

Global and China Display Driver and Touch
IC Industry Report, 2013-2014

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### The Vertical Portal for China Business Intelligence

#### STUDY GOAL AND OBJECTIVES

This report provides the industry executives with strategically significant competitor information, analysis, insight and projection on the competitive pattern and key companies in the industry, crucial to the development and implementation of effective business, marketing and R&D programs.

#### REPORT OBJECTIVES

- ◆ To establish a comprehensive, factual, annually updated and costeffective information base on market size, competition patterns, market segments, goals and strategies of the leading players in the market, reviews and forecasts.
- To assist potential market entrants in evaluating prospective acquisition and joint venture candidates.
- ◆ To complement the organizations' internal competitor information gathering efforts with strategic analysis, data interpretation and insight.
- ◆ To suggest for concerned investors in line with the current development of this industry as well as the development tendency.
- ◆ To help company to succeed in a competitive market, and

#### **METHODOLOGY**

Both primary and secondary research methodologies were used in preparing this study. Initially, a comprehensive and exhaustive search of the literature on this industry was conducted. These sources included related books and journals, trade literature, marketing literature, other product/promotional literature, annual reports, security analyst reports, and other publications.

Subsequently, telephone interviews or email correspondence was conducted with marketing executives etc. Other sources included related magazines, academics, and consulting companies.

#### **INFORMATION SOURCES**

The primary information sources include Company Reports, and National Bureau of Statistics of China etc.

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## **Abstract**

Global and China Display Driver & Touch IC Industry Report, 2013-2014 involves the followings:

- 1. Introduction to Display Driver IC and Touch IC
- 2. Technology Trends of Small-, Medium- and Large-sized Touch screens
- 3. Status Quo and Trend of Metal Mesh and AgNW
- 4. Analysis on Display Downstream Market
- 5. Analysis on Display Driver IC Market and Industry
- 6. Analysis on Touch IC Market and Industry
- 7. 11 Driver IC Design Houses
- 8. 10 Touch IC Design Houses

In 2013, global display driver IC market size skyrocketed by 10.7% to USD 6.882 billion, and is expected to be worth USD 7.278 billion in 2014, with an increase of 5.6%. The rise in the display driver IC market scale can be attributed to the factors below:

- **\*\*** Market acceptance of 4K2K UHD-TV exceeded expectations and it is expected that market size will expand rapidly.
- ※ Resolution of screens on mobile phones and tablet PCs improved significantly, and there will be at least 30 million mobile phones with QHD (Quad High Definition, 2560\*1440) screens to be shipped in 2014, including blockbuster Samsung S5, G3 from LG, Lumia 1820 from Nokia, and Find7 from OPPO.
- \* Resolution of computer display and notebook computer screen also improved substantially, and the number of Driver IC increased greatly.

Revenue of Major Global Driver IC Vendors, 2010-2013 (Unit: USD mln)

·	2010	2011	2012	2013	
Renesas	857	642	632	720	
Novatek	957	1,035	1,044	1,140	
Himax	591	553	634	645	
llitek	184	308	356	323	
Raydium	261	270	356	365	
Orise Tech	176	141	138	314	
Silicon Works	215	275	331	296	
Sitronix	169	155	175	212	
Magnachip	308	340	303	286	
Rohm	310	190	169	178	
Samsung	970	1,079	1,141	1,380	
Sharp	235	114	160	230	
Toshiba	282	258	208	169	
Pnaasonic	391	154	120	130	
Lusem			277	350	
Source: ResearchInChina					

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The most noteworthy in Driver IC industry in 2014 is the sale of Display Driver IC unit by Renesas. Since its inception, Renesas has operated in the red. In order to dig its way out of losses, the company sold some non-core assets, while its medium and small-sized Display Driver IC unit is fairly profitable. Renesas is a principal supplier of driver IC for Apple phones, but its main business comes to MCU. Broadcom, Synaptics and Novatek will be the most likely buyers. Especially, Synaptics, a leading company in touch IC market, would become a dual leader in medium and small-sized Display Driver IC and Touch IC markets, if its bid for Renesas succeeded.

