



# "More than Photonics" Solutions: Micro Transfer Printing at X-FAB

**Joni Mellin, X-FAB Group**

**EPIC Technology Meeting on Electronics & Photonics – Two Sides of One Coin**

November 14 – 15, 2022, Munich

Company introduction - Who we are? What do we do?

X-FAB Photonics activities today - What is „More than Photonics“?

Microtransfer printing – intro, key benefits and application examples, process flow

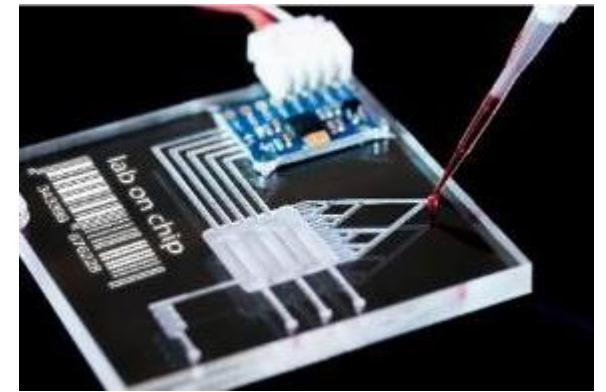
X-FAB microtransfer printing roadmap

Summary

# Who we are



- > We are a specialty foundry offering a unique combination of analog/mixed-signal, high-voltage and embedded non-volatile memory options with sensor and actuator integration.
- > We support long product lifecycles of 20+ years and focus on automotive, industrial and medical end markets.
- > We provide best-in-class design and prototyping support to enable first-time-right design.
- > All of our sites are automotive certified.



# X-FAB at a Glance



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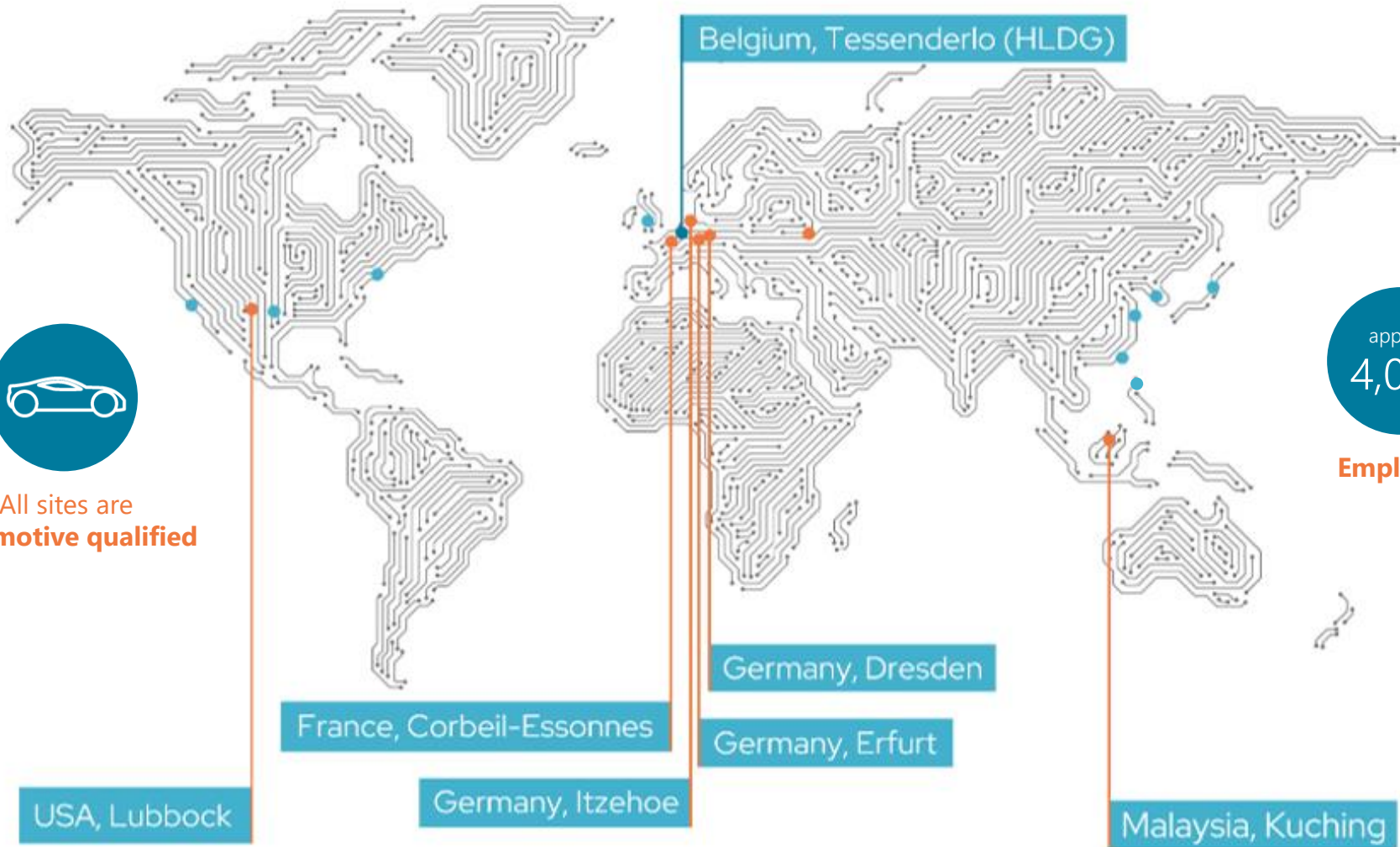
**Manufacturing facilities**



All sites are **automotive qualified**

420

**Customers**  
in 4 key markets



100,000

**Wafer starts**  
per month\*

approx.  
4,000

**Employees**

658  
million \$

**Revenue**  
2021

● Fabs/subsidiaries

● Sales offices

\*200mm equivalent

# More than Making Chips



## Automotive

### We think automotive.

X-FAB provides solutions for safe, efficient, comfortable and connected transportation.

- › Electrification
- › Improved safety
- › ADAS
- › Environmental protection
- › Connected cars and services



## Industrial

### We empower the future.

X-FAB enables next generation energy management and automation technologies.

- › Power management
- › Factory automation, Industry 4.0
- › Intelligent drive & motor control
- › Smart buildings and cities



## Medical

### We save lives.

X-FAB enables medical products for diagnostics, therapy and analysis.

- › Personal medical devices
- › Medical equipment
- › Lab-on-a-chip



## Communication & Consumer

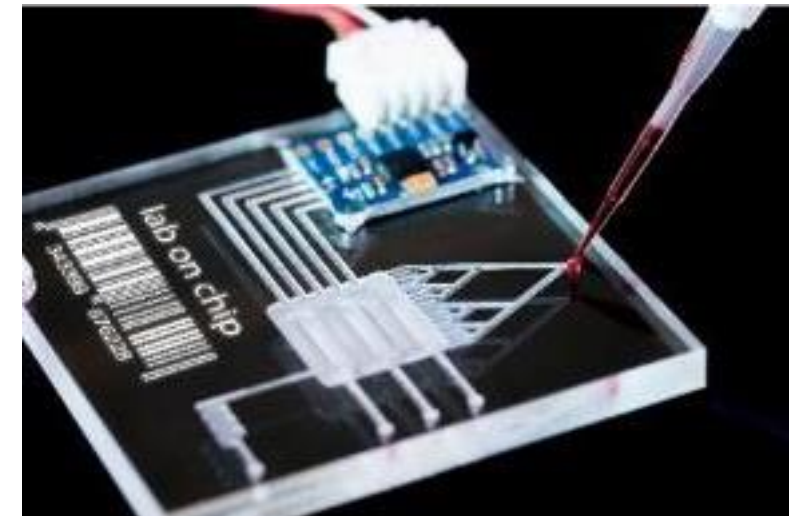
### We connect people.

X-FAB technologies integrate seamlessly into your daily life.

