMIKRON Elektronik GmbH & Co. KG

# Additive manufacturing

## Inkjet Technologies market dynamics

### Inkjet printhead main market dynamics: 2018 - 2024 forecast

(Source: Inkjet Printheads: Dispensing Technologies & Market Landscape 2019, Yole Développement, 2019)



Inkjet-printhead arrays  
for huge areas



© 2019 | www.yole.fr – www.i-micronews.com

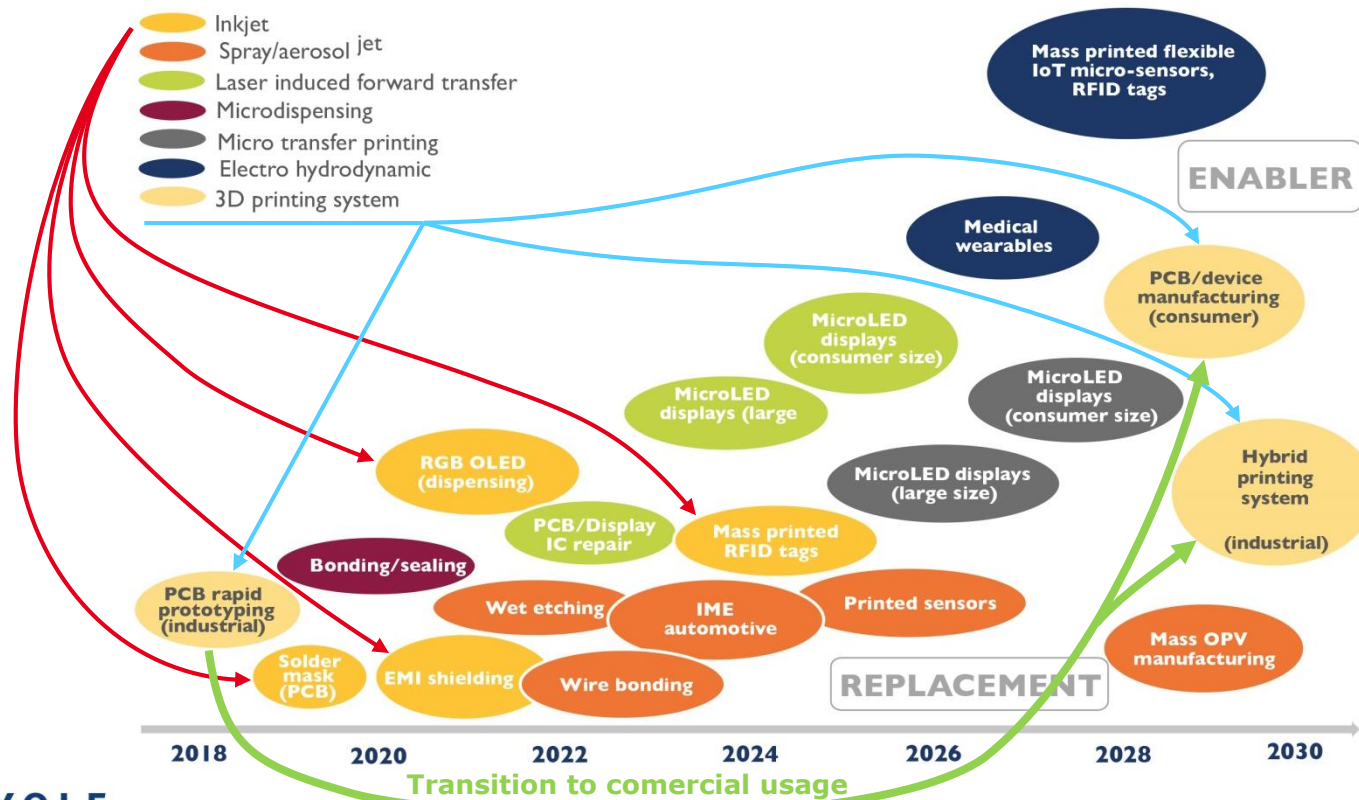


# Additive manufacturing

## Technologie predictions 2019 ... 2029

### Replacement and enabler emerging printing technologies prediction for the next 10 years

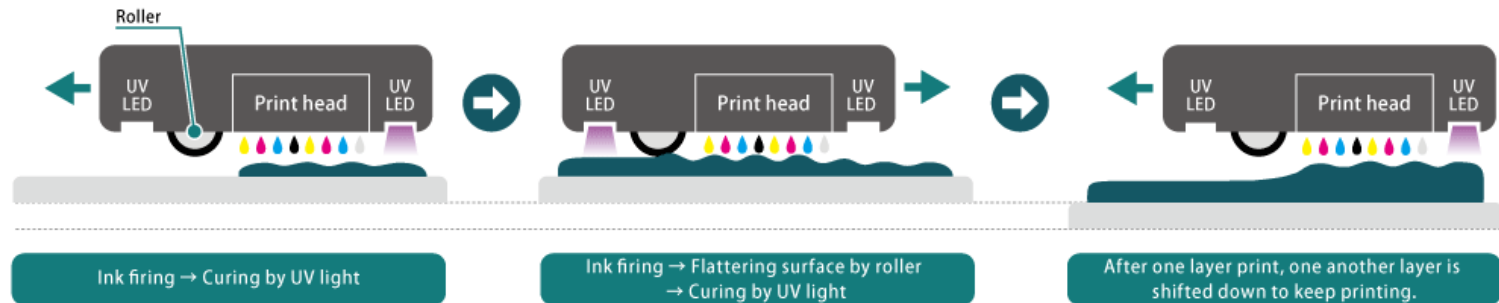
(Source: Emerging Printing Technologies 2019 report, Yole Développement, 2019)



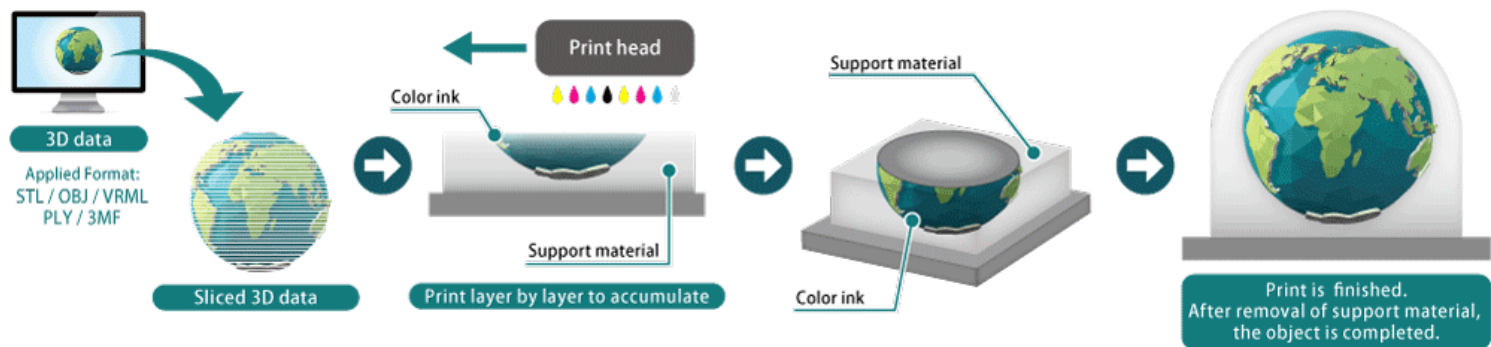


# Additive Manufacturing (AM)

## Principle of curable Inkjet printing (UV-curing)



Processing on flat and even surfaces (Paper, Glas, Textile)



