

THIN-FILM INTEGRATED PASSIVE DEVICES 2020

Market & Technology Report - September 2020

5G and 3D integration are pushing the IPD market towards further growth.

WHAT'S NEW

- Covid 19's impact on general market forecasts
- Focus on market trends, IPD growth relays, and market potential

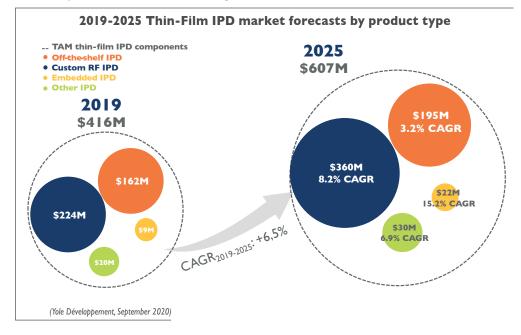
KEY FEATURES

- Thin-film IPD market forecast 2015 2025, in Mu and \$M
- Thin-film IPD market trends and future evolution
- Technology trends and main manufacturing techniques

THE IPD MARKET WILL GROW WITH A 2019-2025 6.5% CAGR

Despite offering unique features, thin-film IPD technology shows limited market penetration in the world of passives. However, even a low share in this enormous industry can represent significant results. Over time, thin-film IPD have managed to penetrate a few applications and find growth relays. The main market today, and one that shows strong growth, is the custom RF IPD featured in RF modules, especially for future 5G applications. These are filters for largefrequency bands and lumped-element circuits for impedance matching, for example. This market is expected to see an 8.2% CAGR2019 - 2025, surpassing \$360M in 2025. The other large-value market is off-the-shelf IPD used for EMI shielding in stringent applications or for basic RF operations like baluns or filtering. This market will represent \$195M in 2025, with a 3.15% CAGR 2019 - 2025.

After custom RF IPD, today's most active market is embedded decoupling capacitance in application processors, implemented thanks to advanced 3D integration. This is a prospective high indirect-value market. IPD themselves will not represent a huge part of the cost, but their implementation matters in the choice of the foundry service provider, thus becoming a strategic technology for component manufacturers. This market should grow to \$21.7M in 2025, with a 15.2% CAGR 2019 - 2025. The last market of interest is decoupling capacitance for all other purposes (medical, industrial, aeronautics, etc.), which should reach \$30M in 2025 with a 6.9% CAGR 2019 - 2025.



A DIVERSE RANGE OF PLAYERS

A diverse range of players are active in IPDs. These include start-up companies (3DiS, XPeedIC, IPDia – as a branch of Murata - etc.) developing custom solutions for high-end markets, IDMs (Qorvo, Skyworks, Broadcom) that include IPD in their RF modules, OSATs (ASE, Amkor, etc.), and foundry service providers (TSMC, STMicroelectronics) requested to have this solution in their portfolio. Depending on the player(s), the interest differs as well as the long-term strategy. In general, IPD start-up companies

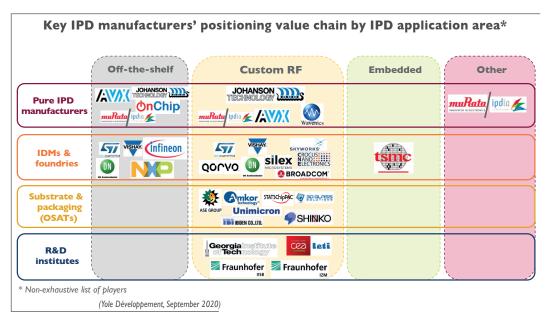
are small technology companies with an innovative approach that addresses high-end markets, but which are seeking growth and have not managed to find it in their niche. Typically, these companies will either look to diversify their markets and explore consumer opportunities or license their technology to OSATs and foundry service providers.

