



ChipsJü

WECS 2024  
GHENT BELGIUM  
5-6 December

**Important Project of Common European Interest (IPCEI)  
Microelectronics and Communication Technologies**

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\*Speaker

# MOTIVATIONS FOR IPCEI ME/CT

IPCEIs strengthen important European value chains and contribute to **political priorities of the Union** (e.g. Green Deal, Digital Strategy) and its sovereignty :



**is complementary to R&D programs** like EFECTS, Eureka, Chips JU or Horizon Europe by involving **“First Industrial Deployment” (FID)** activities on top of R&D&I,



**addresses critical “key enabling technologies”** like microelectronics/communication, battery technologies, hydrogen, low carbon industries,



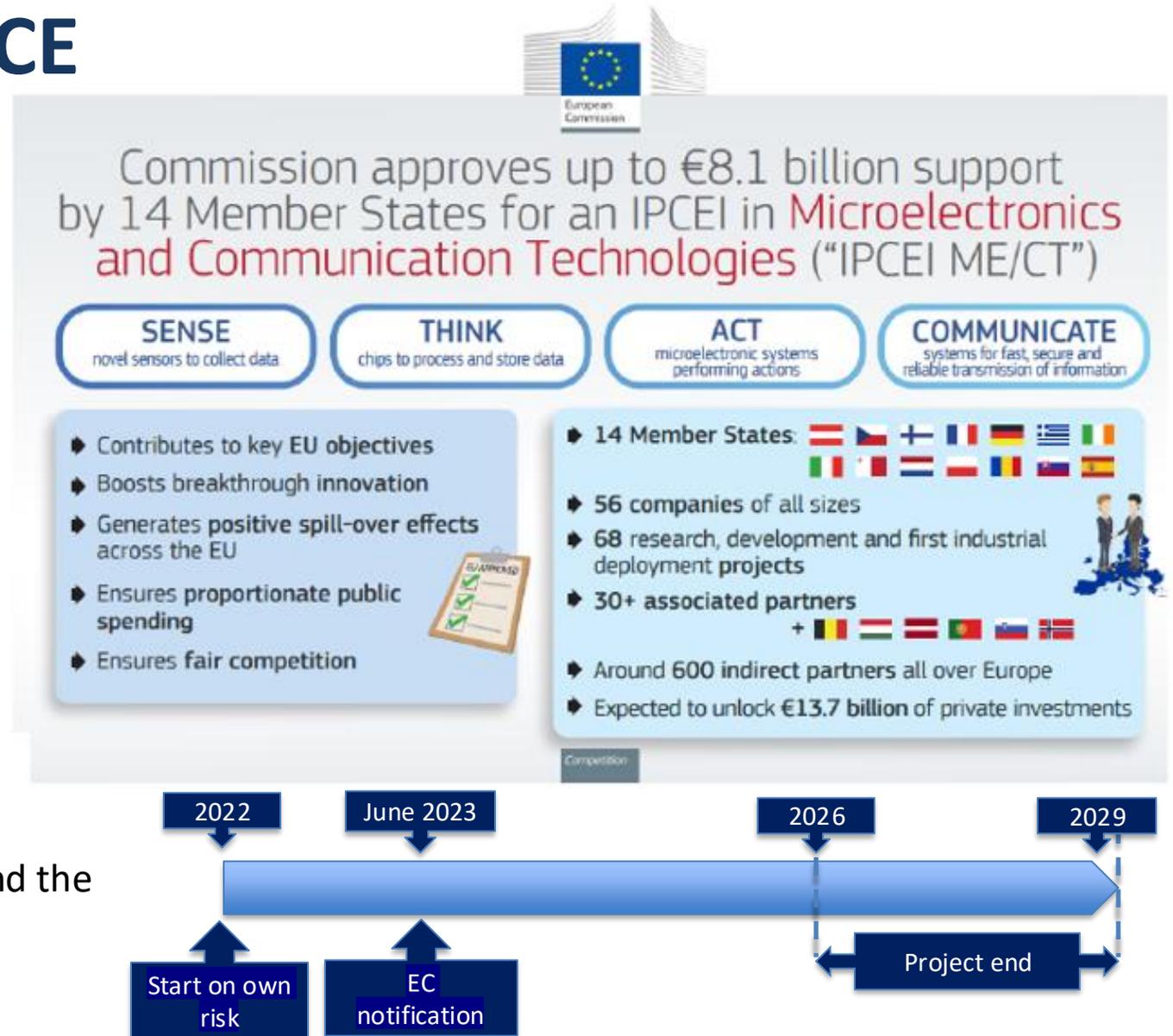
**is funded by national authorities** of the member states, but approval from the EC is needed, as it is an exception to state-aid rules.

This exception is made due to **high-risk activities involving market failure mechanisms** and coordination problems, and due to the significant additional value IPCEIs bring to European industry and society by cooperation, dissemination and spill-over activities.

# IPCEI ME/CT AT A GLANCE

## Facts and Numbers:

- **€22 billion** program (**biggest IPCEI ever**):
  - **€8 billion** public funding
  - **€14 billion** private investments
- **14 MSs** (member states) + **6** associated MSs
- **> 56** direct participants
- **> 30** associated partners
- **> 600** indirect partners
- **SPILL OVER** activities address partners beyond the conventional ecosystem across entire EC



# DIRECT PARTICIPANTS OF THE IPCEI ME/CT



# Working teams: Facilitation and Transform Group\*

\*supported by service provider ABGI



The **Transform Group** is adding an operative dimension to the project goals that go beyond the technical work and achievements in the Work Streams

- “Bind together”
- “Increase impact
- “Draw the future”

The **Facilitation Group** is the industrial interface to Public Authority Board (PAB)

- Interface to Public Authority Boards
- Reports on workstream results and spill-over activities
- Reports and presents technical project results at the General Assembly meetings