3D-Structure by using vertical movable Printheads or Workspace

# Additive Manufacturing (AM)

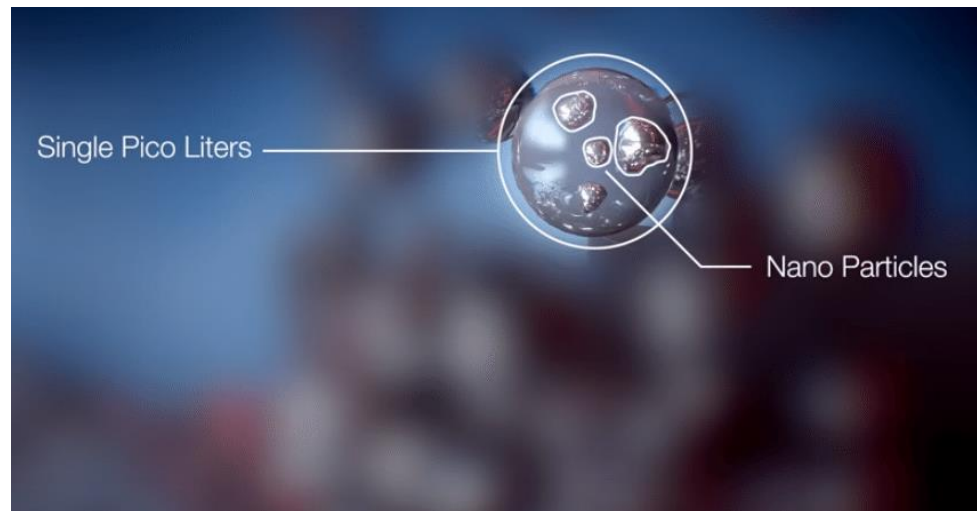
## Correlation of „drop-size“, „nozzle pitch“ and „solution“



Drop Size: 6 pl  
Nozzle Pitch: 45  $\mu\text{m}$



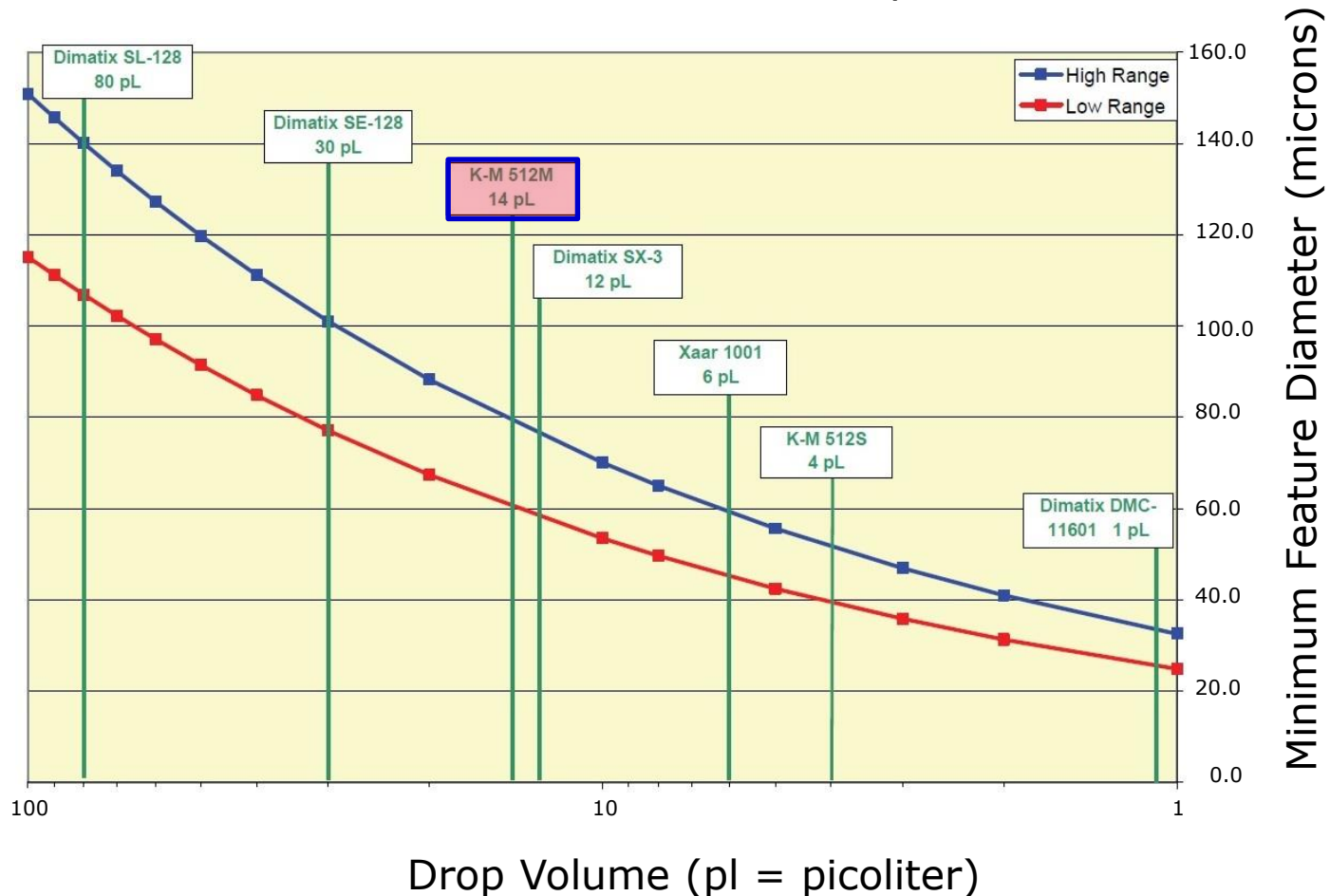
2 pl  
20  $\mu\text{m}$



# Additive Manufacturing (AM)

## Comparing commercial available Inkjet Printheads

Ink Therortical Feature Size vs. Drop Volume

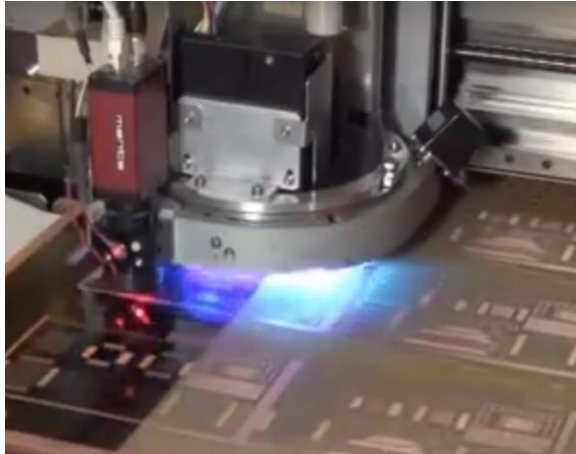


Source: B. Amos, T. Suttner Dow Electronic Materials, IPC-APEX EXPO 2019, San Diego; FujiFilm (Online)

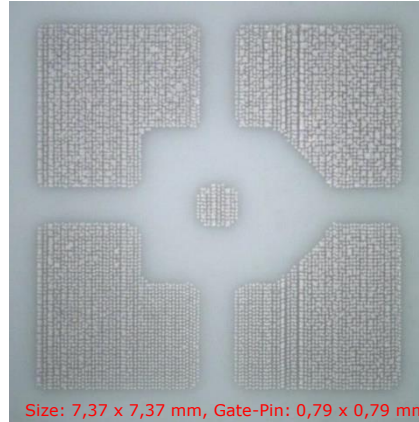


# AM via Inkjet substrates and auxiliary material for electronics

## Three representatives: Soldermask, Functional fluid and Substrate



Example No 1: Soldermasks



Example No 2: deposited Ag-functional fluid



Size: 47 x 20 x 1,4 mm

Example No 3: PCB with embedded devices  
Additively-manufactured Circuit Boards (ACBs)

Since a few years Inkjet-Printing of soldermask is commercially available.

The print process, by deposition of a thin lacquer film on the surface, is very fast, up to 10 sec per PCB manufacturing panel [3].

A new approach to apply auxiliary material for the manufacturing process by using Inkjet printing method seems promising.

The process and new developed Functional fluid is in a *very early* stage.

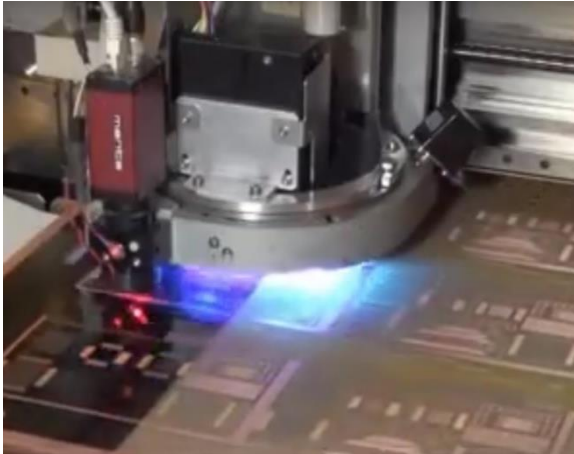
To create a complete PCB within one printing process is one of the dreams of R&D designer and engineers.