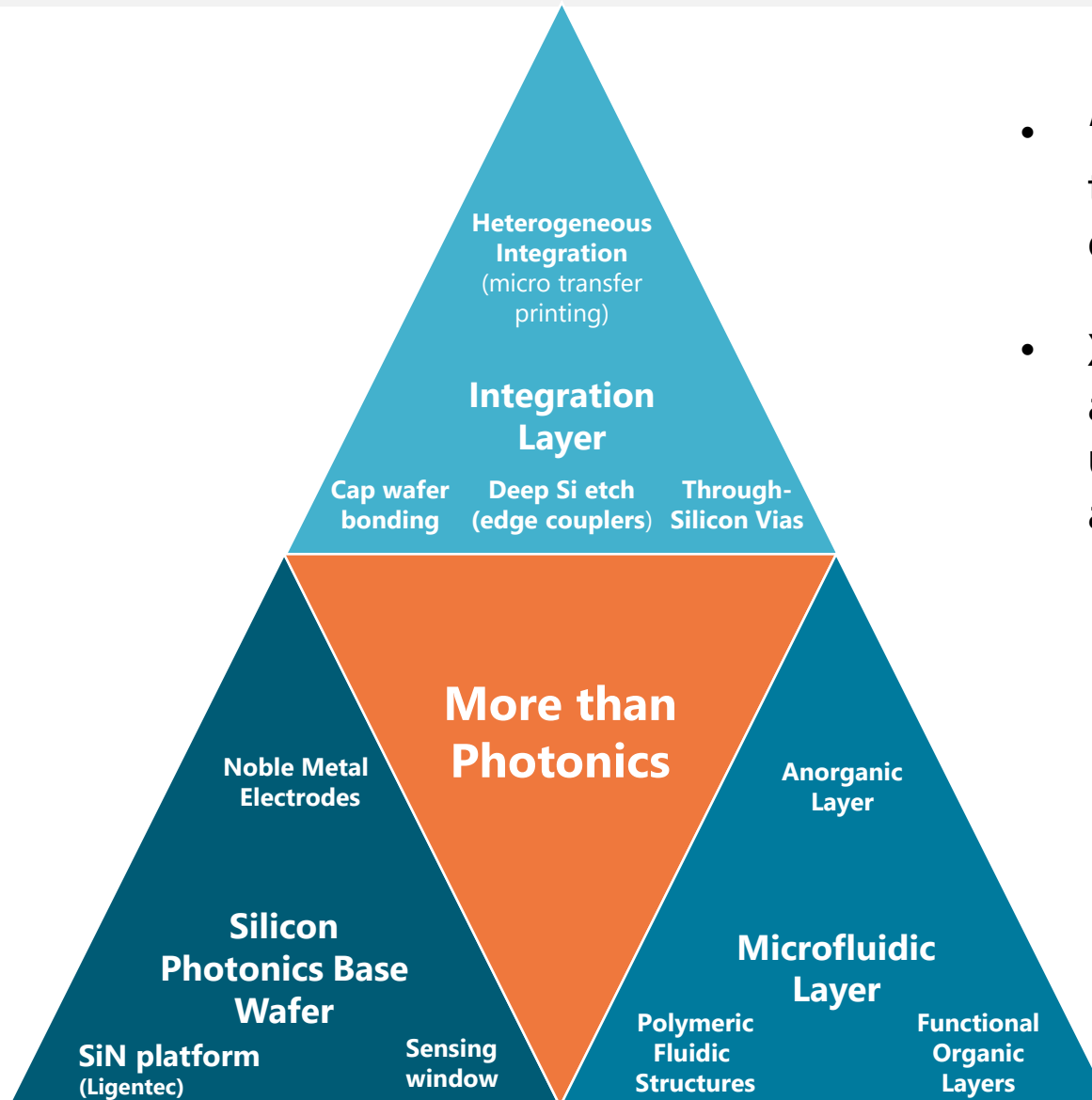
- › Smart home
- › Connectivity
- › Communication
- › Appliances and HVAC

# X-FAB Photonics Activities Today

- > X-FAB is working with multiple customers directly on a broad range of photonic platforms for different applications
  - **Extended CMOS with integrated SiN waveguide for visible light photonics**
    - Main application – biomedicine, lab-on-chip, DNA sequencing
    - Mass production in 2022 after 5 years of joined R&D
  - **Low-loss SiN passive photonics platform in cooperation with Ligentec**
    - Application-agnostic platform that is most suitable for quantum computing, sensing (LIDAR), biomedicine and telecommunication applications
    - Commercial and technical interface via **Ligentec (www.ligentec.com)**
  - **Silicon photonics platform**
    - NIR for close-range telecommunication applications, photonic interposer, biomedicine
    - Currently at feasibility stage, main building blocks/optical components
  - **Exotic materials integration for improved photonic performance**
  - **Microtransfer printing pilot line for heterogeneous integration**



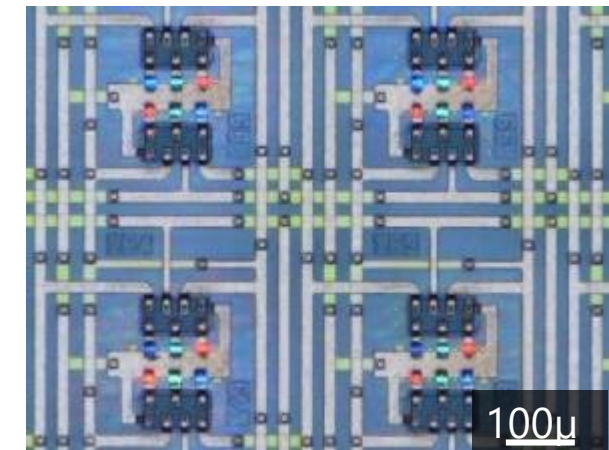
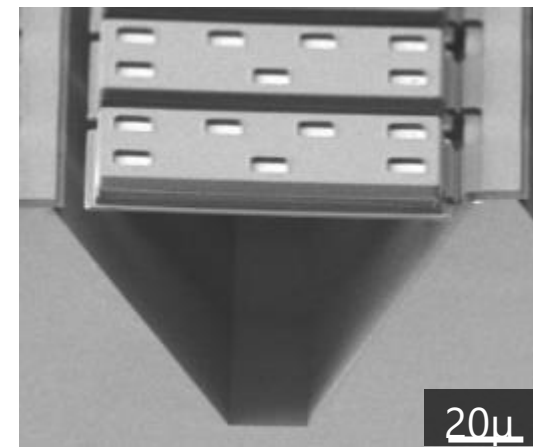
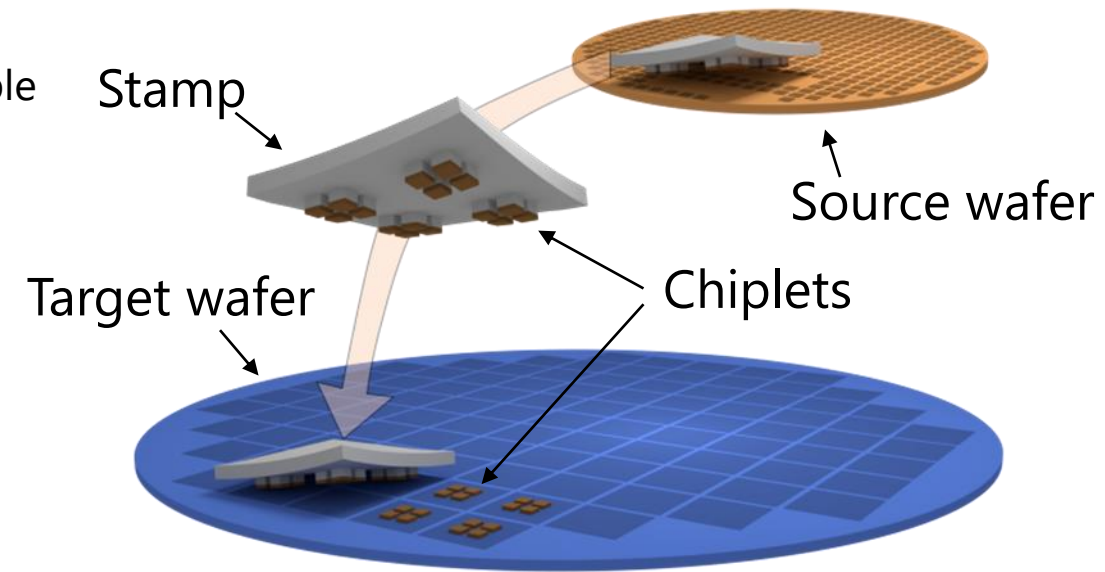
# “More than Photonics” – Enabling Photonics Sensing Solutions