## Member States representatives



Falko Loher  
Austria



Nicolas Gouze  
Germany



Vlad-Florin Vinatu  
Continental Romania



Angelika Iberl  
Infineon Germany



Catherine  
de Mazacourt  
France



Jean-Eric Michallet  
France



Ben Ruck  
Netherlands



Matthias Illing  
Robert Bosch Germany



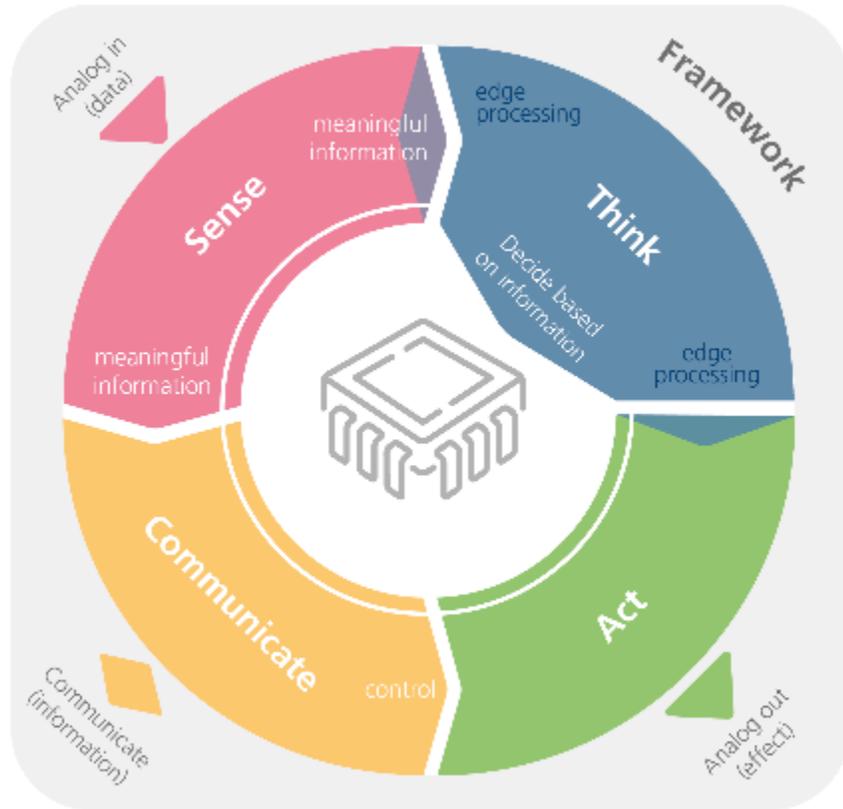
Dominique Thomas  
STMicroelectronics France, Malta



Roberto Zafalon

# Project description in the Chapeau document

## Four Workstreams defined



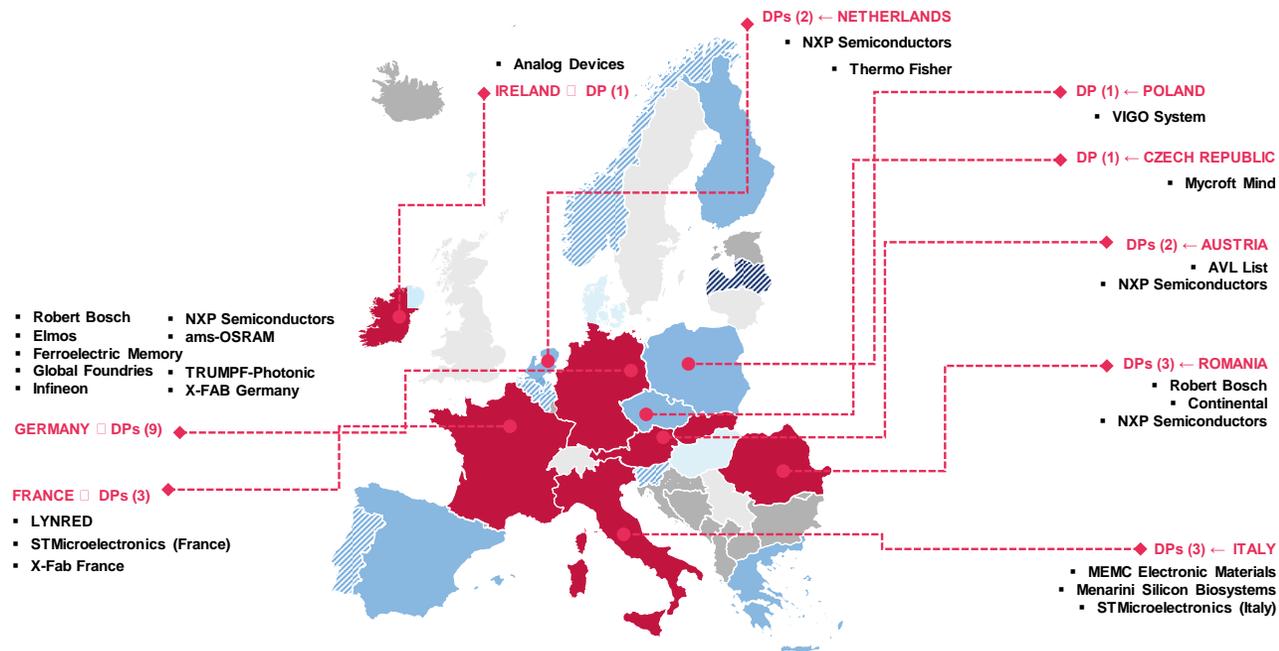
**Four** work-streams corresponding to the **complementary technical objectives** along the microelectronics value chain.

- **SENSE** addresses the *organs of perceptions* which generate the data to be processed.
- **THINK** addresses processors and memory as the *brain* of a computer.
- **COMMUNICATE** addresses the *strong nerve pathways* which network with the brain.
- **ACT** addresses the *body and muscles* of an electronic system.

Each workstream is further structured into four workpackages corresponding to the **(common)** microelectronic value chain.