OSATs and foundries view IPD as a mandatory part of their portfolio, without it being a direct revenue creator. Some specific client demands include IPD, and in some recent cases IPD

have become a strategic piece of technology. This is the case for TSMC and Apple: TSMC managed to master IPD 3D integration for decoupling capacitors, which helped it secure the very lucrative Apple application processor market.

Though IPD themselves do not create direct value, their impact can be huge. For IDMs and RF

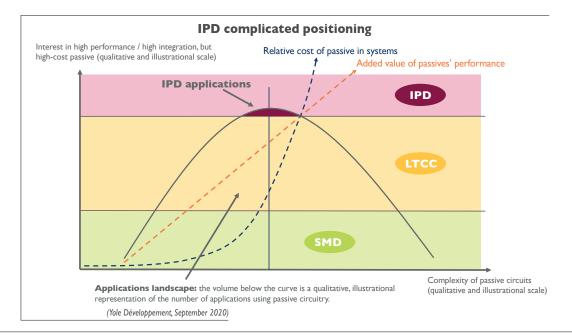
component manufacturers, IPD are considered more of a nice piece of technology for reducing size and increasing performance in some specific cases. IPD are not yet ubiquitous in these companies' developments, but their presence is increasing.



A COMPLEX POSITIONING, BUT ONE WHICH SEES MARKET INTEREST

IPD suffer from LTCC competition, and LTCC themselves deal with low-cost SMD competition. Pragmatically speaking, in any complex system the passives are not the critical part. In fact, passive components have been around since the early days of electronics, and solutions that are small enough, cheap enough, and performant enough exist for almost any application. For large-volume applications in particular, cost is one of the most important criteria, and therefore the cheapest viable solution will always be chosen first. This means that, for high-volume systems, LTCC will be chosen over SMD

only if no other option exists, and likewise IPD will be chosen over LTCC only if mandatory. This leaves IPD as a "last resort" solution when performance is critical enough. For low-volume, high-performance solutions, the issue with IPD positioning is different and the problem lies on the manufacturer's side. Even if expensive, IPD stay in absolute low-cost components, and a minimum revenue is asked from IPD manufacturers before custom-creating an IPD solution. This infers that many applications cannot feature IPD, since they are not attractive enough for product development.



In this complex context of either being the "last resort" solution for volume products or being an unattractive opportunity for lowvolume solutions, IPD still manage to find their specific applications. These are often moving targets allowing for continuous growth of the IPD market. Today this application is RF components for 5G, and tomorrow it should be decoupling capacitance, together with datacom

and telecom applications, that will drive volumes and revenue. No market disruption is expected, and growth will be progressive with new growth relays over time. IPD are not enabling technologies for high-volume applications, and a single-digit CAGR will exist for the total market, but it will remain a growing market opportunity in the long term.

REPORT OBJECTIVES

For over two decades IPD has been a technology with considerable promise, just waiting for mass implementation. Yole has scrutinized this technology over the past eight years to assess its penetration and potential evolution. Our last IPD report dates to 2017 and includes an extensive technical analysis of the technology. In this 2020 report we undertake a more thorough assessment of the market's potential and the status of IPD technologies. We also explore the different addressed markets and accessible markets, as well as IPD's positioning as a promising technology still awaiting mass adoption.

COMPANIES CITED IN THE REPORT (non exhaustive list)

