

Press release

Dr. Petar Grbović takes over the Power Electronics Lab founded by Infineon Austria and the University of Innsbruck.

Villach/Innsbruck, 29 April 2019 – Dr. Petar Grbović took over the endowed professorship for the Innsbruck Power Electronics Lab (i-PEL) founded by Infineon Technologies Austria AG and the University of Innsbruck. With this endowed professorship, Infineon Austria and the University of Innsbruck are intensifying their collaboration in the field of power electronics.

"I am very pleased that together with the University of Innsbruck we succeeded in winning Prof. Petar Grbović for the professorship in power electronics. With his extensive international experience in industry and his intensive teaching and research expertise, Petar Grbović meets all the requirements and is the ideal person for this professorship", says Sabine Herlitschka, CEO of Infineon Technologies Austria. "As one of six endowed professorships in which Infineon Austria is involved, power electronics is the ideal addition to the other subject areas. And in Innsbruck there is also the added value of the continued cooperation with partners such as Management Center Innsbruck." The other endowed professorships in which Infineon Austria is involved are dedicated to data science and autonomous driving (both at Graz University of Technology), Industry 4.0 (Graz University of Technology and University of Klagenfurt), sustainable energy management (University of Klagenfurt) and cyber-physical production processes (Vienna University of Technology).

Objective: Becoming the leading lab for power electronics in Austria and Europe

Prof. Petar Grbović: "It is my goal to have i-PEL recognized as a major force in the power electronics field. In addition to scientific work with students, we will support Infineon in the development of energy-efficient cutting-edge technologies. The plan for i-PEL is to acquire a reputation as the leading lab for power electronics in Austria and Europe within five years." Infineon in Villach is the center of competence for power electronics within the Infineon Group. The lasting boost for power electronics at the University of Innsbruck is also intended to inspire more young people for a career in technology: "We are making an active contribution to practice-oriented research and teaching and to developing more technical experts in Austria", says Sabine Herlitschka.

About Prof. Petar Grbović

Prof. Petar Grbović (48) studied electrical engineering at the University of Belgrade (Serbia) and obtained his doctorate at the Ecole Centrale de Lille (France); since then he has taught at universities and worked in industry. His career stops include among others HUAWEI Technologies Düsseldorf GmbH/Power Conversion Technology Lab in Nuremberg (Germany), GE Global Research in Munich (Germany), Schneider Electric in Pacy Sur Eure (France), PDL Electronics (New Zealand) and the Ministry of Science and Technology of the Republic of Serbia. He worked as a university lecturer among others at the University Roma TRE (Italy) and at Madrid University of Technology (Spain). His national and international activities in industry and science provide Petar Grbović with a very tight network of companies and institutions working in the field of power electronics. He is also the author a monograph "Ultra-Capacitors in Power Conversion Systems: Applications, Analysis, and Design from Theory to Practice (Wiley - IEEE)" and many IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers) publications. He is also a regular contributor to national and international research projects in the field of power electronics.

Scope of the endowed professorship

Besides the scientific foundations of power electronics, the endowed professorship also addresses the development of systems and applications with state-of-the-art power electronic components, as also their precise examination and modeling. Infineon Austria is going to support power electronic students in a variety of ways, for example by offering internships, supporting them in finding topics for their master's and doctoral theses, and by engaging company experts as lecturers. With its commitment, Infineon aims to ensure that excellent graduates will join the company in future.

Strong partner: University of Innsbruck

The University of Innsbruck is an ideal partner of international reputation and with outstanding achievements in fundamental research complemented by a good understanding of the needs of industry. It is planned that twelve PhD and post-doc students will be working on innovative technology research projects at i-PEL. Tilmann Märk, Rector of the University of Innsbruck, says the cooperation with Infineon Austria through the endowed professorship provides the university with a great opportunity for development: "This endowed professorship for power electronics is an important boost that will enable further development. Cooperation with Infineon Austria is in line with our strategy of active transfer of knowledge and technology to society and business and the development of technical sciences. The University of Innsbruck stands for profound basic research with close ties to industrial applications."

About Infineon Austria

Infineon Technologies Austria AG is a group subsidiary of Infineon Technologies AG, a world-leading provider of semiconductor solutions that make life easier, safer and greener. Microelectronics from Infineon reduce the energy consumption of consumer electronics, domestic appliances and industrial facilities. They make a major contribution to the convenience, security and sustainability of vehicles, and enable secure transactions in the Internet of Things.

Besides Germany, Infineon Austria is the only subsidiary within the group that pools competencies for research and development, production as well as global business responsibility. The head office is in Villach, with further branches in Graz, Klagenfurt, Linz and Vienna. With 4,201 employees from around 60 countries (including 1,813 in research and development), in the financial year 2018 (ending in September) the company achieved a turnover of € 2.9 billion. An R&D expense rate of €498 million makes Infineon Austria one of the strongest industrial research companies in Austria.

Further information at www.infineon.com/austria

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