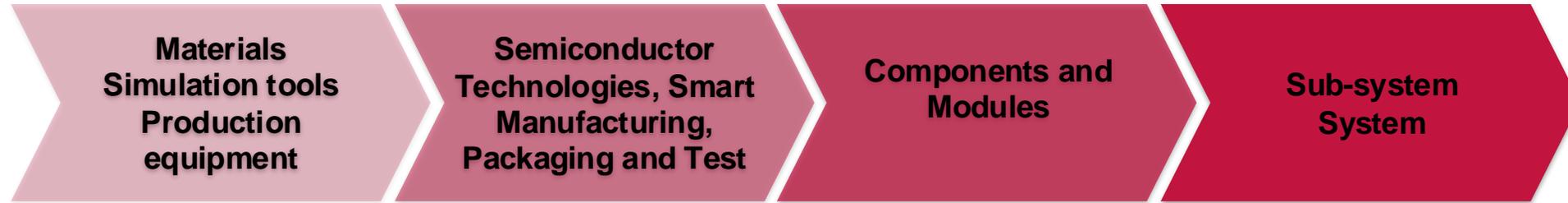
# What is SENSE?

The workstream SENSE addresses microelectronics as related mainly to **capturing information from our environment** in order to have it processed for decision making (“THINK”), communicate the decision (“COMMUNICATE”) and act upon that information (“ACT”).



In total 131 partners  
and >200  
collaborations

# SENSE Workpackage Structure



- New organic, magnetic and piezoelectric materials
- New processing, packaging & measurement equipment
- Simulation tools

- New sensor principles
- Heterogeneous integration
- System-in-Package, WLP
- High-reliability concepts

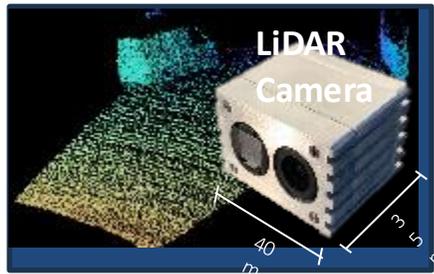
- High-precision sensors
- Low energy consumption
- Embedded Intelligence
- Sensor fusion

- ADAS functions, LiDAR, RADAR, Video, etc.
- Medical and smart health applications



# SENSE - Some Highlights of new Sensor Components & Modules

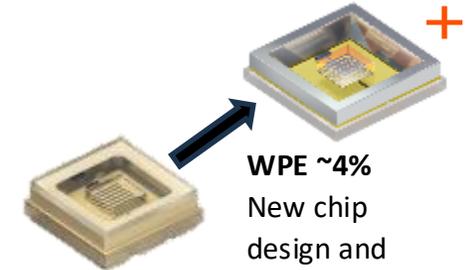
## New LiDAR and Ultrasonic Vision Demonstrators



## Sensor systems for ADAS and new concepts for E/E architecture



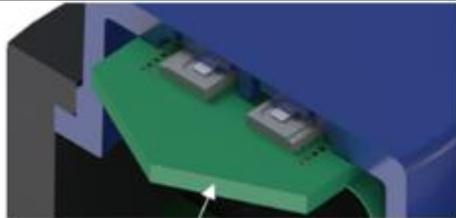
## Highly Efficient UV-C LEDs



WPE ~4%  
New chip design and novel package concept

WPE ~2%  
Previous chip generation and old package concept

## MEMS based sensor components



Head PCB w/ MEMS

## Sensors for automotive mobility solutions

140 GHz radar

First die taking platform

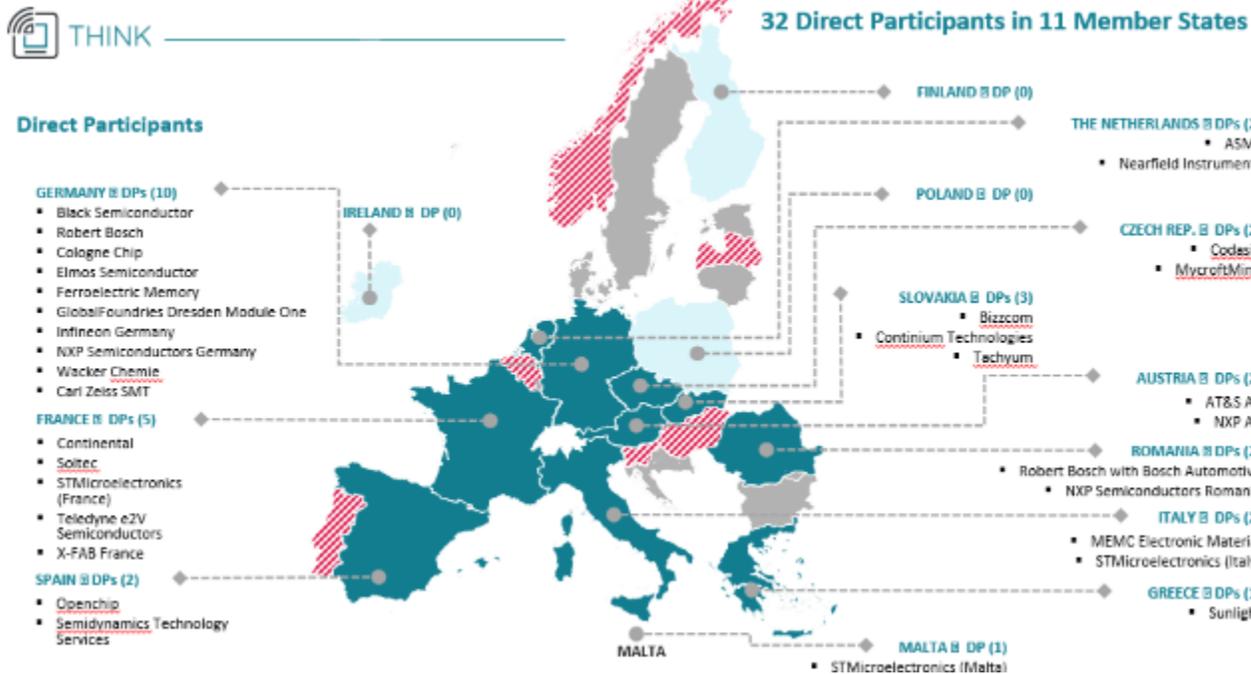


MEMS inertial sensor ASIL-D



# What is THINK?

THINK addresses the microelectronics value chain of **energy efficient and secure data processing and data storage** at all levels. This means in particular: materials, software tools, equipment, front-end and back-end (packaging) technology, chip design and fabrication, and of course, the applications which are enabled