- “More than Photonics” solutions combine multiple technologies on top of the silicon photonics PIC to create innovative Photonic Sensing Solutions
- X-FAB has experience in heterogeneous integration and access to different technologies that enable a unique photonic platform solution tailored for specific applications requirements:
  - Micro Transfer-Printing
  - Noble metals for biofunctionalization
  - Functional layer deposition
  - Post-processing of photonic and hybrid wafers, including deep etching
  - 2.5/3D Integration
  - Integrated Microfluidics

# Micro Transfer-Printing

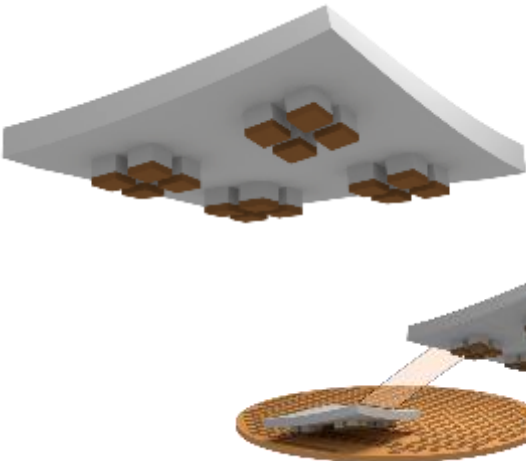
- > Massively-parallel pick-and-place wafer-level technology
  - Heterogeneous integration – multiple source wafer materials possible
  - Effective use of source material
  - High yield and alignment precision (below  $\pm 1.2\mu\text{m}$ )
- > Different source / target wafers for different applications, for example:
  - III-V chipelets transfer to CMOS/photronics wafer (ex. LED, SOA, PD)
  - Photonics chipelets transfer to CMOS wafer (ex. transceiver)
  - CMOS transfer to Photonics wafer (ex. laser driver)
- > 200mm printing capabilities
- > Electrical routing via RDL metallization, passivation



