

## News Release

# Infineon Austria expands partnership with Graz University of Technology

*After many years of collaboration in the area of strategic research and university education, future efforts will go well beyond the limits of the projects previously conducted. The basis is a partnership agreement which was signed today.*

Graz, November 27, 2015 – For several years now Infineon Technologies Austria and the Graz University of Technology have been collaborating successfully in the area of research and university education. This partnership is now taking a decisive step forward and the jointly pursued topic areas will be expanded even further. "As Austria's most research-intensive company and leading technology company, strategic cooperative networks and bilateral knowledge transfer with the best partners are enormously important to us. By intensifying this positive partnership which is already several years old we'll bring new impetus to the complex of industry, education and research. The objective is to encounter future challenges in research and technology even faster. Both partners will continuously benefit," comments Sabine Herlitschka, CEO of Infineon Technologies Austria, on the potential synergy.

### Leveraging synergies

Specifically, two-year work programs will be launched in various research and education focus areas across various different faculties, in particular in the areas of energy efficient electronic systems, chip design, sensor technologies and security. The clear objective is to bond the best thinkers with the company at an early stage: Infineon has conducted a number of dissertation projects in cooperative research projects and in contract research with the Graz University of Technology, totaling 22 dissertations in the last three years. Future plans foresee consolidation of all Infineon dissertation candidates at the Graz University of Technology in an "Infineon class". The benefits for both sides resulted from a combination of specific courses, internships at Infineon and the generation of new incentives for dissertation candidates.

"For years now Infineon has been among the strongest innovation and collaboration partners of the Graz University of Technology. The goal of our intensified partnership is to provide internationally outstanding research results and the best-educated students to the microelectronics industry in Southern Austria. The close collaboration with Austria's strongest research company gives the Graz University of Technology an even finer profile as a strong research partner for industry," says Horst Bischof, Vice Rector for Research at the Graz University of Technology, about the strengths of an intensified partnership with Infineon.

### **Past partnership**

A partnership with the Institute for Electronics has existed since 2007, focusing on analog chip design and resulting in 67 completed Master's theses and 20 doctoral dissertations. Since 2011 there has been a partnership with the Graz University of Technology on the topic of Energy-Efficient Electronic Systems (E3S) at the Faculty of Electrical and Information Engineering. In 2013 a joint plan was initiated to even better meet the demand for top performing staff in the area of power electronics: Since then talented young individuals have had the opportunity to conduct research for up to six months at the renowned Center for Power Electronics Systems at US Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

### **Signature attended by provincial government**

The partnership agreement was signed in the presence of Styrian provincial government representatives Christopher Drexler, Minister of Science and Research, Health and Healthcare Management, Harald Kainz, Rector of the Graz University of Technology and Horst Bischof, Vice Rector for Research at the Graz University of Technology as well as Infineon Austria CEO Sabine Herlitschka and Stefan Rohringer, Vice President Infineon Graz. "Research and development are decisive for work and prosperity in our province. For Styria, the leading research province, this means more than anything: Active partnerships and strategic further development. Our success would be inconceivable without innovative industrial companies; therefore this cooperative agreement between the Graz University of Technology and the world-class corporation Infineon should be held in particularly high regard. It furthermore strengthens our Research Tier South Styria – Carinthia, which has already successfully been launched in several areas. Another clear signal from the innovative South of Austria," emphasizes Minister Christopher Drexler.

### **About Infineon Austria**

Infineon Technologies Austria AG is a Group subsidiary of Infineon Technologies AG, a leading worldwide provider of semiconductor solutions that make life easier, safer and greener. Microelectronics from Infineon cut energy consumption in everything from entertainment technologies and household appliances all the way to industrial facilities. They also make basic contributions to increased comfort, safety and sustainability in vehicles and make secure electronic transactions possible in an increasingly networked world.

Infineon Austria is the only Group site outside of Germany to combine expertise in research and development, production and global responsibility for business performance. Headquartered in Villach, Infineon Austria has branch offices in Graz, Klagenfurt, Linz and Vienna. With more than 3,300 employees (1,200 of which work in research and development) from over 60 countries, the company achieved revenues of 1.3 billion Euros in fiscal 2014 (ending in September). A research rate of 25 percent of overall revenue makes Infineon Austria the strongest research company in Austria.

### **Contacts and further information**

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