# THINK Workpackage Structure

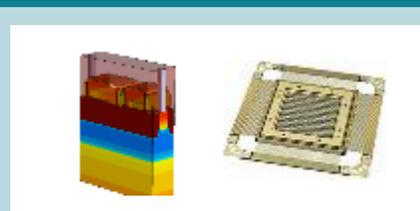
## WP1 Materials, tools, equipment



- New bulk and FD-SOI substrate generation
- Poly Si ready for 2nm
- New EDA tools for 2.5 et 3D designs
- Tools for developing FPGAs
- EUV techniques for A10, A7
- Trusted supply chain for eMCP and SiP



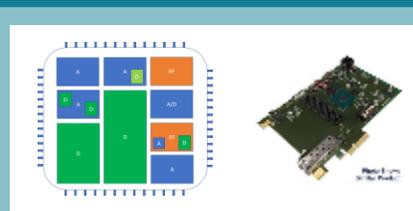
## WP2 Semiconductor Technologies, manufacturing, packaging & test



- State of the art eNVM technologies enabling In Memory Computing
- Pilot Line Hi NA EUV
- AI-enabled maintenance technologies
- Highest quality-grade packaging technology for high-end microcontrollers
- Organic substrate 2D SiP for low volumes



## WP3 Components, modules



- Low-power microcontrollers to high performance processors
- Embedded AI and/or HPC IPs and processors and FPGAs
- Automotive grade processor in 5nm design
- Battery-less Micro Controller Unit (MCU)
- New ferroelectric memory



## WP4 Sub-systems, systems

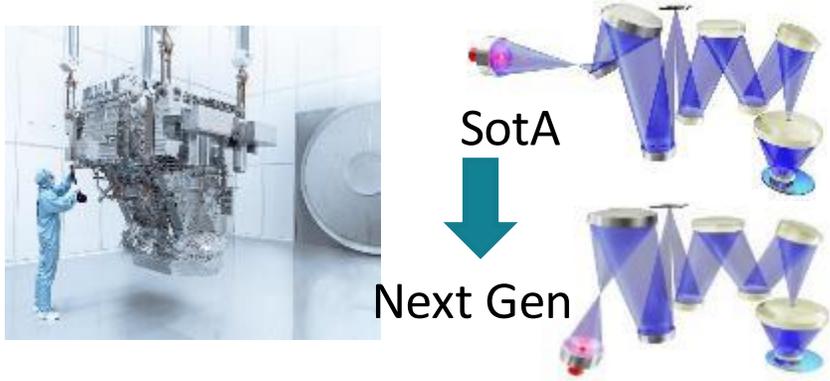


- Scalable, and upgradeable Electric / Electronic Architecture for vehicle
- Secure accelerator modules for HPC, AL, ML, DL
- Software and virtualization techniques (Digital Twins)
- Adaptable AI modules for smart devices
- Demonstration with downstream industries

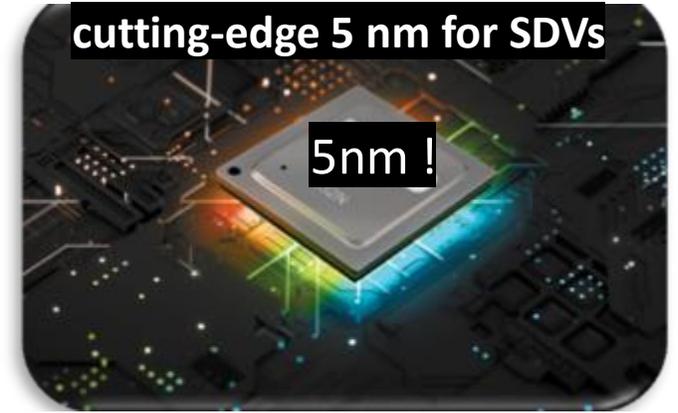


# THINK – Workpackage Highlights

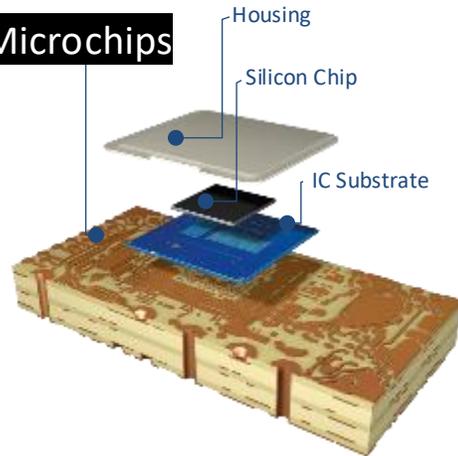
## high-transmission EUV illumination system



## Package Development New Product Introduction



## IC Substrates for cutting-edge Microchips



## Quantum Random Number Generator



# What is COMMUNICATE?

COMMUNICATE addresses microelectronics as related mainly to **transmitting and receiving information from and to electronic equipment.**



## Direct Participants



### GERMANY (12)

- Adtran Networks
- Freiberger Compound Materials
- GlobalFoundries Dresden Module One
- Infineon Germany
- Ericsson Antenna Technology
- Nokia Solutions and Networks
- NXP Semiconductors Germany
- Rohde & Schwarz
- TRUMPF Photonic Components
- United Monolithic Semiconductors
- Wacker Chemie
- X-FAB Germany