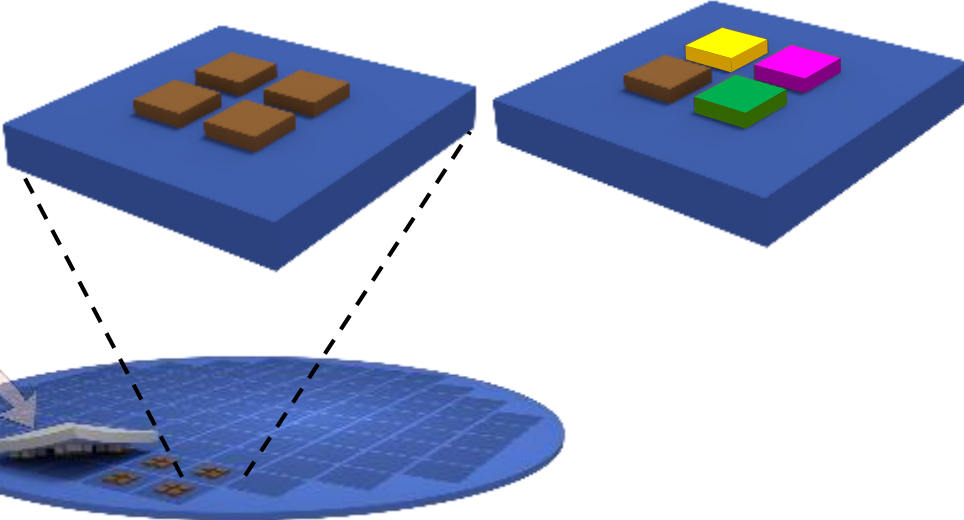


# Motivation & Benefits of Transfer-Printing?

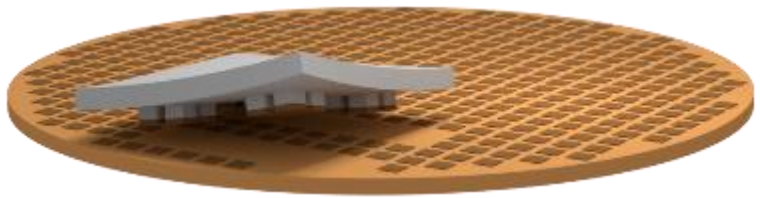
> **Mass-transfer.**



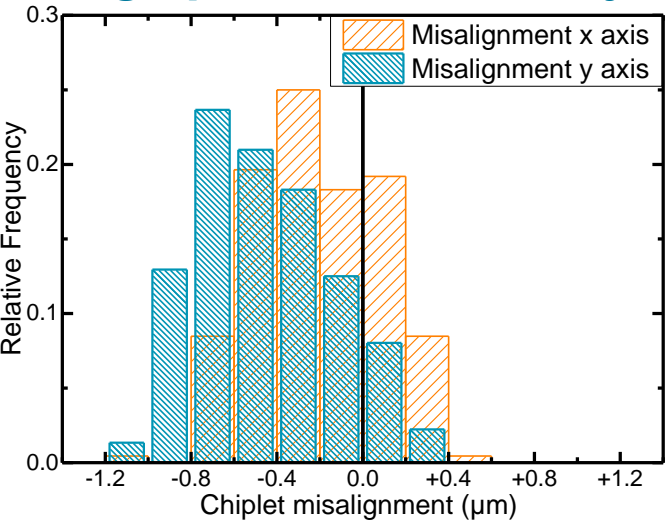
> **Heterogeneous integration.**



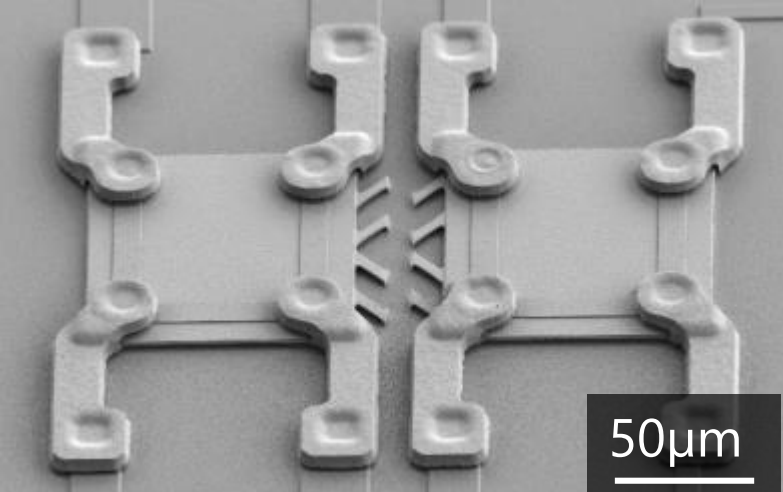
> **Effective source utilization**



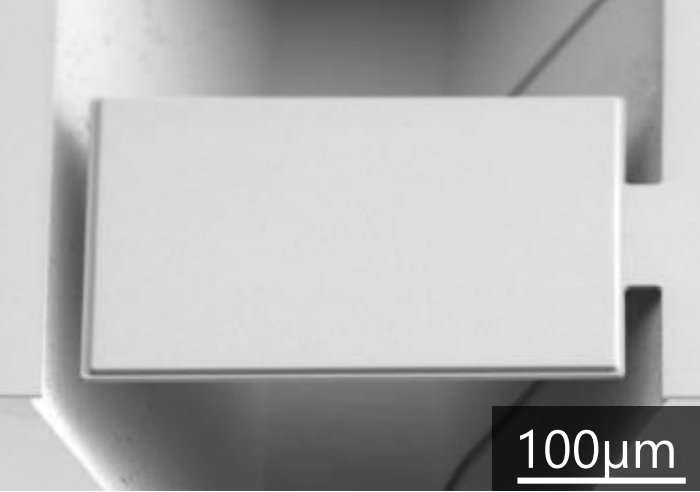
> **High placement accuracy.**



> **Short metallization tracks.**

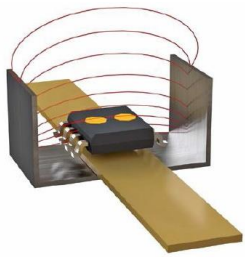


> **Small & thin devices.**

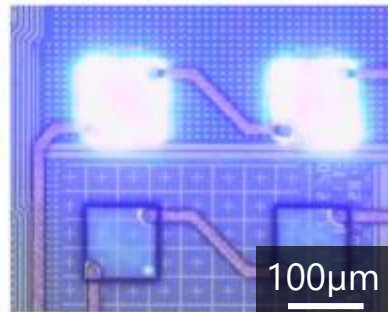
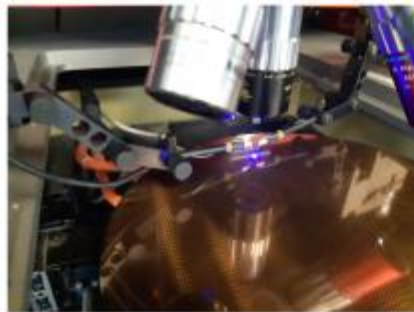


# Micro Transfer-Printing Application Examples

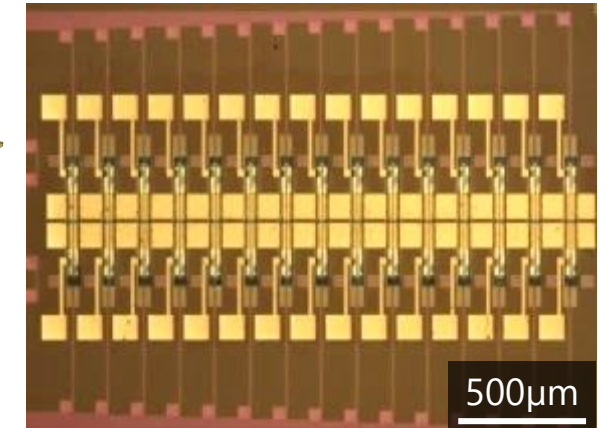
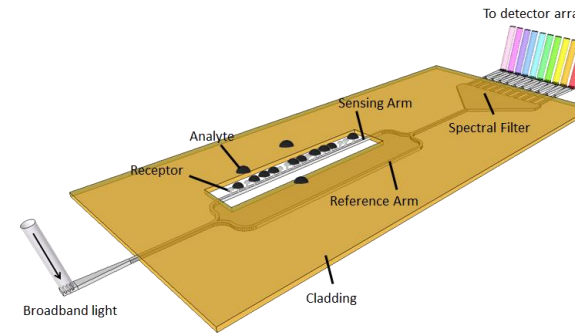
- > Integration of GaAs and GaN on CMOS.
  - **GaAs** offers higher electron mobility and improved sensitivity of Hall Plate sensors compared to standard Si.



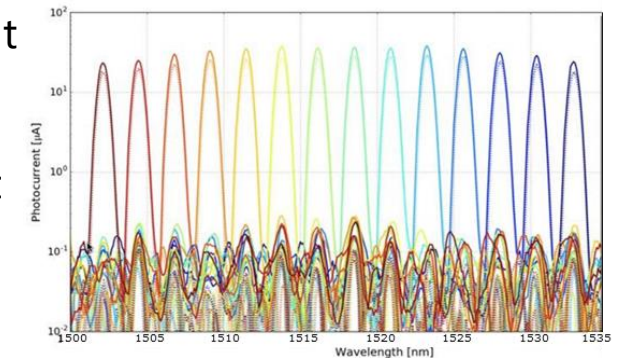
- **GaN**: reduced package sizes by direct integration of LEDs on driver ICs.



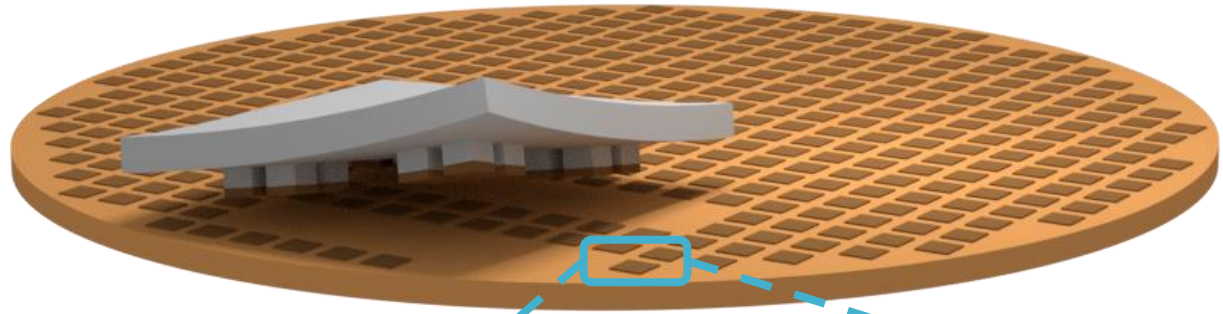
- > Integration of InP photodiodes on waveguide circuits.
  - **InP**: Integration of active devices in Si waveguide circuits.



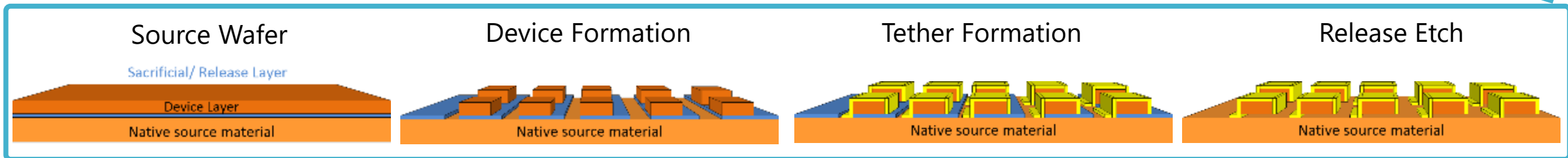
- Cost and material efficient integration of devices.
- Benefit of high alignment accuracy.



# Transfer-printing: A generic process overview

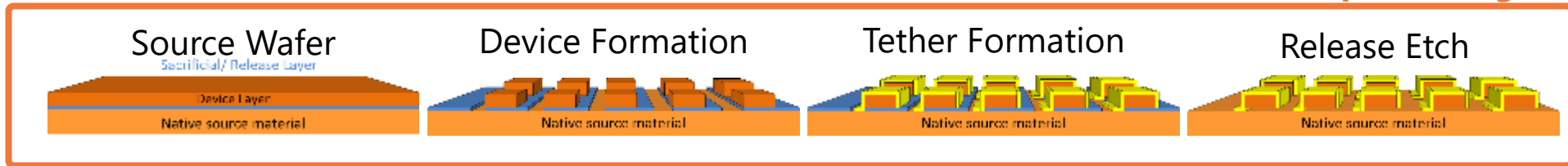
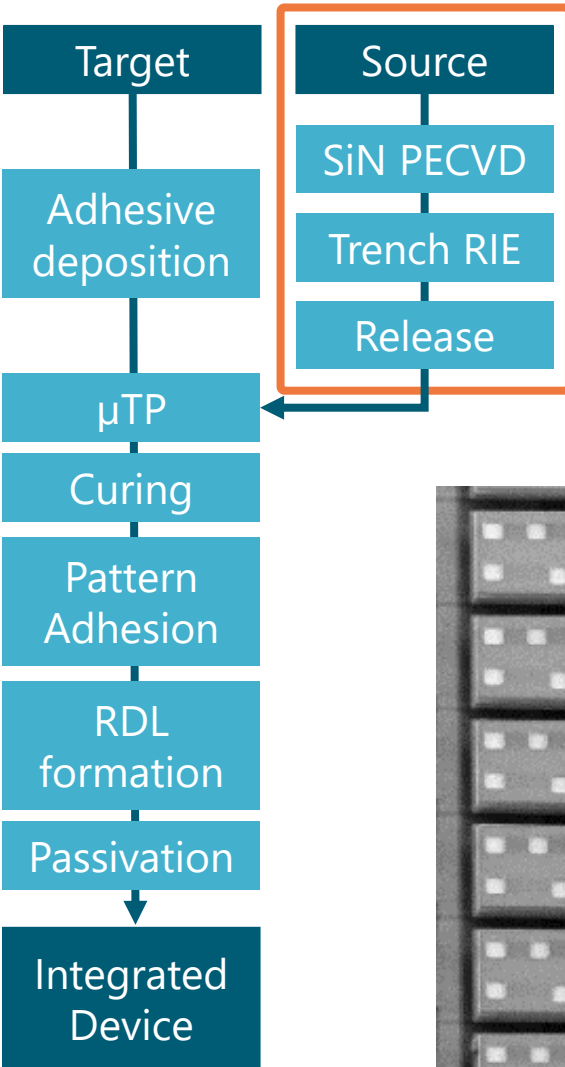