For its future trend, the touch IC of mobile phone is to be integrated mainly driven by cost and technology. Technically, it can be integrated with either Driver IC or AP, with the former being expected to be the mainstream. In addition to cost cuts, On-cell/In-cell technology is more suitable for integrating Driver IC and Touch IC. As parts of LCD display module, Driver IC and Touch IC can be completely independent of AP. It is expected that TDDI (Touch Display Driver IC) will start to be shipped progressively from the second half of 2014.

Another trend in Touch IC field is In-cell and On-cell. In the past, On-cell was mainly expensive and noble AMOLED panel. However, from the year 2014, we will see a-Si LCD mobile phone panel equipped with On-cell Touch to be shipped from Taiwanese and Chinese companies, including AUO, Innolux, CPT, Hannstar, BOE and Tianma, etc. It is expected that 5%-10% of China's mobile phone industry will be provided with On-cell Touch LCD. Several IC tycoons are producing On-cell Touch IC, among which Synaptics releases its production at the fastest pace, followed by FocalTech.

In Touch IC market, as mid- to lower range mobile phones have no interest in multi-point touchscreen, the mainstream market is still dominated by self capacitance Touch IC, which has a relatively low entry barrier and is faced with fierce price war. Relying on its advantages in supply chain, Taiwanese players can achieve the lowest costs, forcing mainland peers out of the market, but do not make handsome profit. In 2013, Touch IC market size edged up only 7.4%, and its growth rate will continue to slow in the future. The driving force of the market is in Touch IC field of In-cell/On-cell. Although its market is large, the low- and medium-end market generates meager profits.

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## Table of contents

#### 1. Profile of Driver IC

- 1.1 Introduction to TFT-LCD Driver IC
- 1.2 Manufacturing Process of Driver IC
- 1.3 Introduction to Touch IC
- 1.4 Development Trend of Touch IC
- 1.5 Technology Trend of Mobile Phone Touch Screen
- 1.6 Development Trend of Medium-sized Touch Screen
- 1.7 Development Trend of Laptop Computer Touch Screen
- 1.8 AIO PC Touch Screen
- 1.9 Advantages of METAL MESH
- 1.10 Supply Chain of METAL MESH
- 1.11 Nanometer Silver Wire

#### 2. Display Downstream Market

- 2.1 Market Size of Touch Screen
- 2.2 Laptop Computer Market
- 2.3 Tablet PC Market
- 2.4 Mobile Phone Market
- 2.4.1 Global Mobile Phone Market Size
- 2.4.2 Smartphone Market and Industry
- 2.4.3 China's Mobile Phone Market and Industry
- 2.5 UHD-TV Market

#### 3. Touch and Driver IC Industry

- 3.1 Supply Chain of Driver IC
- 3.2 Development Trend of Driver IC

- 3.3 Display Driver IC Market
- 3.4 Display Driver IC Industry
- 3.5 Market Size of Touch Screen
- 3.6 Ranking of Touch Screen Vendors
- 3.7 Relationship between Touch Screen Vendors and Customers
- 3.8 Market Trend of Touch IC
- 3.9 Touch IC of ON-CELL
- 3.10 Market Size of Touch IC
- 3.11 Analysis on Touch IC Industry

#### 4. Major Driver IC Vendors

- 4.1 Renesas
- 4.2 Novatek
- 4.3 Himax
- 4.4 Ilitek
- 4.5 Raydium
- 4.6 Orise
- 4.7 Sitronix
- 4.8 Fitipower
- 4.9 Silicon Works
- 4.10 Lusem
- 4.11 Magnachip