### FRANCE (5)

- Airbus
- Orange
- Soitec
- STMicroelectronics
- X-FAB France

### SPAIN (2)

- Innova IRV Microelectronics
- Knowledge Development POE

### FINLAND (1)

- Nokia Oyj

### THE NETHERLANDS (1)

- NXP Semiconductor NL

### CZECH REP. (1)

- Codasip

### SLOVAKIA (1)

- Continium Technologies

### AUSTRIA (1)

- AVL List

### ROMANIA (1)

- NXP Semiconductors RO

### ITALY (3)

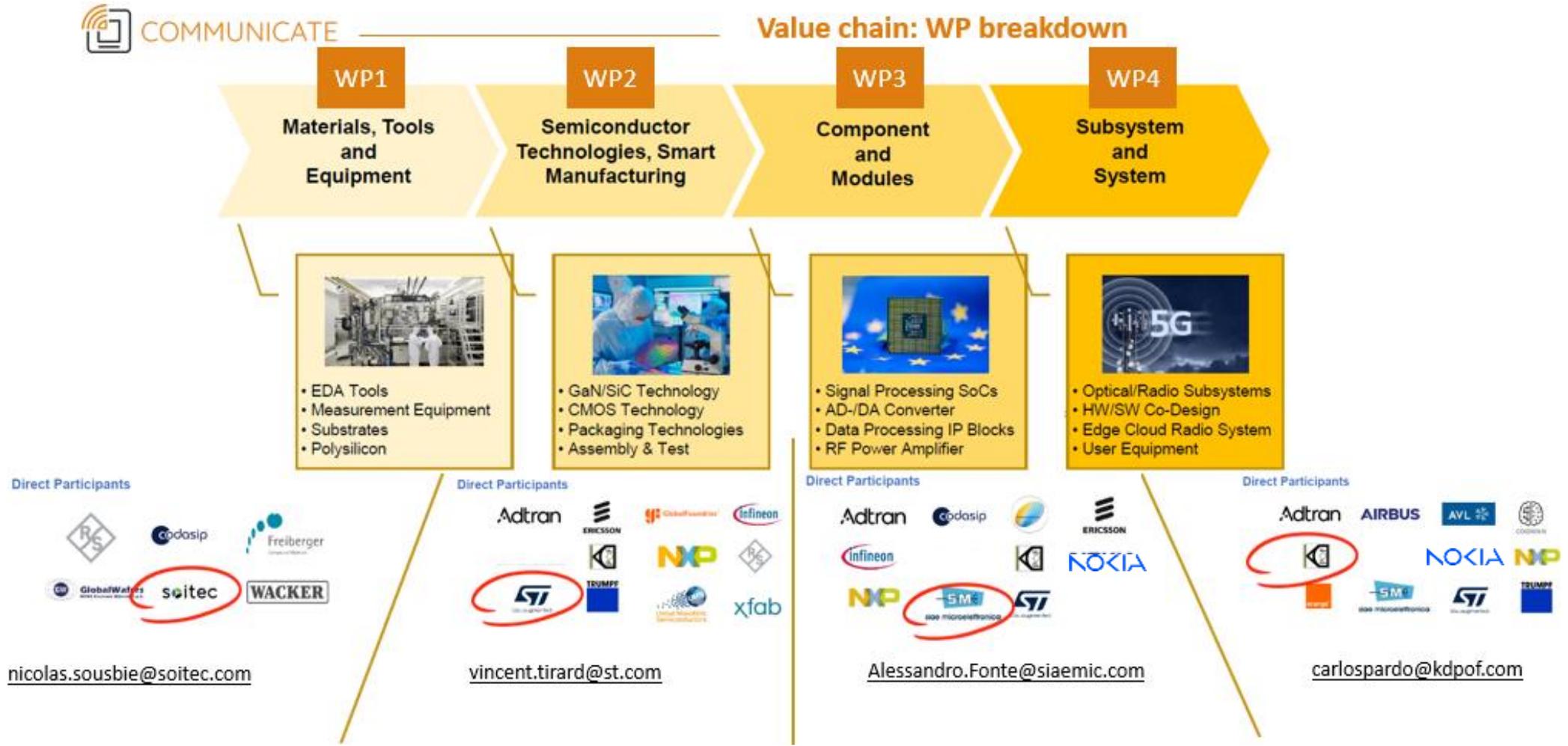
- MEMC Electronic Material
- SIAE Microelettronica
- STMicroelectronics

### GREECE (1)

- Cognitive Innovations



# COMMUNICATE Workpackage Structure



# COMMUNICATE – Workpackage Highlights

Construction the of a state-of-the-art  
300mm Silicon Wafers Pilot line by MEMC

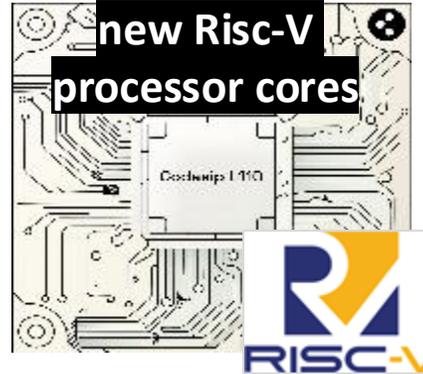
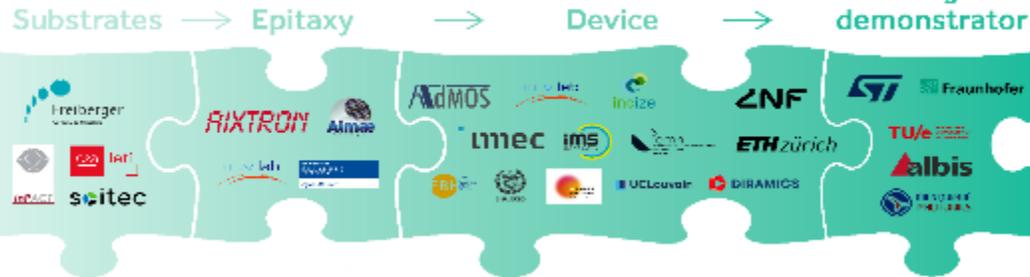