## Source wafer/ print-ready processing

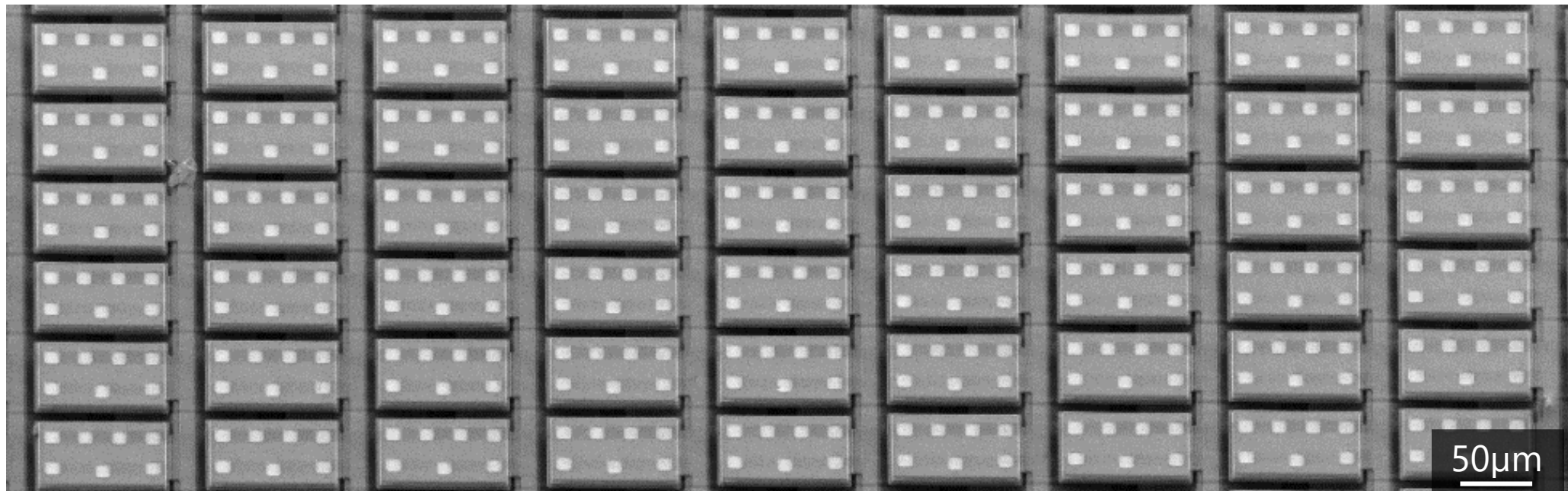


# Print-ready CMOS ASICs

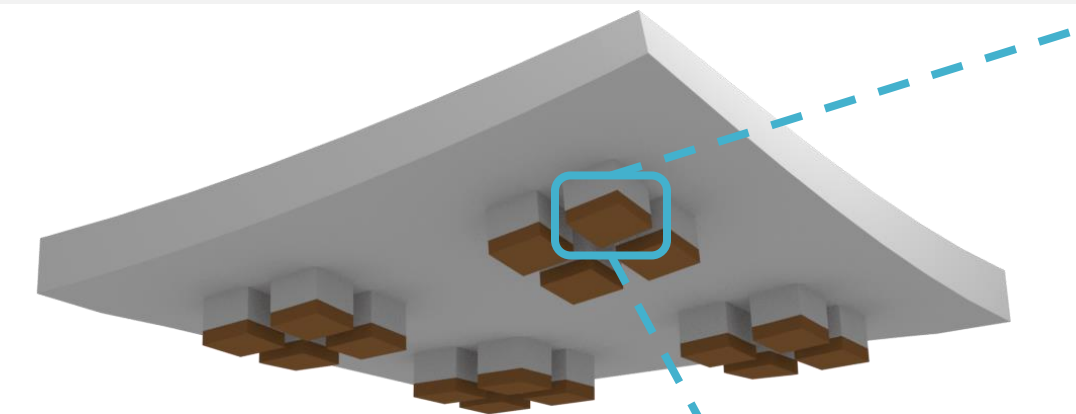
## Source wafer processing



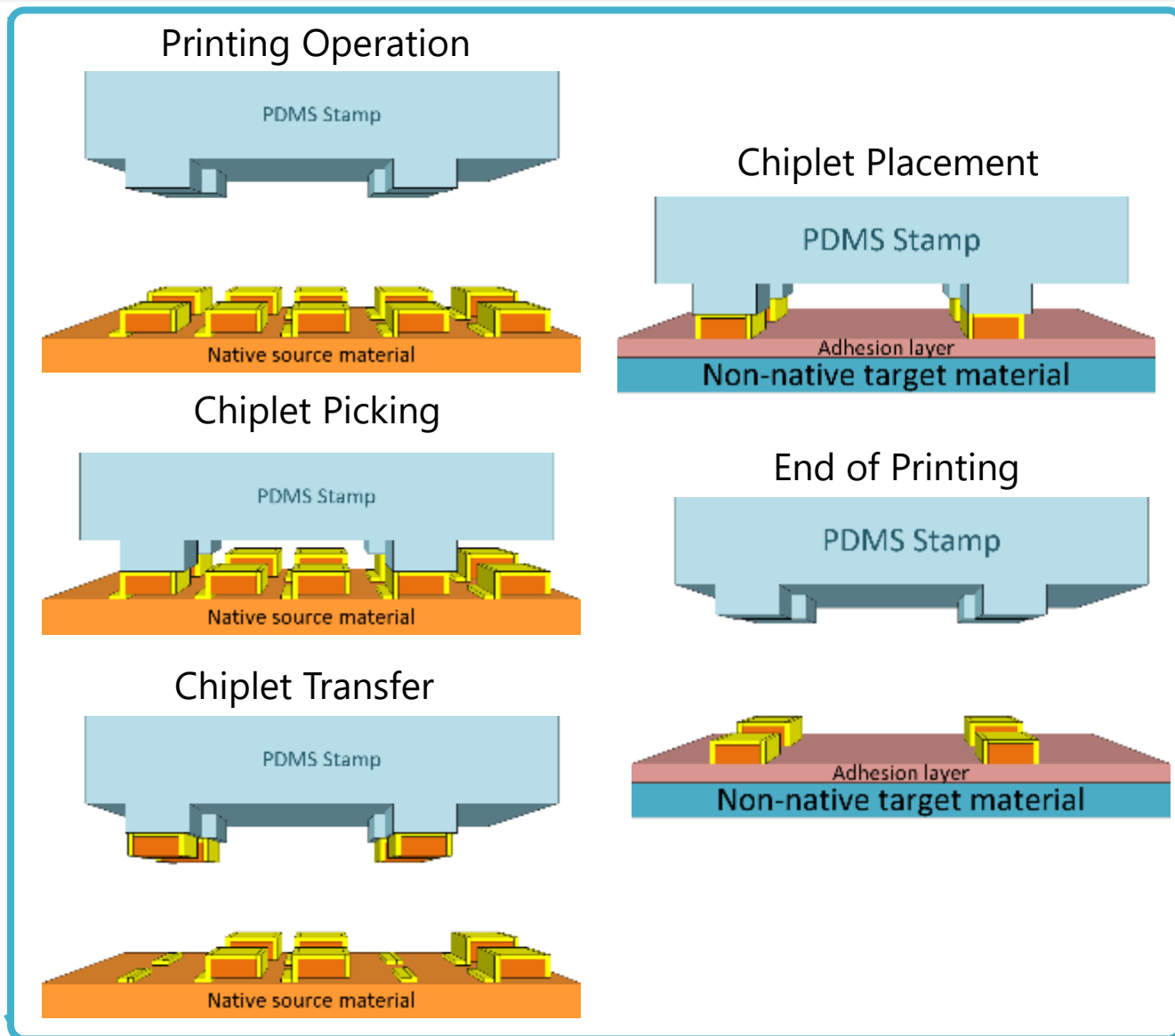
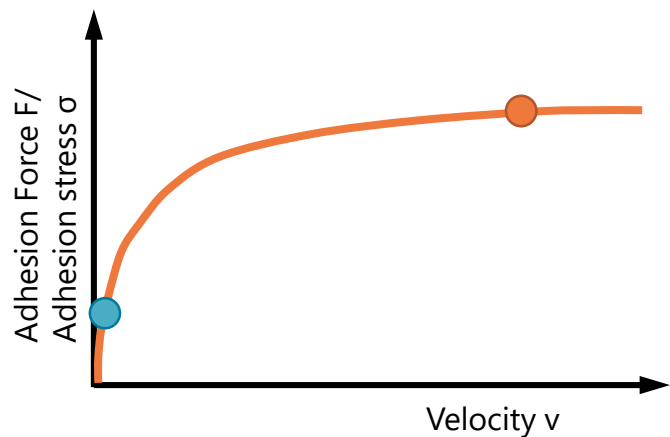
- > 1<sup>st</sup> approach focuses on the development of „integrateable“/ „print-ready SOI ASICs.
- > The CMOS wafer acts as the source wafer for μTP (origin of integrated chiplets).
- > SOI (Silicon On Insulator) based technologies are applied.