Active Semi, Airoha, Akoustis, Apple, ASE, Asus, AT&T, AwinIC, Broadcom, CanaanTek, Cavendish Kinetics, China Mobile, China Telecom, China Unicom, CoolPad, Cypress Semiconductor, DB-HiTek, EE, Elisa, Ericsson, Etisalat, GlobalFoundries, Global Wafer, Google, HH Grace, HiSilicon, HMD Global, HTC, Huawei, Huntersun, Infineon, Intel, IQE, Jio, JRC, KDDI, KT, Kyocera, Lansus, Lenovo, LG, LG U+, Maxscend, MediaTek, Meizu, Murata, NationZ, Nokia, NSI, NTT Docomo, NXP, ON Semiconductor, OnePlus, Onmicro, Oppo, Orange, pSemi, Qorvo, Qualcomm, RDA, Resonant, Richwave, RoFS, Samsung, Samsung Electro Mechanical, SAWNICS, Shin-Etsu, Shoulder, SK Telecom, Skyworks, Smarter Micro, SMIC, SoftBank, Soitec, Sony, Sprint, STMicroelectronics, Sumitomo, Sunrise, Swisscom, Taiyo Yuden, TCL, TDK EPCOS, Telefonica, Telia, Telstra, TIM, T-Mobile, Toshiba, Tower Semi, Tpsco, TSMC, UMC, Unisoc, USI, Vanchip, Verizon, Vivo, Vodafone, WillSemi, WIN Semiconductors, WIPAM, Wisol, Xfab, Xiaomi, Xpeedic, Yuzhen IC, ZTE and more.

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RELATED REPORTS, MONITORS & TRACKS

> Embedded RF IPD



• 5G's Impact on RF Front-End and Connectivity for Cellphones 2020

> Other sub-title

- RF Integrated Passive Devices: Reverse Costing Overview
- Silicon Capacitor Technology and Cost Review

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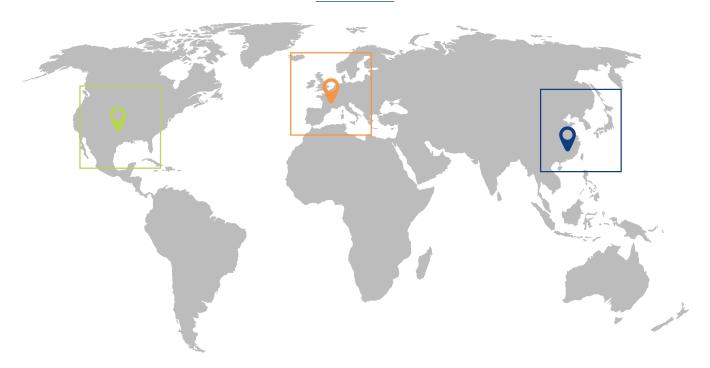
Antoine Bonnabel works Technology & Market Analyst for the Power & Wireless team of Yole Développement (Yole). He carries out technical, marketing and strategic analyses focused on RF devices, related technologies and markets. Prior to Yole, Antoine was R&D Program Manager for DelfMEMS (FR), a company specializing in RF switches and supervised Intellectual Property and Business Intelligence activities of this company. In addition, he also has co-authored several market reports and is co-inventor of three patents in RF MEMS design. Antoine holds a M.Sc. in Microelectronics from Grenoble Institute of Technologies (France) and a M.Sc. in Management from Grenoble Graduate School of Business (France).



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 • Within a reasonable time for Products ordered prior to their
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 2.2 The Seller shall by no means be responsible for any delay pursuant
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General Terms and Conditions of Sale

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Bank code: 30056

Branch code: 00170 Account n°: 0170 200 1565 87

BIC or SWIFT code: CCFRFRPP

IBAN: FR76 3005 6001 7001 7020 0156 587

To secure the payments due to the Seller, the Seller reserves the right to request down payments from the Buyer. In such case, the need for a down payment will be mentioned on the corresponding order.

- 3.3 Payment is due by the Buyer to the Seller within 30 days from invoice date, except as otherwise specifically agreed in writing by the Buyer and the Seller. If the Buyer fails to pay at the due date and fails to request and obtain from the Seller a payment extension, the latter shall be entitled to invoice interest in arrears based on the annual rate Refi of the "BCE" + 7 points, in accordance with article L.441-6 of the French Commercial Code
- 3.4 The Seller publications (reports, monitors, tracks...) are due for delivery only after receipt by the Seller of any payment due by the
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 3.5 In the event of termination of the contract by the Seller attributable to Buyer misconduct during the contract, the Seller will have the right to invoice all work performed at the time of termination, and to take legal action for damages.

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