Develop ISO-TCs for hyper pure  
HF and innovative shipping

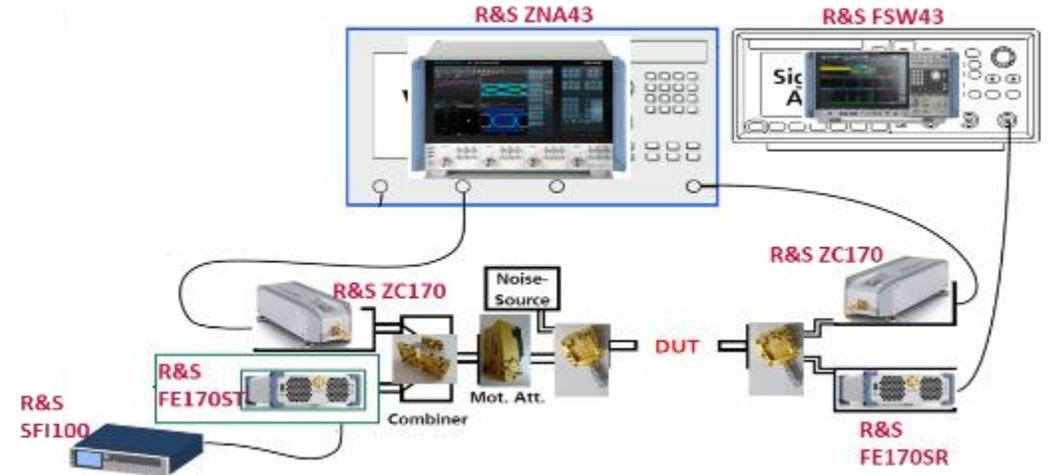


InP on Silicon sustainable platform

Design demonstrator

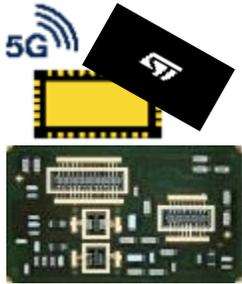


on-wafer test setup for MMIC  
measurement in the D-band



# COMMUNICATE – Workpackage Highlights

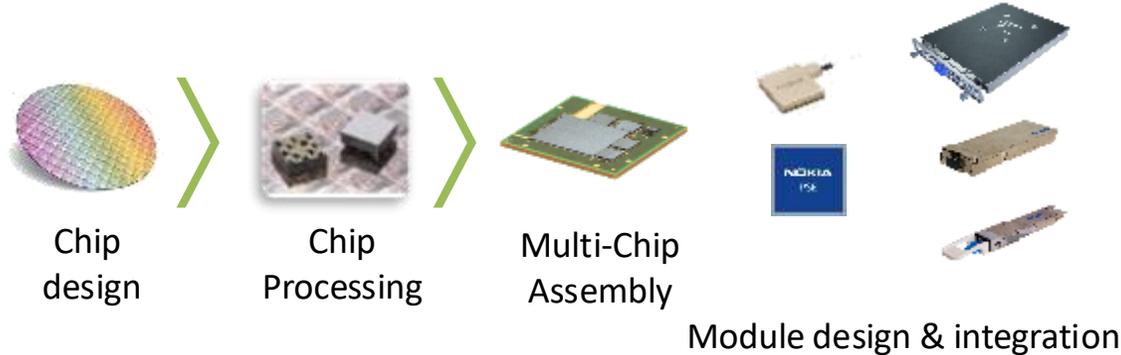
GaN-based Power Amplifier Module (PAM) for O-RAN



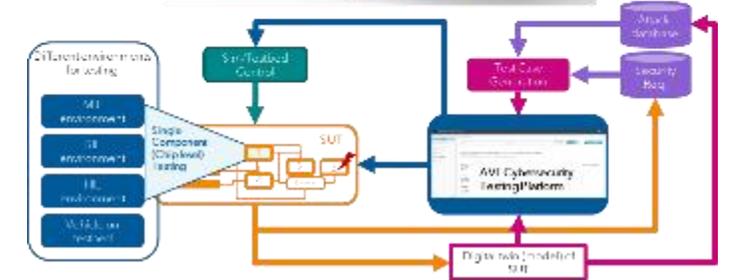
THz-Lab: expanding measurement capabilities to the sub-Terahertz frequency range



Chip Design for Optical Networks – Development of high-capacity coherent optical transponders

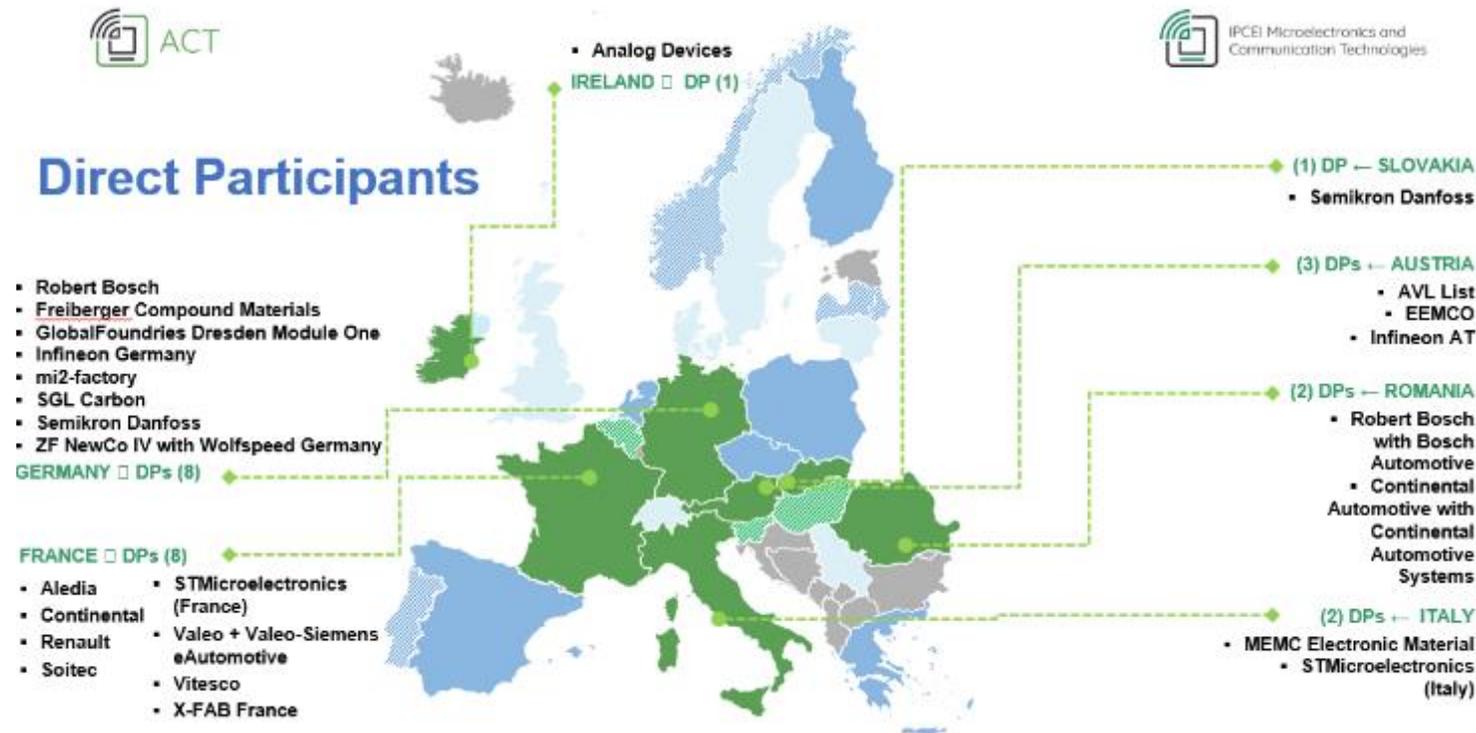


Validation System for safe & secure chips and new E/E architectures in connected vehicles