# Transfer-printing: A generic process overview

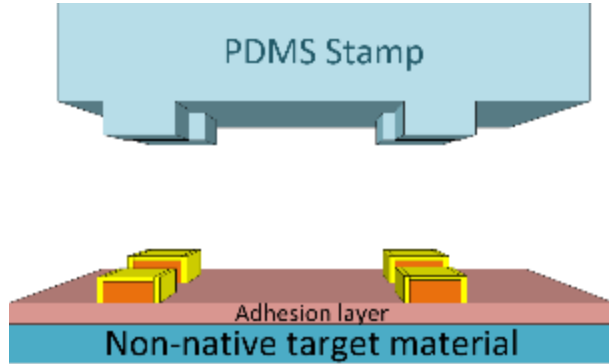
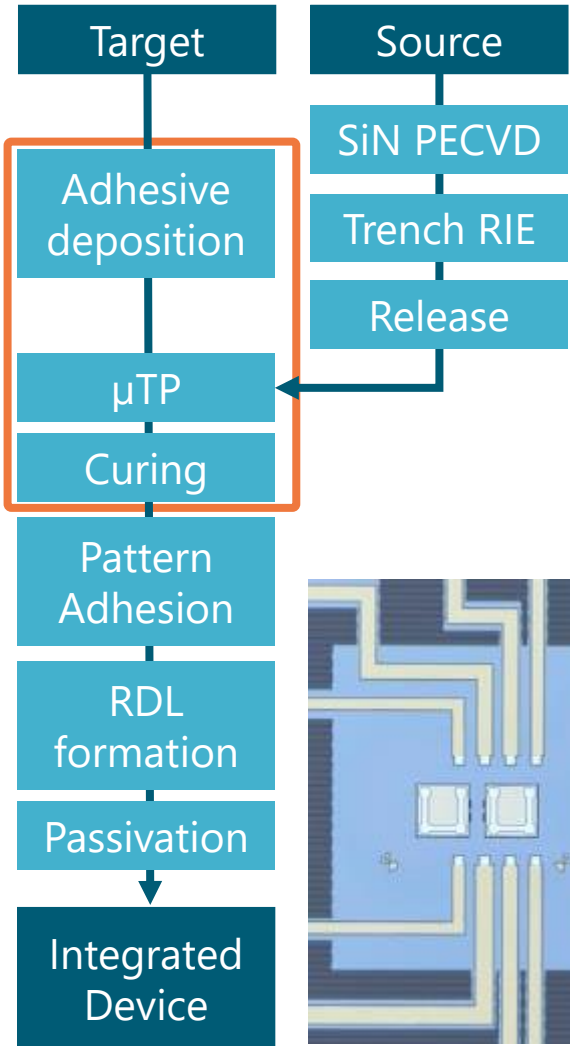


## Transfer-printing

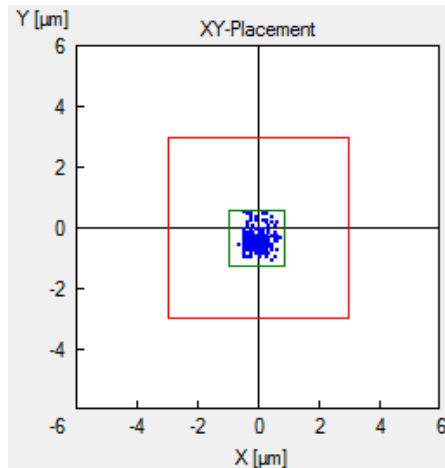
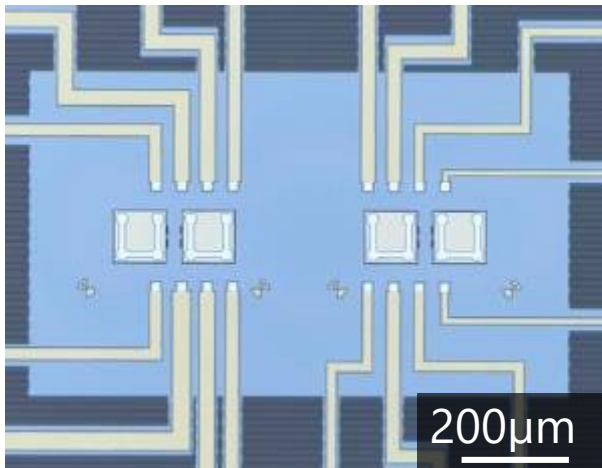


# Heterogeneous Integration flow: Transfer-printing

## Transfer-printing

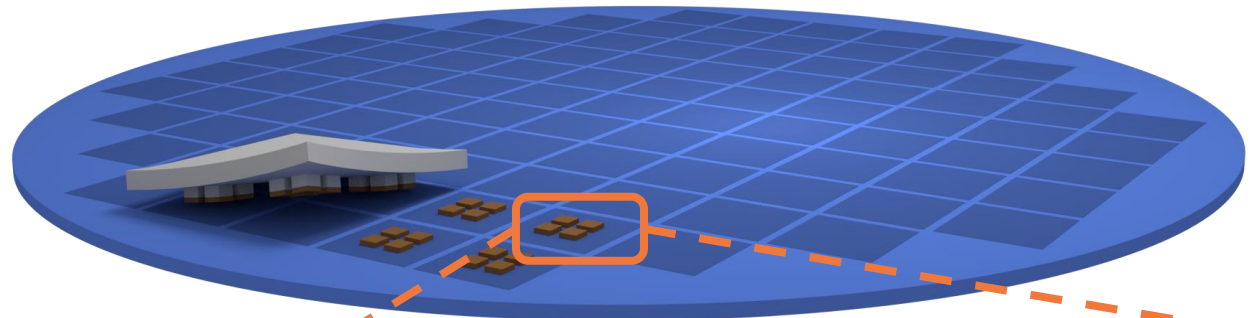


- > Relevant parameters/ processes:
  - Print adhesive deposition & cure.
  - PDMS stamp modification.
  - Tool parameters like overdrive & sheer length.
- > Based on μTP integration yields > 99.9% with accuracies of  $3\sigma \leq 0.9\mu\text{m}$  were demonstrated.