2012 the "first generation" of machines for Additive Manufacturing for Electronics was launched by Nano Dimension.

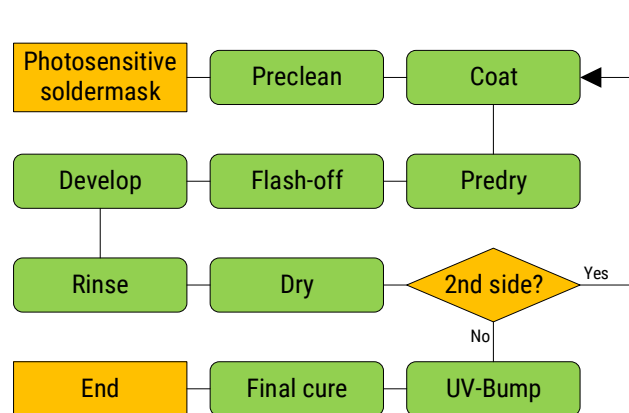
Source: TAIYO INK MFG. Co. LTD., Semikron Elektronik GmbH & Co KG, Nano Dimension

# Soldermask Ink-Jet Printing

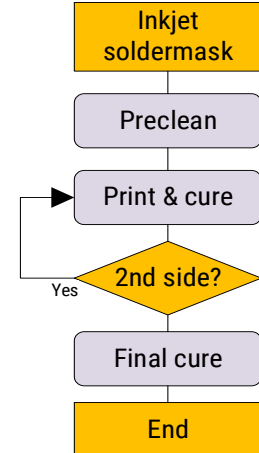
## Additive process



InkJet Soldermask Application within curing



Processflow of a typical curtain coating proces.



Processflow of a Inkjet soldermask proces.

- only needed material will be applied on the PCB
- cured by using UV light
- print multiple solder mask layer

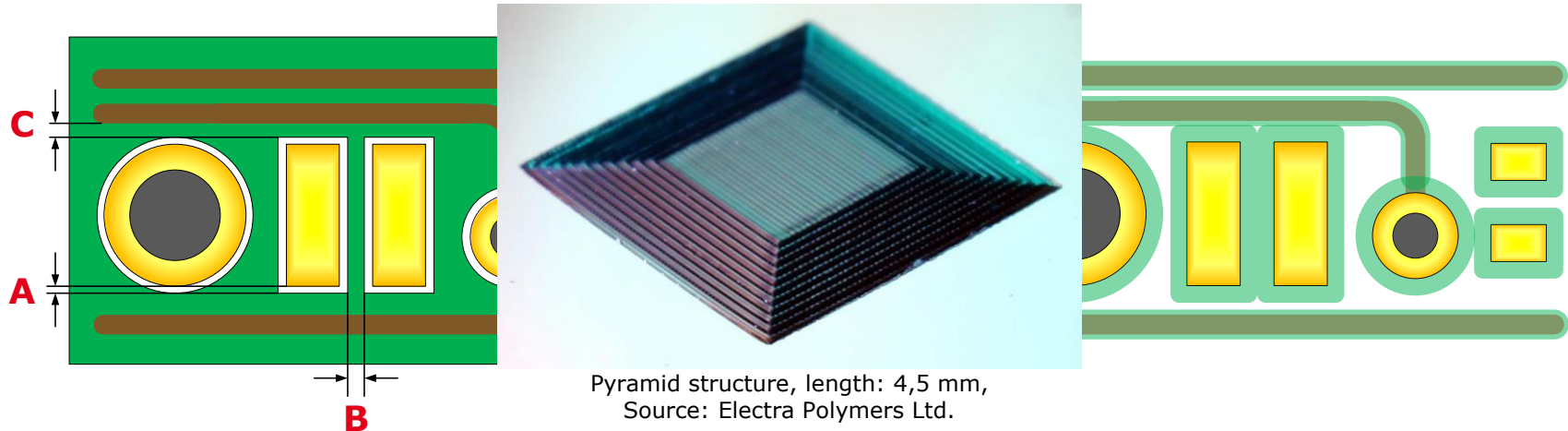
- no additional development and rinse process needed
- no additional waste will be generated
- no topics on wastewater treatment

- reduced process steps
- reduced footprint in fab
- reduced residues and ionic contamination

Source: Würth Elektronik GmbH & Co KG. (FED-Conference 2019), TAIYO INK MFG. Co. LTD. Semikron Elektronik GmbH & Co KG)

# Soldermask for PCB's:

## Comparing: Curtain Coating & Inkjet-processing



All unused areas were covered by soldermask

Optional soldermask covers minimal unused copper areas

The values of minimum spacing "curtain"  
Soldermask process (typical values):

<b>A)</b> Around Pins:	50 $\mu\text{m}$
<b>B)</b> Between 2 Pins (min line):	100 $\mu\text{m}$
<b>C)</b> To next copper (covered):	100 $\mu\text{m}$
<b>D)</b> Thickness on copper edge:	> 5 $\mu\text{m}$
<b>E)</b> Soldermask thickness:	5 ... 100 $\mu\text{m}$

The values of minimum spacing "Inkjet"  
Soldermask process (typical values):

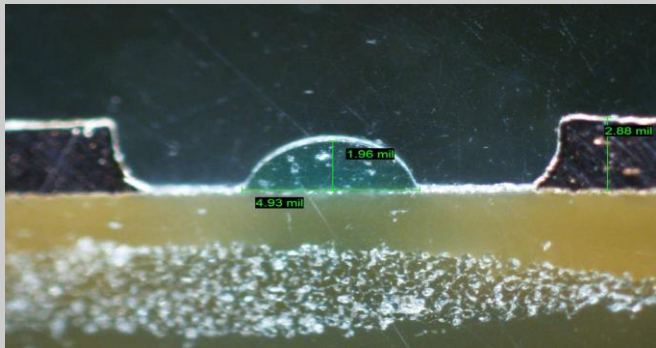
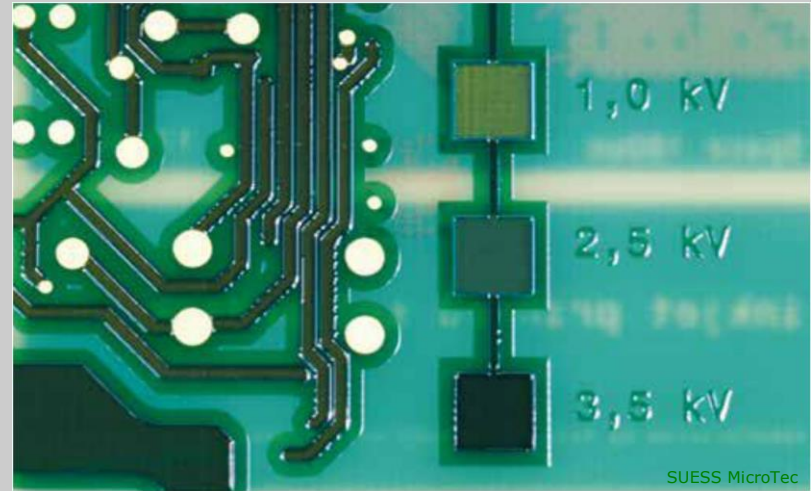
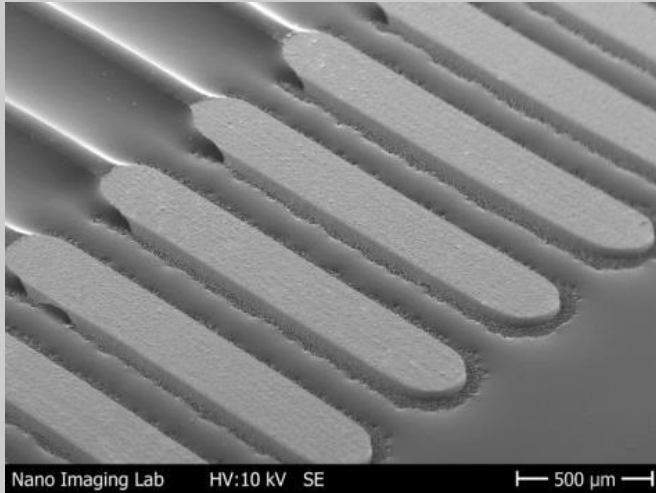
<b>A)</b> Around Pins:	down to 0 $\mu\text{m}$
<b>B)</b> Between 2 Pins (min line):	40 $\mu\text{m}^*$
<b>C)</b> To next copper (covered):	up to 5 $\mu\text{m}^*$
<b>D)</b> Thickness on copper tracs:	> 5 $\mu\text{m}^*$
<b>E)</b> Soldermask thickness:	5 ... 100 $\mu\text{m}^*$

Source: Semikron Elektronik GmbH & Co KG, TAIYO INK MFG. Co. LTD.