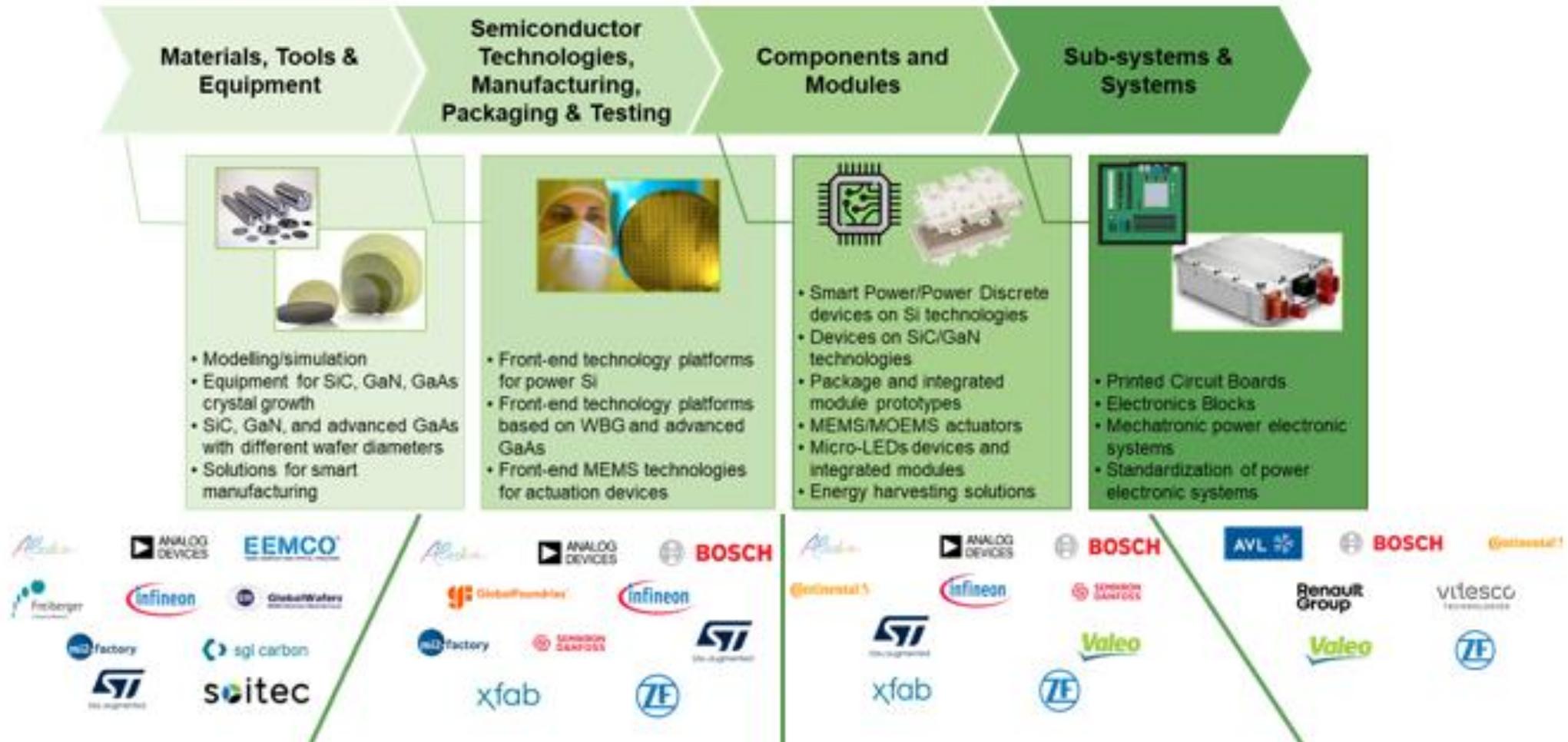


# What is ACT?

The workstream “ACT” deals mainly with “**power and actuation**”. It aims at “doing” something with analogue or digital information and have an “effect”. It might be managing energy flow, displaying, moving or adjusting something, driving an electric motor, ...etc.



# ACT Workpackage Structure

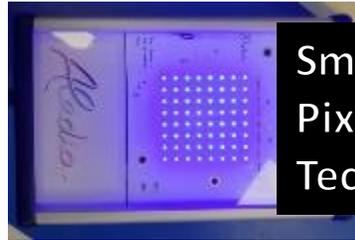


# ACT – Workpackage Highlights

New Soitec Clean Room



Smart Pixel Tech.



8" GaAs wafers



GaN HVPE Tool

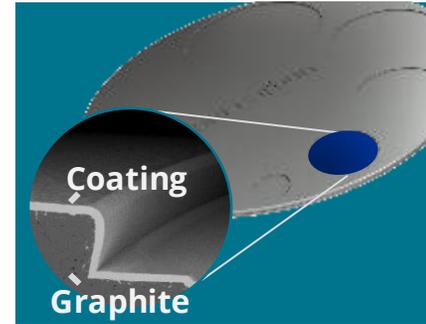


SiC power modules design

Si based IGBTs



Coating  
Graphite



# ACT – Workpackage Highlights

GaN Technology



Ultrasound for gesture recognition in air

The world's thinnest silicon power wafer!



Reversible OBC prototype



800V Powertrain System for electric vehicles



On board Charger converter at test bench



# High Focus on Spill-over Activities

IPCEI Communication defined the following:

[...]

2. IPCEIs can make a very **important contribution** to sustainable **economic growth, jobs, competitiveness and resilience** for industry and the economy [...] and with **positive spill-over effects** on the internal market and the **society as a whole**.