Si based chiplets	
Dimensions	100μm x 100μm x 2μm
Release yield	Up to 100%
Print Yield	>99.9%
Accuracy (after print)	$\sigma \leq 0.3\mu\text{m}$ / $3\sigma \leq 0.9\mu\text{m}$
Accuracy (after cure)	$\sigma \leq 0.3\mu\text{m}$ / $3\sigma \leq 0.9\mu\text{m}$

# Transfer-printing: A generic process overview



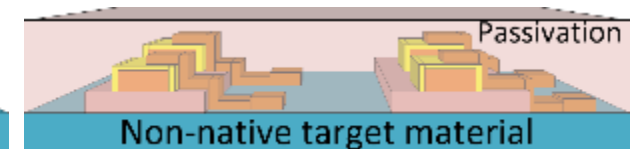
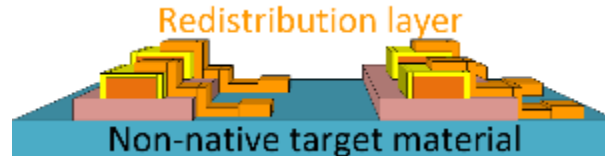
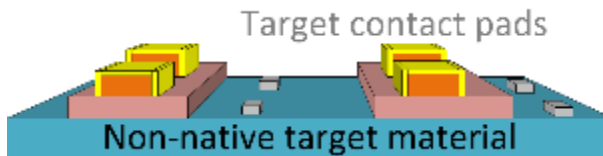
## Post-processing

End of Printing

Tempering & Pattern adhesive

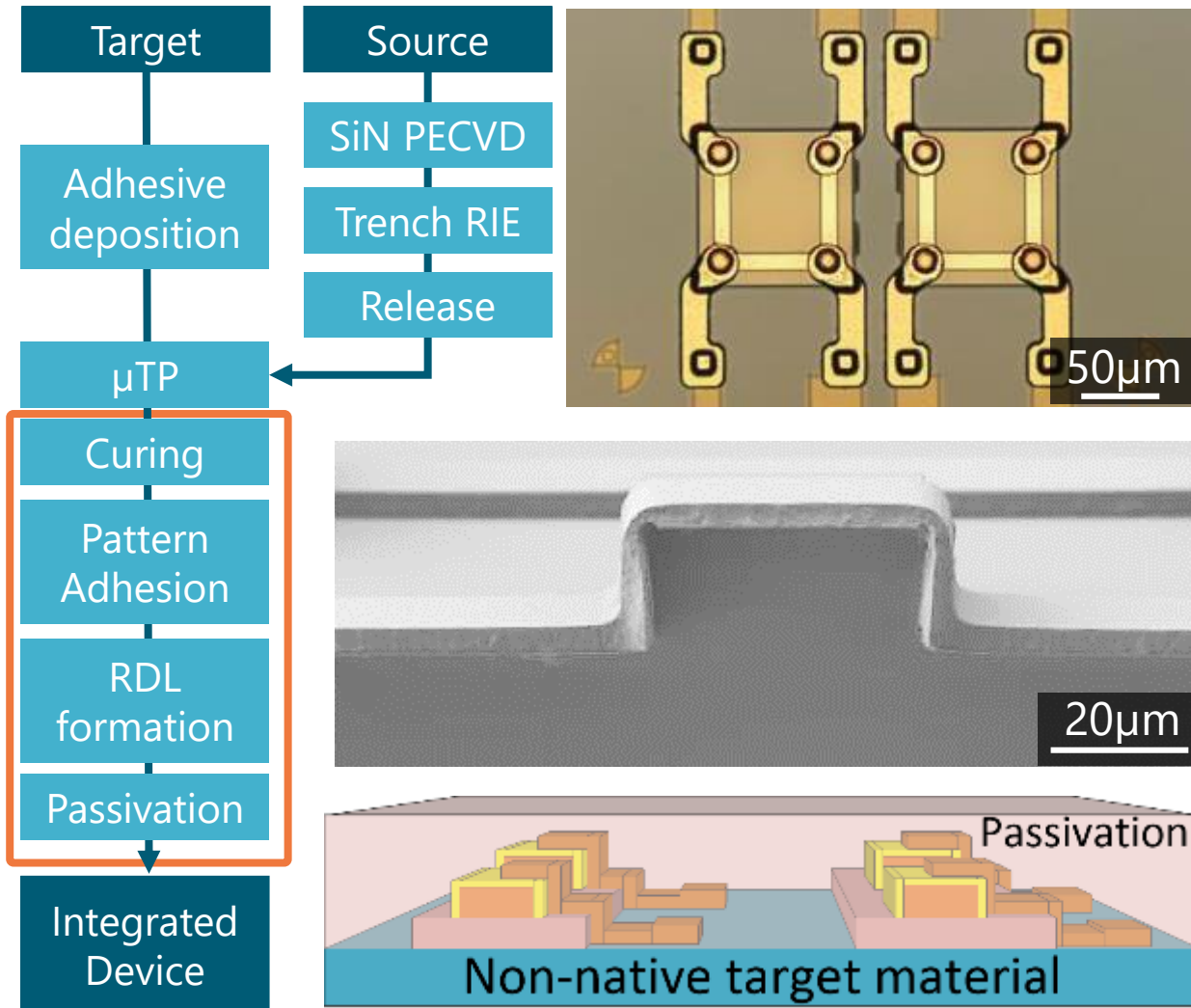
RDL Metallization

RDL Passivation

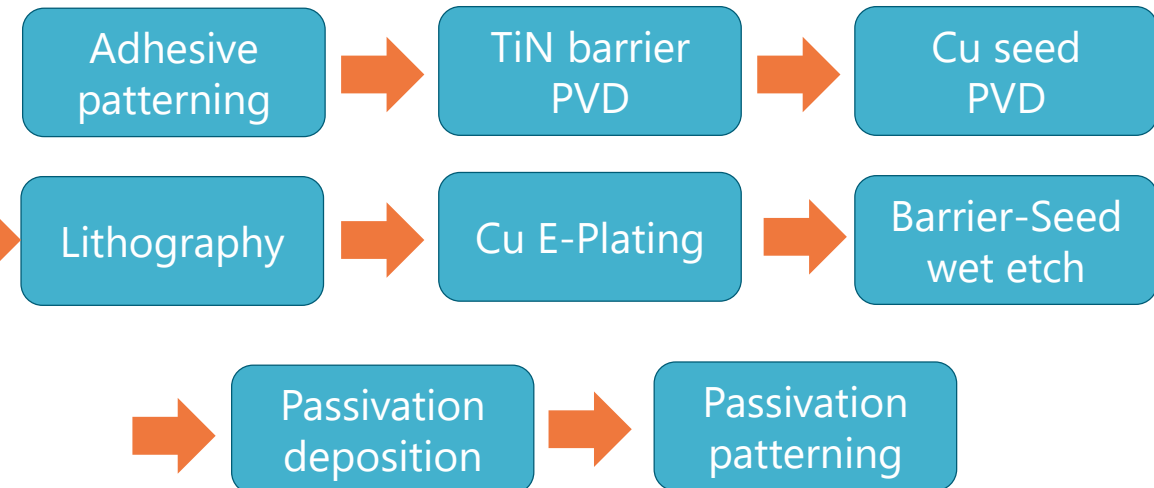


# Heterogeneous Integration flow: Post processing

## Post-processing



- > After  $\mu$ TP the **target pads** are **opened** by RIE.
- > **Cu-plating** is used to contact the chiplets.
- > 15 $\mu$ m wide Cu-RDL lines can be formed for **chiplet heights** in the range of **2-18 $\mu$ m**.
- > Finally, the RDL is passivated with the polymeric adhesion layer.