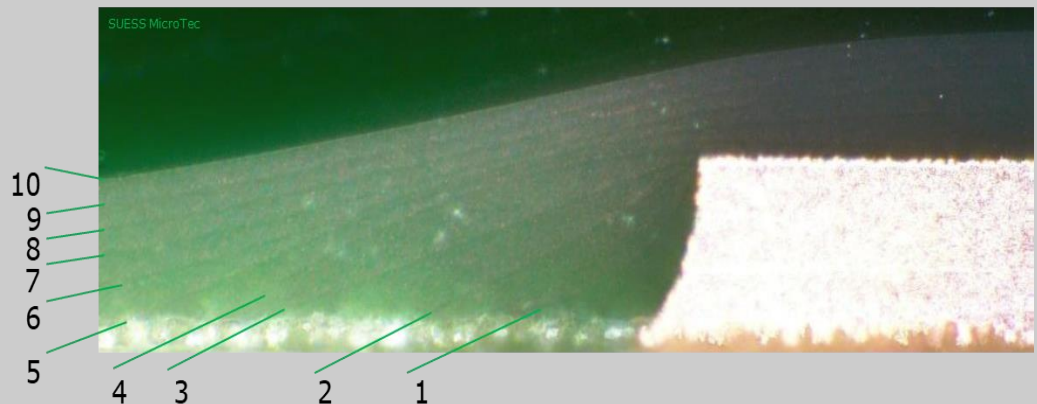
\* Depending on the actual comercial available printheads



# Soldermask Ink-Jet Printing Examples



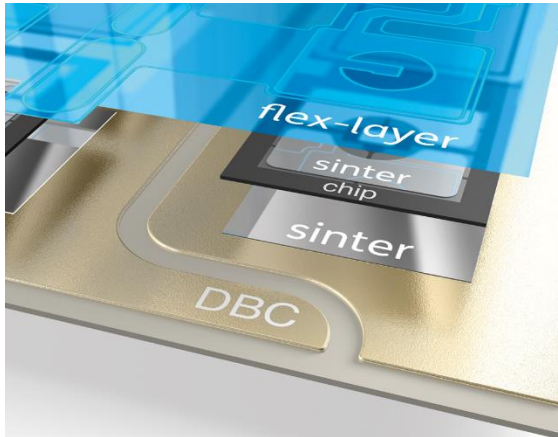
(Width: 4.93 mil = 125,2 µm, height 1.96 mil = 49,78 µm)



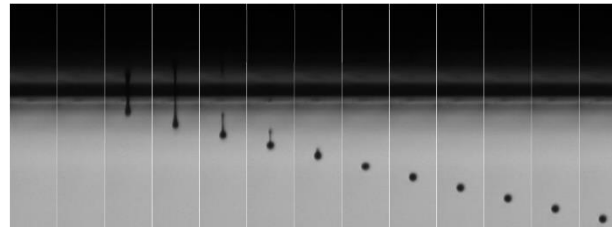
Source: Würth Elektronik GmbH & Co KG. (FED-Conference 2019), TAIYO INK MFG. Co. LTD. (EIPC-Conference 2020), Suess MicroTec (2021)

# Silver Sintering

## Applying the functional fluid (Ag) with an Inkjet process

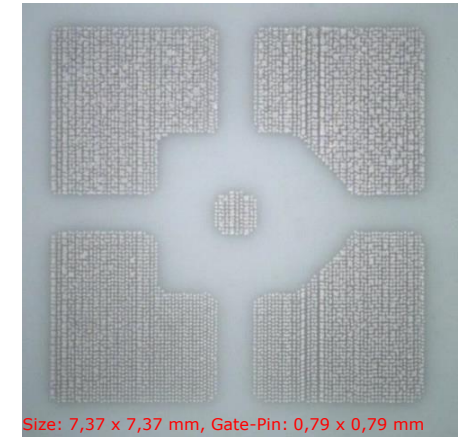


Double side sintered bare die chip



From 0 μs to 120 μs

„Drop on Demand“ of functional fluid (Ag)



Size: 7,37 x 7,37 mm, Gate-Pin: 0,79 x 0,79 mm

Deposited functional fluid (Ag)

SEMIKRON established the Ag-sinter process in 2007

Bare dies were assembled by pressing with a defined force & temperature

Void free technology

Optimization by using „drop on demand“: Inkjet (digital printing process)

Apply a precise volume of functional fluid (Ag-Ink)

Contact-free application on uneven surfaces (assembled)

Precision of the deposition depend on e.g.:

- DPI of nozzles
- Ink (e.g. viscosity)
- speed (printhead)

Ongoing investigations at Semikron

Source: SEMIKRON Elektronik GmbH & Co. KG

# Silver Sintering

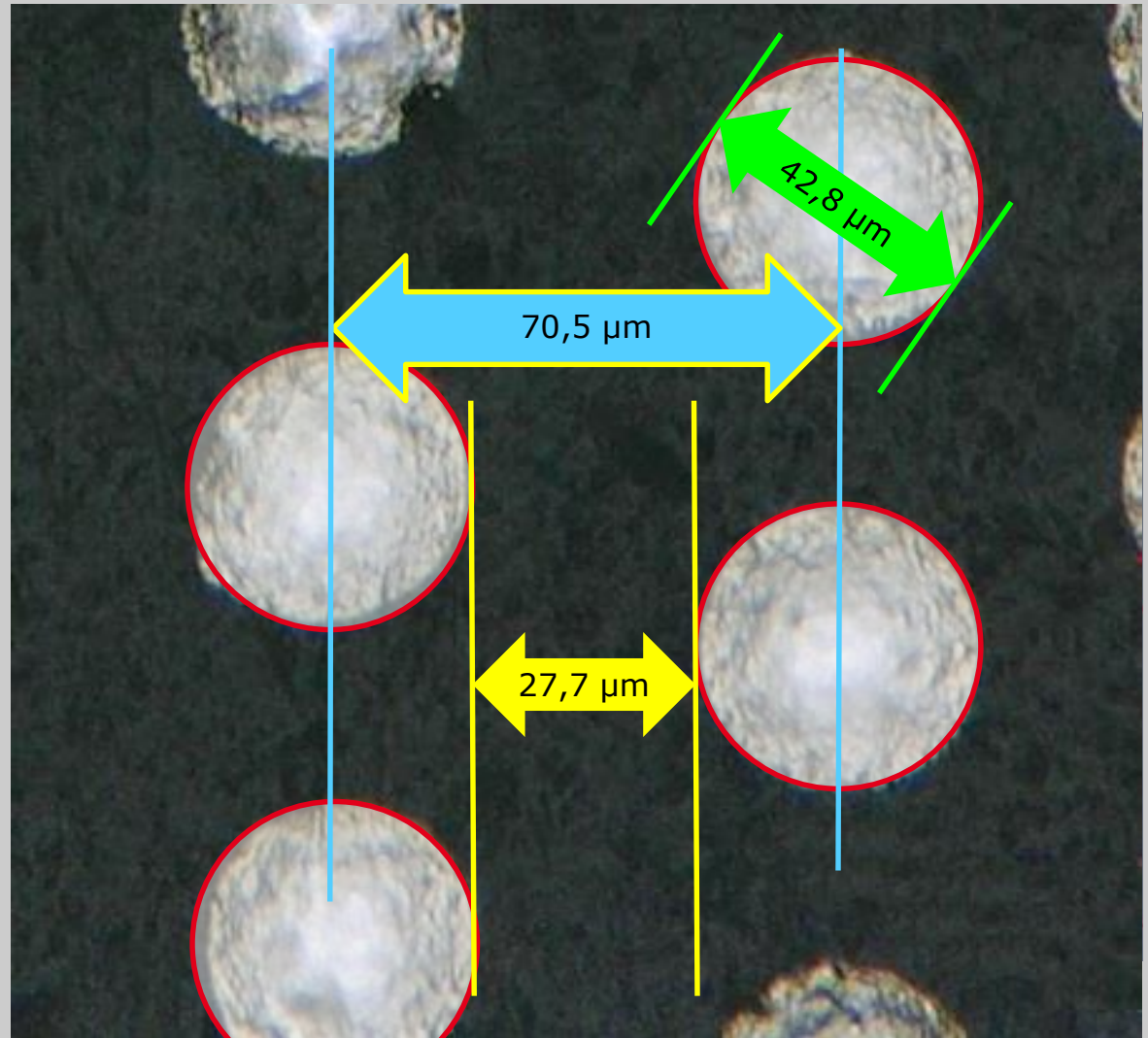
## Applying the functional fluid (Ag) with an Inkjet process