[...]

18. The benefits of the project must **not be limited to the undertakings or to the sector concerned** but must be of **wider relevance and application** to the economy or society in the Union through **positive spill-over effects** [...] which are clearly defined in a concrete and identifiable manner.

[...]

# Joint SPILLOVER in 2024 : the Semiconductor rendez-vous

## Prague, October 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> 2024

Need to continue working together in Europe in the face of global competition

The semiconductor rendez-vous

October 8-10, 2024  
Prague, Czechia

An event initiated by

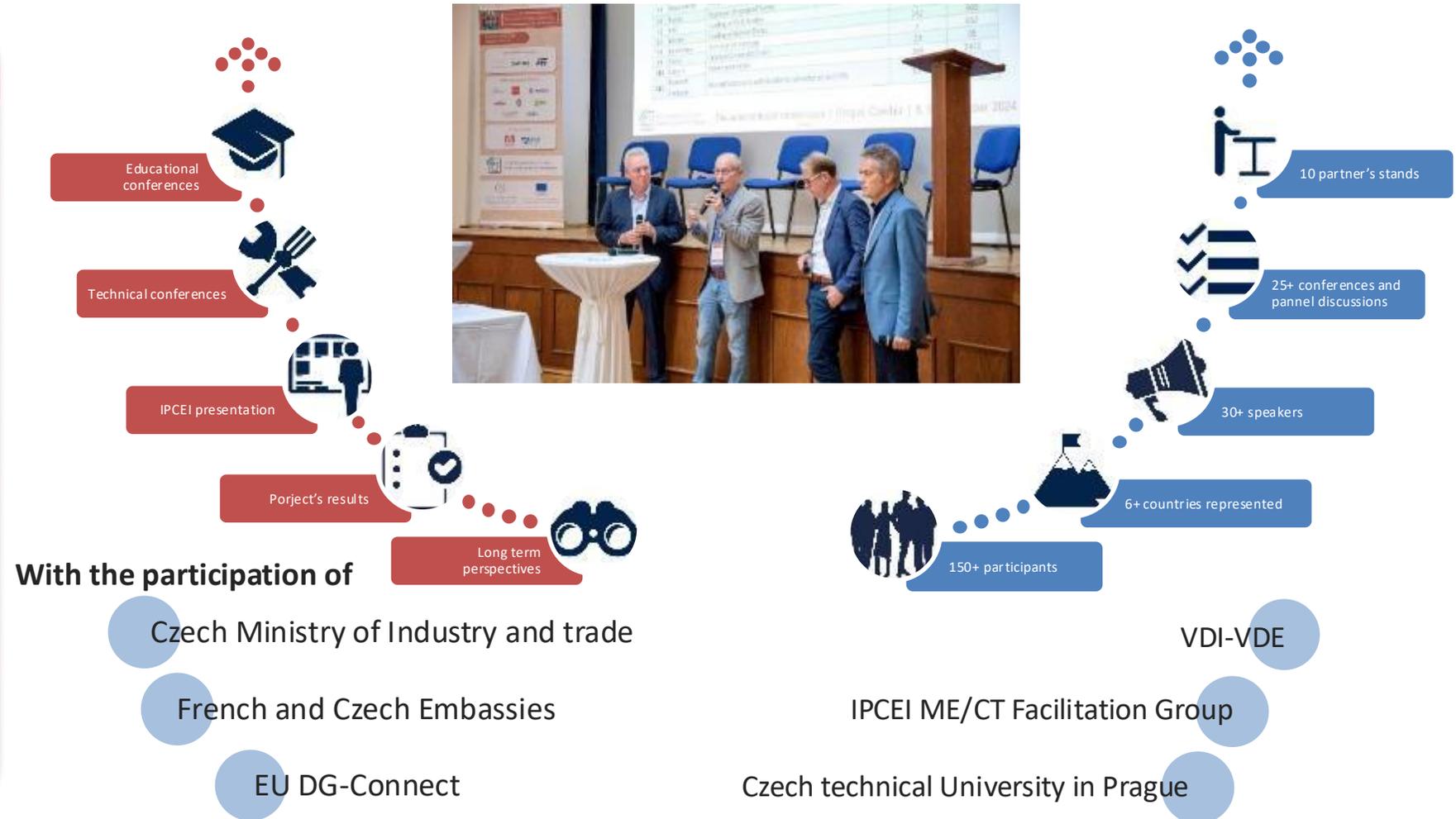
LYNRED soitec ST

With the participation of

Alcedia cca GlobalWafers  
muRata Renault Group Valeo  
vitesco technologies xfab

Organized by

INTEGRALOGIC CZECH NATIONAL



# Highlights spill-over events

Maker Faire Rome 2023: opportunity to present demos and workshop also in the framework of IPCEI ME/CT.



Common presentation and booth at EUROSIME 2024 in Catania organized by ST-I, Infineon, Bosch and AT&S



WWRF Huddle 2024: Uwe Bäcker to share information about the European Project IPCEI ME/CT to enable sub-THz / D-band communication.



AT&S : Groundbreaking Event of advanced IC substrate facility and R&D line



Chips JU R&I programme; Brussels Dec 2023; Panel session: Ferdinand Bell as speaker of the industrial IPCEI consortium



EEMCO at ICSCRM Conference

# Summary

Status as of December 2024 - all project KPI's overachieved

- **Project** results: **on track** with few change requests
- Close to 1000 **patent** applications
- **Hiring**: ongoing with high 4 digit number as of today
- More than **200 PhD and master students**; ~130 internships
- **Tightly meshed network** successfully established with many spill over events (~200 open events)

- A follow up of IPCEI ME/CT?



# Team Sport

**IPCEIs strengthen important European value chains and contribute to political priorities of the Union (e.g. Green Deal, Digital Strategy) and its sovereignty :**

- **European Commission**
- **Member States**
- **Coordinator: BMWK & VDI/VDE Innovation + Technik GmbH**
- **ABGI service provider**
- **>700 direct, indirect and associated partners**
- **Transformers Group**
- **Facilitation Group**



IPCEI Microelectronics and  
Communication Technologies