Statements

Opening Infineon high-tech chip factory Villach, Austria
17 September 2021

Reinhard Ploss, CEO Infineon Technologies AG:
“The new fab is a milestone for Infineon and its opening is very good news for our customers. The timing to create new capacity in Europe could not be better, given the growing global demand for power semiconductors. The last few months have clearly shown how essential microelectronics is in almost all areas of life. Given the accelerated pace of digitalization and electrification, we expect demand for power semiconductors to continue growing in the coming years. The additional capacities will help us serve our customers worldwide even better, also long term”.

Jochen Hanebeck, Member of the Management Board and COO Infineon Technologies AG:
“Infineon now has two large power semiconductor manufacturing sites for 300-millimeter thin-wafers, one in Dresden and one in Villach. Both sites are based on the same standardized production and digitalization concepts. This allows us to control the manufacturing operations at the two sites as if they were one factory. We increase productivity and create additional flexibility for our customers. This is because we can quickly move production volumes for different products between the sites and thus respond even faster to their needs. With the virtual mega factory, Infineon is setting a new benchmark in 300-millimeter manufacturing. This makes further increases in resource and energy efficiency possible, as well as optimization of the environmental footprint”.

Sabine Herlitschka, CEO Infineon Technologies Austria AG:
“With this investment, Infineon shows that it is also possible to establish attractive production sites in Europe in the highly competitive microelectronics sector. We are setting new standards with this investment. The energy-saving chips from Villach will become important core elements for the energy transition. We are thus making a relevant contribution to the European Green Deal and beyond. We are ‘Ready for Mission Future’”.

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Martin Selmayr, Head of the European Commission Representation in Austria:
"The opening of the new high-tech chip factory in Villach comes at exactly the right time. In her State of the Union address, EU Commission President Ursula von der Leyen has just announced a new European chip law to strengthen the semiconductor industry. Our ambition is to double Europe's share of the global semiconductor market from around 10 percent at present to 20 percent by 2030. It is not only about Europe's competitiveness, but also about Europe's sovereignty. If we depend on Asia for a key industry like semiconductors, we will be left behind. We will not let that happen. We will create a top-class European chip ecosystem that includes manufacturing. Infineon is a key partner in this."

Sebastian Kurz, Federal Chancellor of the Republic of Austria:
"The Infineon site in Villach is an absolute success story. The new chip factory is an economic and technological beacon project for the whole of Austria. I would like to thank all those responsible for their commitment to our country, which will create a further 400 jobs. The immense investment of 1.6 billion euros shows that Austria, as a business and technology location, offers excellent framework conditions and the necessary employee know-how. As a federal government, we want to continue to invest massively in digitalization in order to position ourselves in the best possible way in global competition."

Margarete Schramböck, Austrian Federal Minister for Digital and Economic Affairs:
"Chip productions affect almost all areas of life - from smartphones to cars. Not to say semiconductors are and always have been the hidden champions. We are experiencing a shortage on the world markets, which has been intensified above all by the Covid pandemic. This makes it all the more important that we safeguard key industries such as chip production and support innovative companies like Infineon. I am pleased that we, as the government, were able to make also a contribution to the opening of the new chip factory with the help of an IPCEI. Infineon as a company is not only an important location feature, but also secures and creates numerous jobs in the region. “

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Leonore Gewessler, Austrian Federal Minister for Climate Protection:
"Microchips are the essential foundation for breakthrough technologies and innovation. They are found in almost all technical objects that we use every day. Microchips are also of utmost importance in the fight against the climate crisis: for example, in miniaturized materials in power electronics, their use in renewable energies and battery management. Climate-friendly innovations and technologies take us a decisive step forward, strengthen our economy and create highly skilled jobs. With Infineon's expanded production site, we not only have an important ally for a strong climate-friendly technology and business location, but also a decisive advantage in the competition for the greenest products and greenest production methods."

Martin Kocher, Austrian Federal Minister of Labour:
"Since I already had the chance to visit Infineon's chip factory a few months ago before its completion, I am all the more pleased to be on site in Villach today on the occasion of its opening. As an internationally respected company, Infineon is one of Austria's largest employers, employing several thousand people. The expansion of the plant through the chip factory opened today makes Infineon even more attractive in the international competition and creates up to 400 additional jobs. I congratulate the entire Infineon team on the opening."

Peter Kaiser, Governor of Carinthia:
"The entire industrial and high-tech world now looks to Villach and sees a business and technology location that is internationally noticed and respected. In close cooperation between Infineon and the State of Carinthia with all departments involved and the City of Villach, we have proven that we can successfully implement such an investment of the century together. Carinthia will thus become one of the most important locations for key digital technologies worldwide! The trust that the world market leader Infineon has placed in us, in Carinthia, in its employees, in the provincial administration and in provincial politics is an unmistakable international signal to all potential companies, investors and also employees that shows that everything is possible in Carinthia, that everything is being done here to successfully settle, grow and create great things. Thank you to all involved for this trust, we will also do everything we can to continue to live up to it."

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Günther Albel, Mayor of Villach:
"In the course of its transformation into the leading high-tech city in the Alps-Adriatic region, Villach has given itself a new slogan: "boundless". And this in combination with the four terms successful, diverse, green and liveable. Infineon exemplifies all of these: remarkable growth based on the know-how of employees from all over the world who enjoy living in Villach and make the city more international - and who make the digital life of today and tomorrow greener with their energy-saving microchips. Today, 17 percent of the people working in Villach are employed in the high-tech sector, ranging from small start-ups to large corporations. That is a record figure - and a more than solid basis for an exciting future. Today's opening of this impressive chip factory is an essential step towards that."

Georg Knill, President of the Federation of Austrian Industries:
"Infineon in Austria is a success story for our industrial and research location as well as an important backbone for value creation, jobs and innovation in our country. It is therefore all the more important and pleasing that the new high-tech chip factory can be opened at the Villach site. This is not only a milestone for the company, but also for the global power semiconductor industry. We can be proud and happy that Infineon, a world-class high-tech frontrunner, has chosen Austria as its location. This also shows the high importance of an attractive work and business location."

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