### 1. Printed image:

- Semikron Teststructure
- Substrate: PTFE-Foil
- Funktional fluid (Ag)
- Solution: 360 dpi

### 2. Measurement:

- Diameter:  $42,80\text{ }\mu\text{m}$   
( $\pm 1,08\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ )
- Pitch:  $70,50\text{ }\mu\text{m}$
- Spacing:  $27,70\text{ }\mu\text{m}$

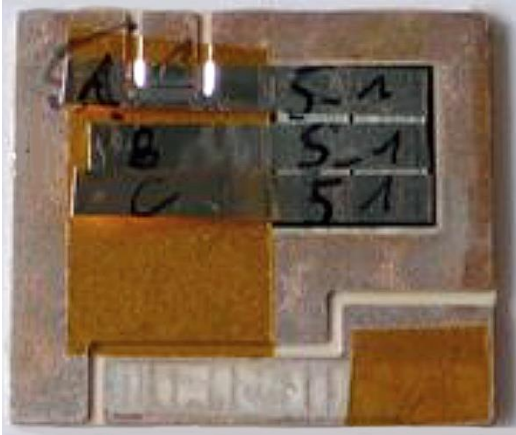


Source: Semikron Elektronik GmbH & Co KG

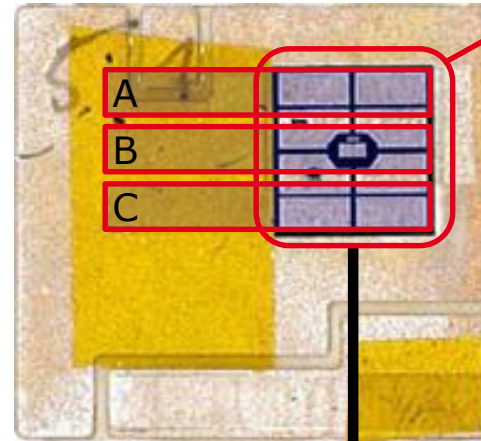


# Silver Sintering

## Adhesive strength

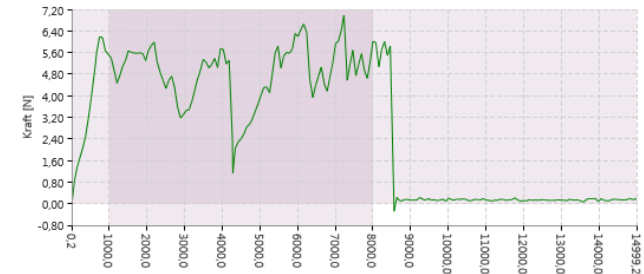


Double side sintered bare die chip

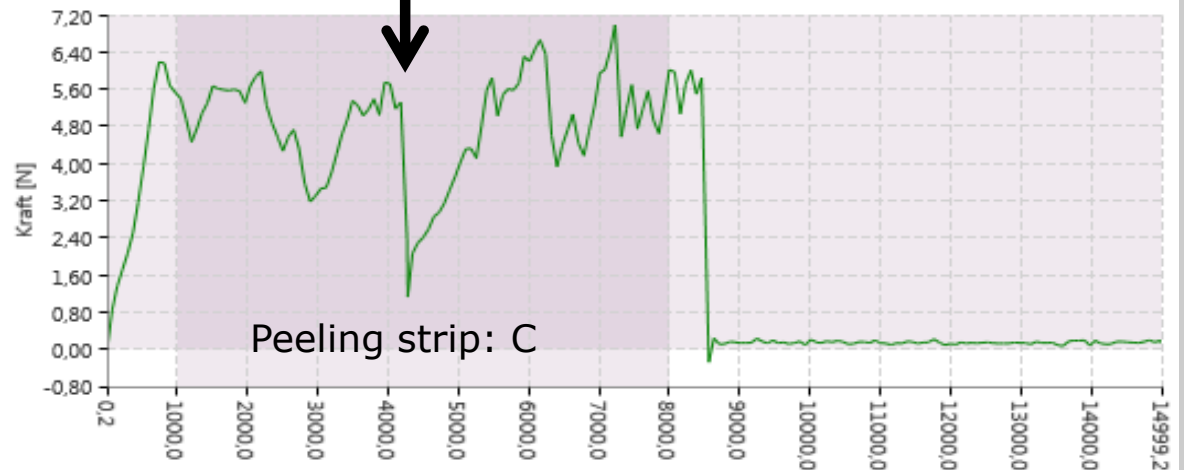


Analysis of the joint with peeling strips

sinterable area  
(TOP-surface of a bare die IGBT-chip)



Peeling strip C: Diagram of adhesion



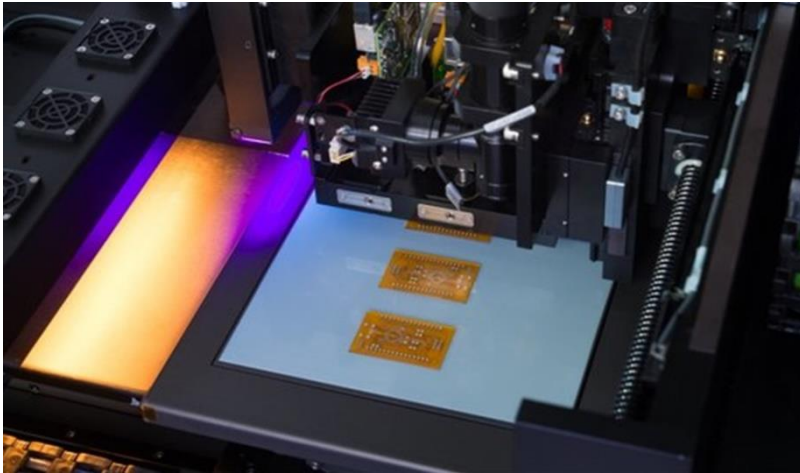
Peeling strip: C

To sinter from both sides it is necessary to apply the functional fluid (Ag) on the TOP side of the IGBT-chip.

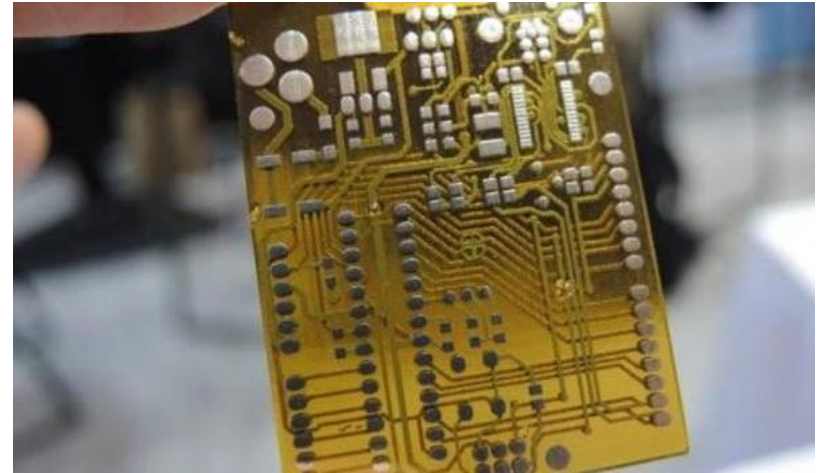
Three areas for a peeling strength test were applied.

On every area a silver metal strip were sintered.