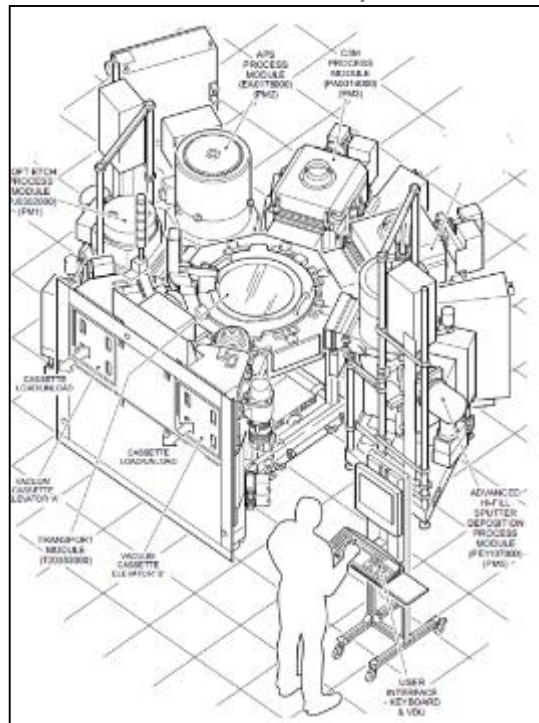
# Realization at X-FAB: Transfer-Printing pilot line

## Pilot line for $\mu$ TP at X-FAB



- > The pilot line was installed until 2018 within the funded project MICROPRINCE and includes:

SPTS Sigma fxP cluster  
RIE, PECVD & sputter



X-Celeprint MTP-177  
Transfer-Printer



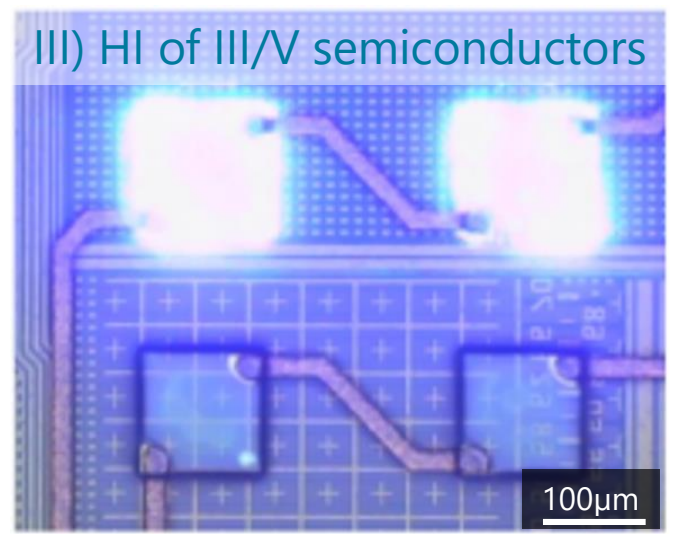
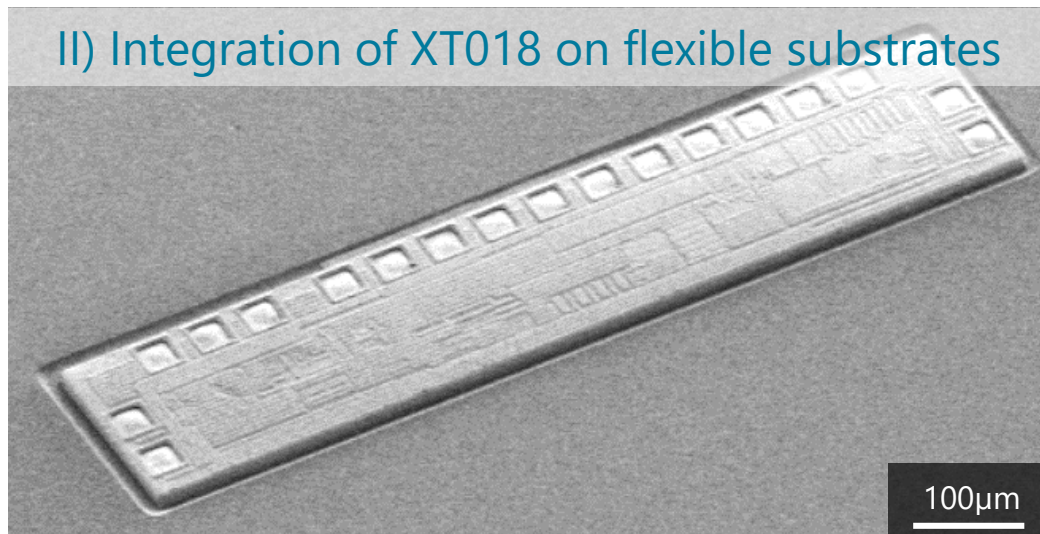
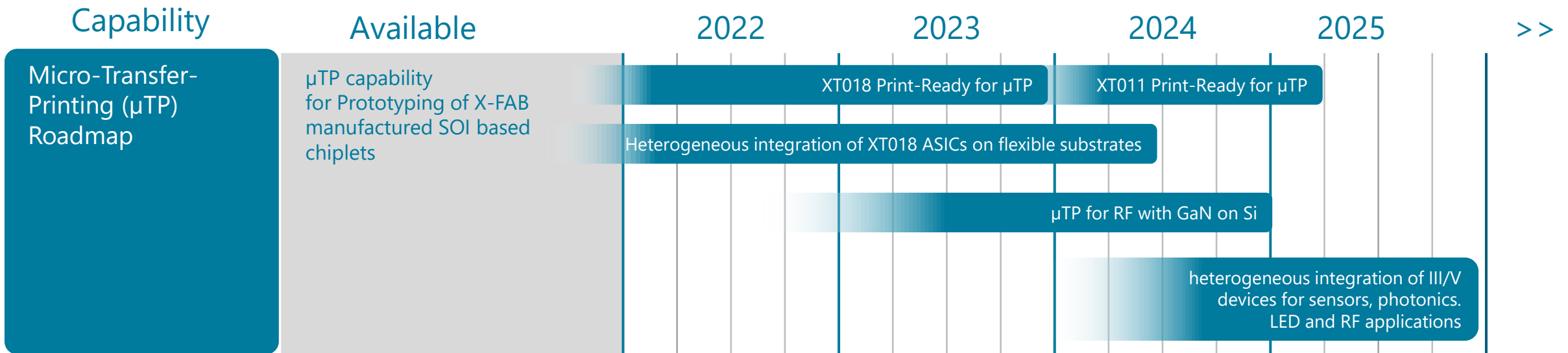
Suess ACS 200  
Coater Developer



ClassOne Solstice S8  
Plating Tool



# μTP Roadmap





X-FAB  
43 Min

Erfurt calling ... join us for a networking event on Micro-Transfer-Printing to be held in Erfurt, Germany, on November 21 & 22, 2022.

The  $\mu$ TTP Xchange will be the first in a series of networking events to bring together the community that is dedicated to the industrialization of Advanced Wafer-Level Packaging and Heterogeneous Integration.

In this event, we will focus on Micro-Transfer-Printing technology for chiplet-based Heterogeneous Integration of III/V compound semiconductors. We will take a closer look at what is required to bring applications to mass production within a stable supply ecosystem.

Interested?

Register today at: <https://lnkd.in/d3c3xt2v>

#microtransferprinting #3Dintegration #heterogenousintegration #advancedpackaging #Erfurt



- > X-Fab “More than Photonics” solutions enable a wide range of photonic applications
- > “More than Photonics” offering includes a range of solutions for wafer-level system integration and packaging solutions
- > Micro-Transfer-Printing is a promising novel technology for heterogeneous integration of photonics and other devices
- > Noble Metal and Integrated Microfluidics capabilities complement the offer, especially for bio-medical applications
- > X-Fab is the **high-volume manufacturing partner** for Ligentec’s low loss SiN PIC technology

xfab

Thank you.



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