

## Newsletter March 2007

## *Building the Community and Uniting Our Industry*

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### In this issue...

- We talk to **Doug Dunn**, Chairman of ARM and **Peter Bacon**, Chairman of Electronics Link Asia.
- There's an update on NMI manufacturing activities including a full 55 page report available for members.
- We're working with Future Horizons and the IET on some impressive European events (NMI members get special discounts).
- We also have a full line up of our own events too with international speakers—remember, these are free-to-attend for members so there's no reason not to join in.
- And don't forget to take a look at our [vacancies page](#).

### **"Meet the CEO" with Doug Dunn, Chairman ARM**

Derek Boyd talks to Doug Dunn, Semiconductor veteran and Chairman of ARM. Having been one of the great success stories and leading lights for the UK industry, ARM is looking ahead



at opportunities for growth and sustainable innovation. Doug outlines the "5 Greats" that differentiates his company and are fundamental to its future success. Addressing the wider issues, Doug discusses changes happening within the industry and gives a rational and realistic account of the challenges facing the UK:

***"There is a national crisis in science education and that must be addressed"***

***"Successive Governments have not done enough"***

***"We have 1001 different initiatives... the words often sound good but the follow up is weak and this needs to change"***

Want to read more? [Click here for the full article](#)

### **Technical Networks: On the Radar**

#### **March 29th IC Packaging: Debug for Quality and Reliability**

A FACR network event that focuses on packaging issues and has speakers from Wolfson, NXP, Unisem, CSR, Maser, XJTAG, the Tyndall Institute, LSA and Zarlink.  
[Click here for details.](#)

#### **May 1st The Future of Field Programmable Technology**

FPGA and related technologies are evolving rapidly and this event reflects the increased use and applications of this technology. Aimed at current and potential users of the technology, the event covers new and upcoming developments in applications, tool flows, IP encryption, devices, architectures, rapid design and prototyping.  
[Click here for details.](#)

#### **May 9th "Automotive" Power Electronics**

Toyota Central Research Labs, Freescale, Zarlink Semiconductors and the University of Warwick will be amongst the cast for this event.  
[Click here for details.](#)



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## It's all about China... Or is it? We talk Japan.

As the trade association for the microelectronics industry in the UK and Ireland we often get approached from regions around the world wanting to know more about the activities here.



Why?.. Having spoken to many we believe the answer is simple—the UK is largely regarded as a place where great things tend to happen—a “hotbed of innovation” where technical ability and a supportive environment enable good ideas to grow. One such region that has had strong links with the UK is Japan; but with all the hype surrounding China it could be easy for start-ups to overlook the importance of one of the most technologically advanced countries in the world. Japanese partners can provide additional benefits that can be measured in more than financial terms — [Peter Bacon, Chairman of Electronics Link Japan explains how.](#)

...and if that whets your appetite you may be interested to learn of the “**UK Mobile Mission to Japan**”. This is a supported programme from UK Trade and Investment giving access to the leading technology companies in Japan that have an interest in mobile and wireless technologies — last year the mission attracted over 100 Japanese companies with many one-to-one follow on meetings. For further information regarding support for UK companies contact Sanjay Shah on 020 7215 4969 or [click here to send an email.](#)

Alternatively you may like to meet firms that are coming to the UK seeking out technology partners from across the semiconductor industry. Last year's **Technology World** was of great interest to NMI members and we already know that many senior business development people will be visiting again this year. For more information contact Andrew Jones on 020 7215 4961 or [click here to send an email.](#)

## 2006 Manufacturing Report and 2007 Plans

We have just published a summary report of our manufacturing activities from 2006. The report gives details of the diverse nature of our activities and where we are helping our members collaborate. We have adopted a focussed approach to address key areas and issues within the network and have committed to continuously update our ever-expanding



knowledge bases to ensure we provide the latest and most up-to-date information to members.

For more details [contact us.](#)

## Technical Networks: On the Radar Continued...

### June 14th System-in-Package (SiP)

The SiP paradigm in electronics product implementation allows the mixing of optimum active and passive device technologies for cost effective, high performance, short time-to-market functionality well matched to a wide range of low, medium and high volume electronics product applications.

TechSearch International and NXP Semiconductors Caen are amongst the speakers at this event.

[Click here for details.](#)

### June 28th Working with embedded software – a hardware perspective.

Embedded software, in various forms, is an essential component in system development and delivery. This event looks at the challenges this brings, particularly from a hardware development perspective, as well as using case studies to illustrate practical solutions.

[Click here for details.](#)

### July Analogue & Mixed Signal Design

[Click here for details.](#)



**Globalstockroom:** This is our partnership project with USED4SEMICON to provide a web based portal for buying and selling equipment spares. We have made recent improvements to the system and are currently training the users within selected wafer fabs. You can [contact us](#) for a free demo of this unique and highly valuable system.

#### **Coordinating Training Courses**

NMI recently joined forces with one of our members: **Components Technology Institute**, to provide an "Introduction to Semiconductors" course for process engineers. The in-depth 5 day course was kindly hosted by International Rectifier in Newport for 25 students from wafer fabs across the country. The course was very successful and further demand means that we are planning a repeat course later in Q3 of this year.

For more details [contact us](#).

#### **Partner Events**

Along with our own events, we would strongly recommend that you take a look at our partner events coming up too. In particular we've highlighted 2 of the best European conferences that NMI supports and members benefit from specially negotiated discounts:

#### Future Horizons: International Electronics 2007

2-4 May 2007: Athens, Greece

Entering the 7th decade of the transistor revolution—this event has been a favourite for leaders and senior managers for many years and this years line-up is impressive with speakers from USA, Europe and Asia.

#### IET & FSA International Semiconductor Forum

14-15 May 2007: Le Palais des Congrès, Paris, France

This event is now in its 4th year and brings technology leaders from around the world together to discuss pressing issues facing fabless semiconductor companies.

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