# Additively Manufactured Electronics (AME)



Printing Process, functional fluids (dielectricum, Ag) and UV-curing



Example of an AME

Nano Dimensioin was founded in 2012

They own the IP's

- conductive fluid
- and non conductive fluid

The first Dragonfly was launched in 2015

acquired Essemtec Group (Swiss)  
for assembly and dispensing of auxilery  
material, for electronic components

Design options:

- max. dimensions 160 x 160 mm
- max. height (released): 3 mm
- min. Layer thickness 17  $\mu$ m
- min. dielectric thickness: 25  $\mu$ m
- solder mask thickness (typ): 50  $\mu$ m
- line / spacing: 70 / 100  $\mu$ m

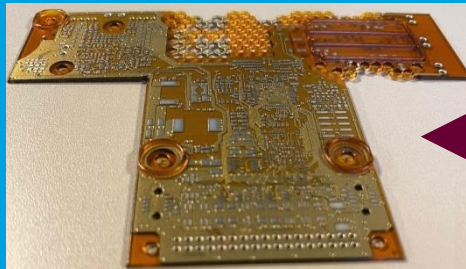
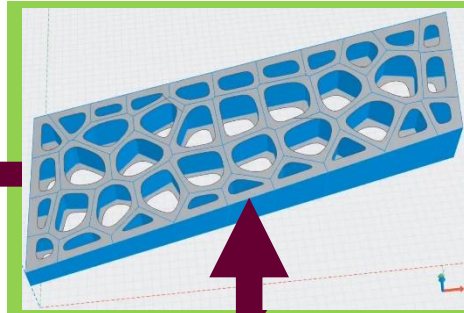
Source: [www.3Dprintingmedia.network](http://www.3Dprintingmedia.network), [www.eenewseurope.com](http://www.eenewseurope.com)

# AME application

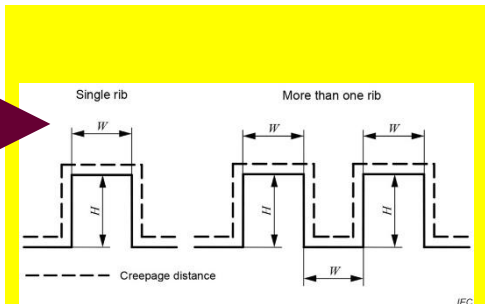
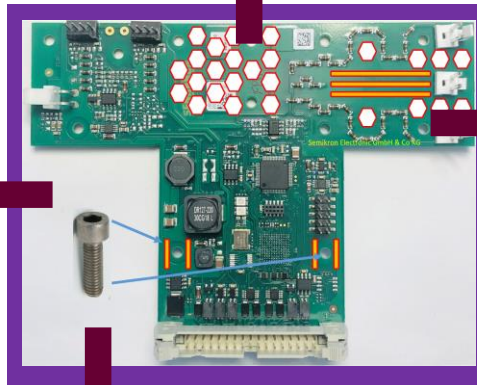
## Features to improve the current PCB design



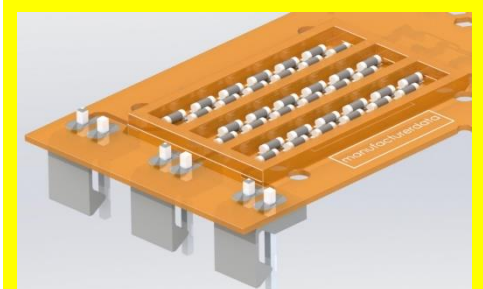
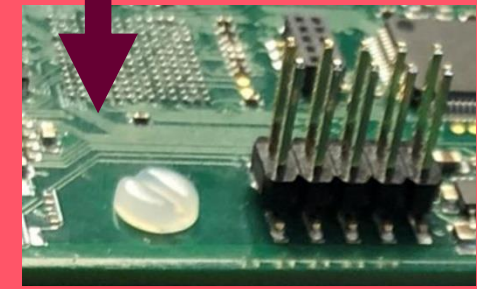
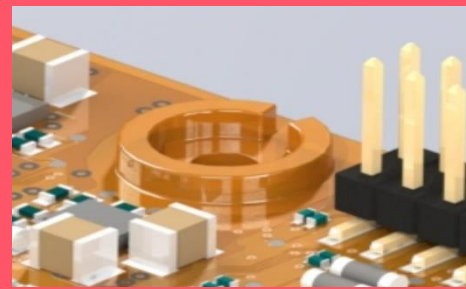
AME-Demonstrator



1st Redesign of Sensor-PCB



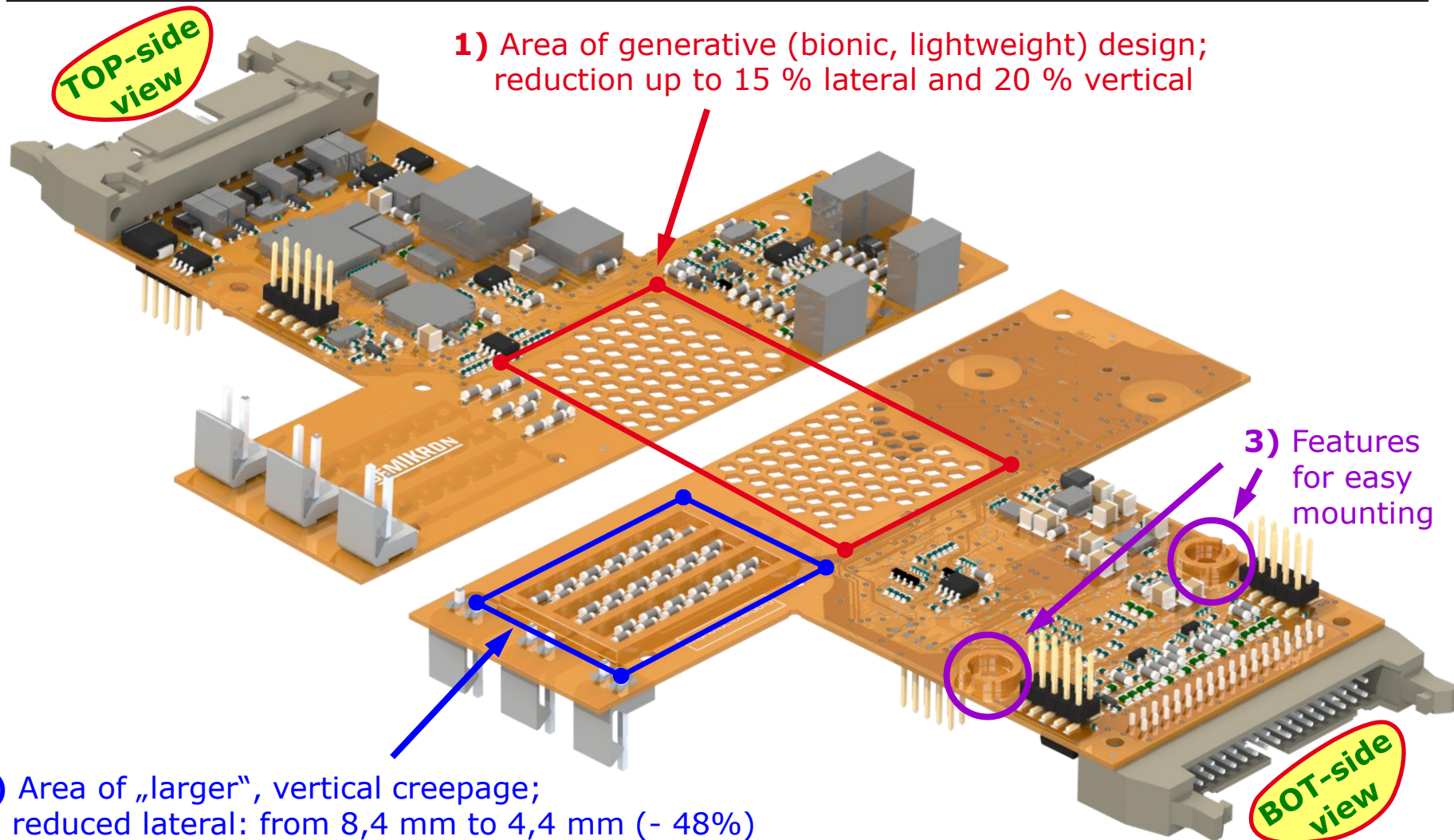
Creepage distance regarding  
IEC 60664-3:2020





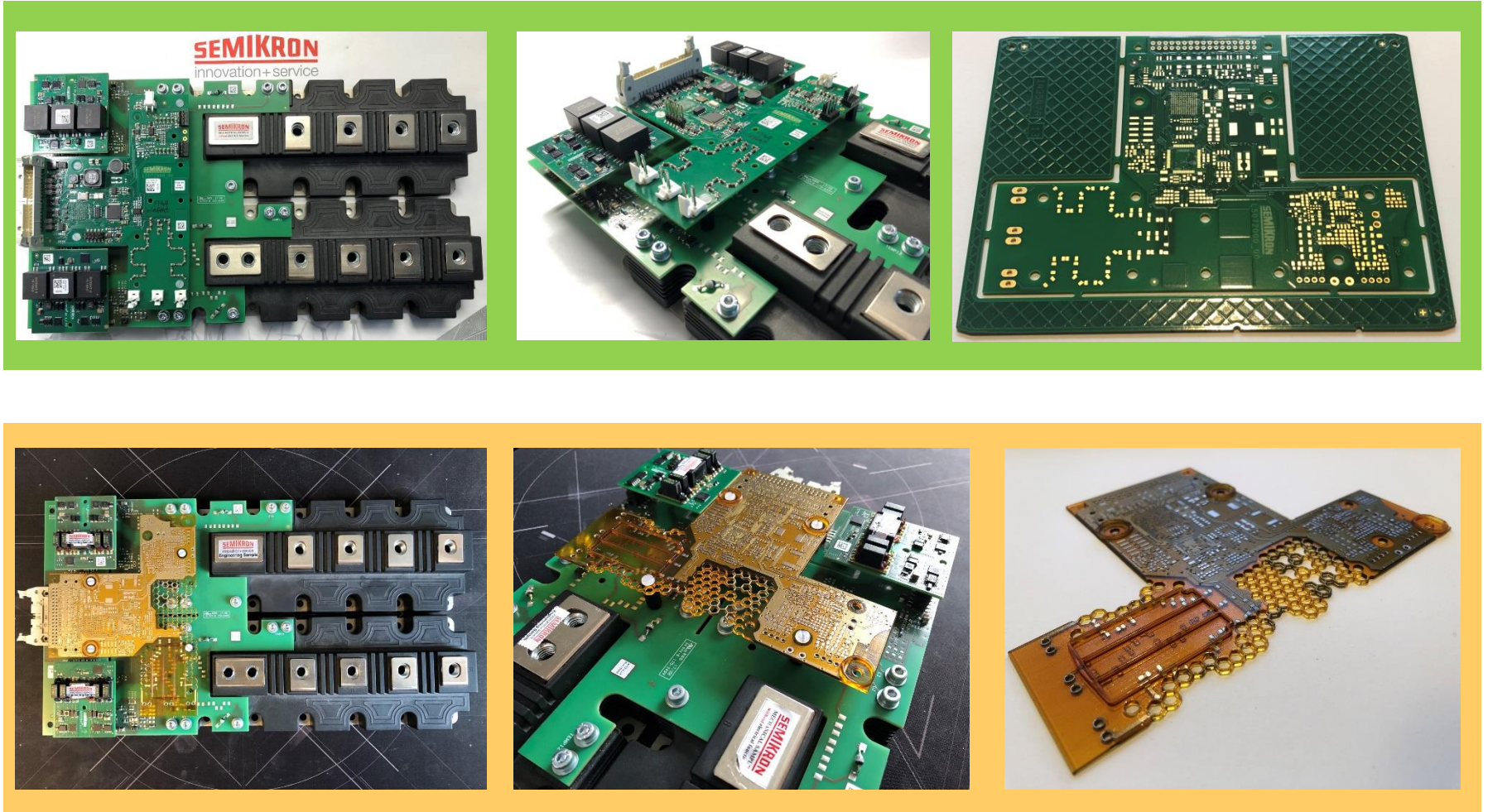
# AME application

## Overview of the design



Source: SEMIKRON Elektronik GmbH & Co. KG

# PCB-version // AME application Overview

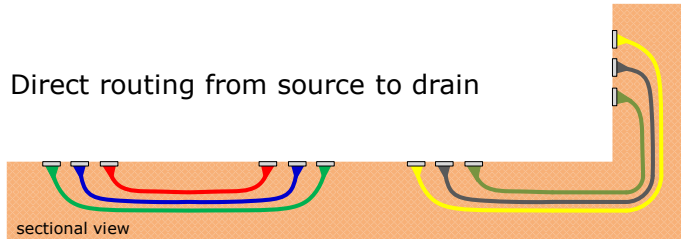


Source: SEMIKRON Elektronik GmbH & Co. KG

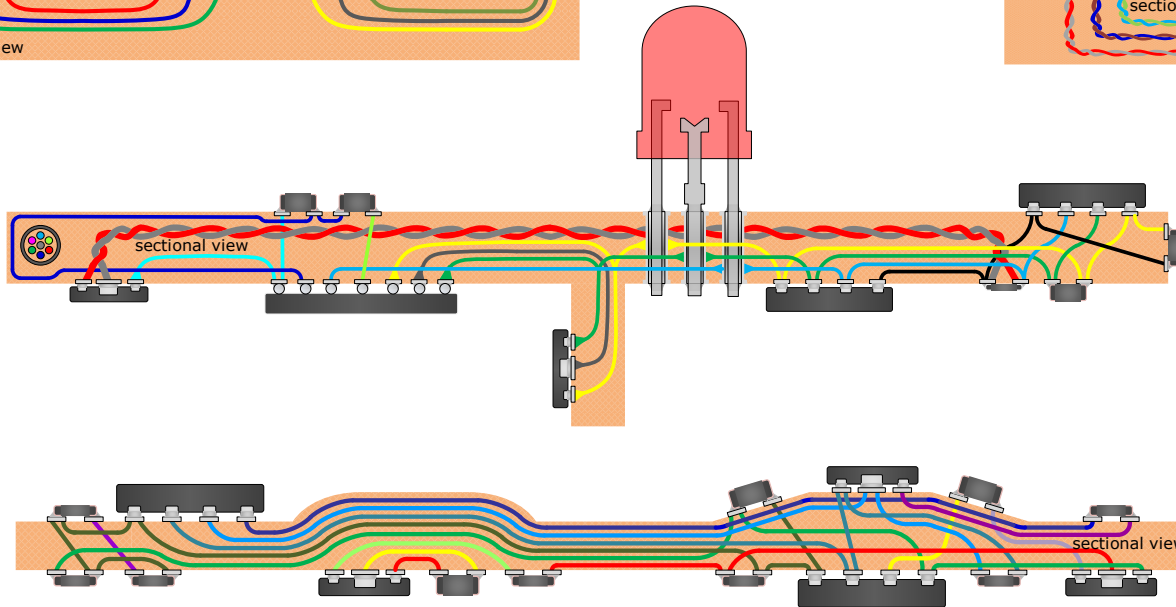
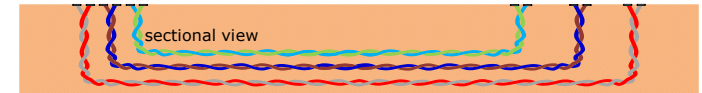
# Future prospects

## Possible and required AME layout solutions → disruptive approach

Direct routing from source to drain

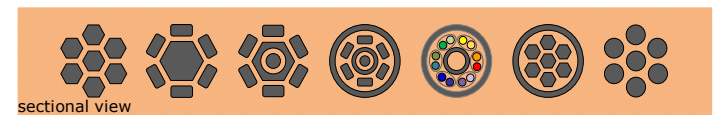
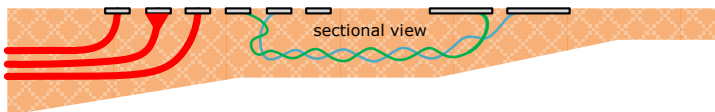


Twisted pair routing (without vias)



### Design features:

- any layer (layerless) routing
- any angle routing
- any angle teardrops
- any angle holes / tubes
- vialess routing
- vertical fanout
- „real“ twisted pair routing
- harness design option
- shielding (koax) routing
- 3D-trace-shape (optional)
- 3D shape (substrate)
- 3D shape routing
- 3D line/spacing (DRC)
- 3D push-back-routing (plow)



reduce thickness, 3D-shape, 3D-DRC or bionic design

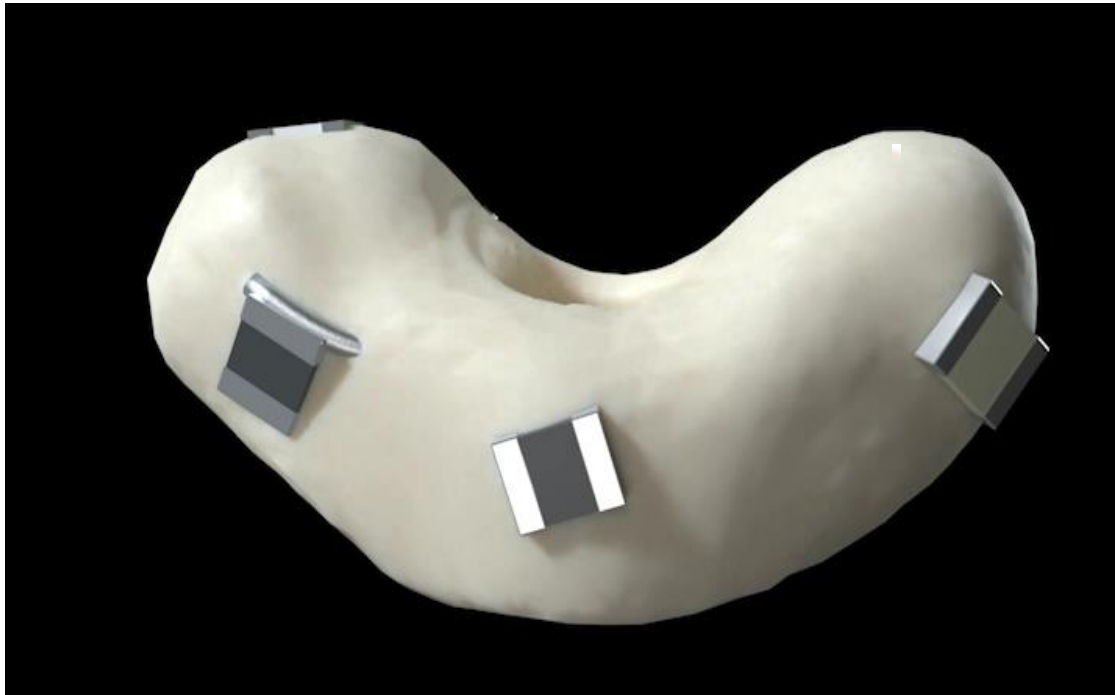
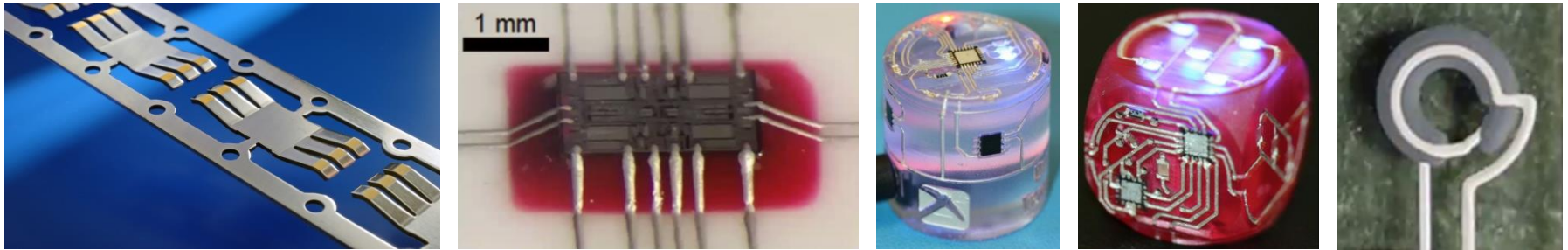
Bus structures (shielding option), equal to harness design

Source: SEMIKRON Elektronik GmbH & Co. KG



# Future prospects

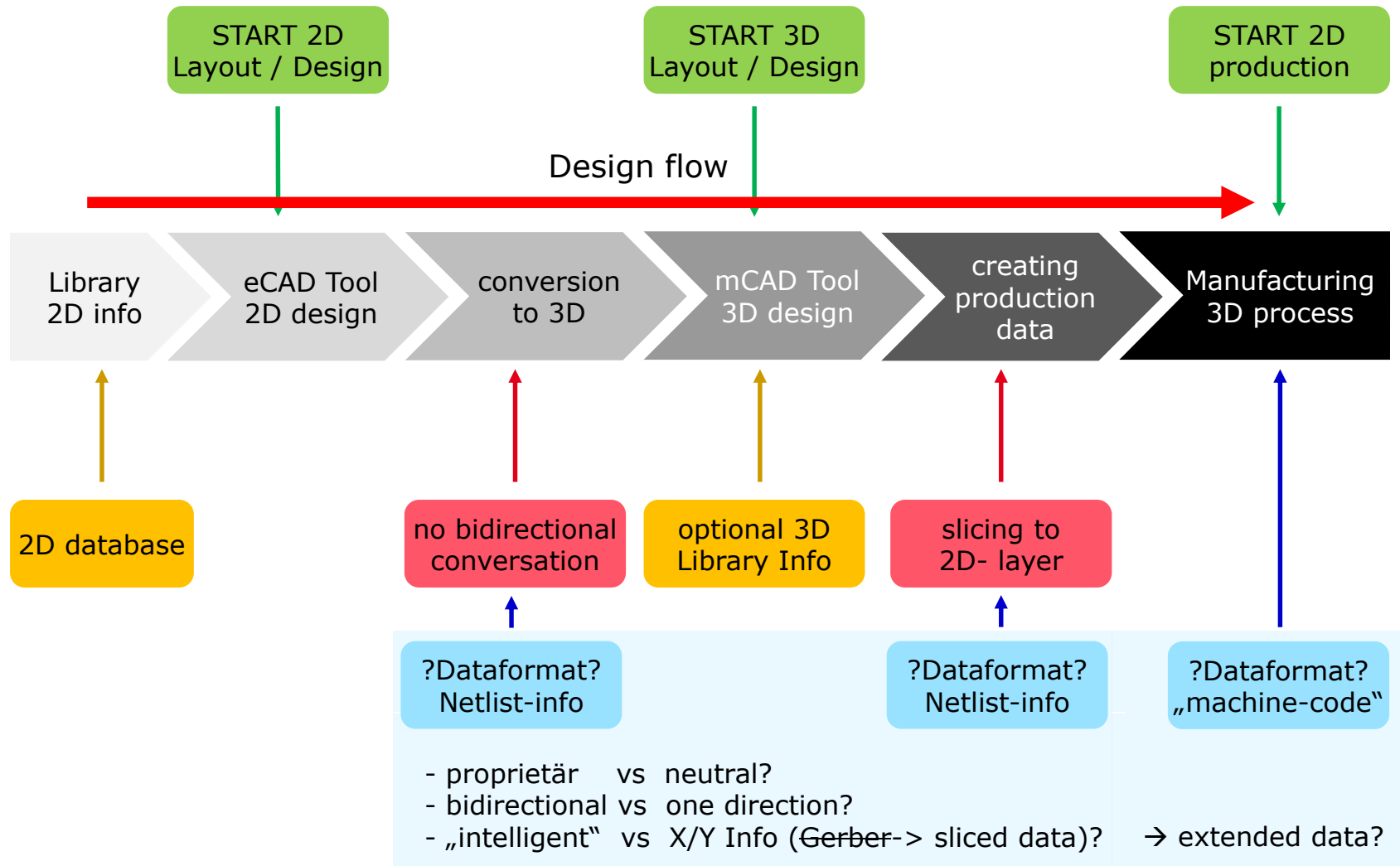
## Possible „Additively Manufactured“ solutions (semi- & fulladditive)



Source: UTEP EM Lab, Semikron Elektronik GmbH & Co. KG, Video: UTEP EM Lab



# 2D design, 3D design, Datatransfer, smart manufacturing





## Contact

Vielen Dank für Ihre Aufmerksamkeit

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