#### 5. Major Touch IC Design Houses

- 5.1 Melfas
- 5.2 FocalTech
- 5.3 Goodix
- 5.4 ELAN

- 5.5 Synaptics5.6 Cypress
- 5.7 Atmel
- 5.8 EETI
- 5.9 PIXCIR
- 5.10 MStar
- 5.11 Others
- 5.11.1 Betterlife
- 5.11.2 Awinic
- 5.11.3 Silead

#### 6. Major Players in Driver IC Industry Chain

- 6.1 ChipMOS
- 6.2 Chipbond
- 6.3 VIS

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- Driver IC Manufacturing Process
- Technology Distribution of Mobile Phone Touch Screen, 2011-2016E
- Technology Distribution of Medium-sized Touch Screen, 2011-2015E
- Shipment of Laptop Computer Touch Screen by Technology, 2012-2016E
- Shipment of AIO PC Touch Screen by Technology, 2012-2016E
- Silver Nanofibers Wires Supply Chain
- Global Touch Screen Market Size (Value), 2010-2016E
- Global Touch Screen Market Size (Shipment), 2010-2016E
- Shipment of Global Touch Screen by Application, 2010-2015E
- Laptop Computer Shipments, 2008-2015E
- Shipment of Major Global Laptop Computer ODM Companies, 2010-2013
- Global Tablet PC Shipment, 2011-2016E
- Market Share of Main Tablet PC Brands, 2013
- Output of Global Tablet PC Vendors, 2012-2013
- Shipment of Global Mobile Phone, Q1 2011-Q4 2013
- Shipment of Global Mobile Phone, 2007-2014
- Global 3G/4G Mobile Phone Shipment by Region, 2011-2014
- Worldwide Smartphone Sales to End Users by Vendor in 2013
- Worldwide Smartphone Sales to End Users by Operating System in 2013
- Worldwide Mobile Phone Sales to End Users by Vendor in 2013
- Shipment and Market Share of Smartphone by Operating System, Q2 2013
- Shipment and Market Share of Major Android Phone Vendors, Q2 2013
- Shipment and Market Share of Major Windows Phone Smartphone Vendors, Q2 2013
- Shipment of Smartphone from Major Chinese Vendors, 2011-2013
- Monthly Output of Mobile Phone in China, Jan-Dec 2013

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- Monthly Export Value of Mobile Phone in China, Jan-Dec 2013
- Monthly Revenue and Profit of China's Mobile Phone Industry, Feb-Dec 2013
- Market Share of Major Vendors in China' Mobile Phone Market, 2013
- Output Distribution of Chinese Mobile Phone by Region, Jan-Nov 2013
- Shipments of UHD TV, 2013-2017E
- 55-inch UHD TV Price vs. FHD TV Price
- Shipment of the World's Top 15 LCD-TV Companies
- Global Display Driver IC Market Size, 2009-2016E
- Market Size of Global Display Driver IC by Type, 2009-2014
- Operating Margin of Major Global Driver IC Vendors
- Global Touch Screen Market Size (Value), 2010-2016E
- Global Touch Screen Market Size (Shipment), 2010-2016E
- Shipment of Global Touch Screen by Application, 2010-2015E
- Revenue of Major Global OUT-CELL Touch Screen Vendors, 2010-2013
- Operating Margins of Major Global OUT-CELL Touch Screen Vendors, 2012-2013
- Shipments of Major Touch Screen Vendors, 2010-2013
- Market Share of Mobile Phone Touch Screen Suppliers for Samsung, 2012-2013
- Market Share of Tablet PC Touch Screen Suppliers for Samsung, 2012-2013
- Supply Structure of Major Touch Screen Suppliers for Nokia, 2012
- Supply Structure of Major Touch Screen Suppliers for LG, 2012
- Supply Structure of Major Touch Screen Suppliers for HTC, 2012
- Touch Screen IC Market Size, 2011-2016E
- Downstream Distribution of Touch Screen Market, 2012-2014
- Touch Screen IC Industrial Chain
- Revenue of Touch Screen IC Design Houses (only Revenue from Touch Screen IC Business), 2012-2013

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- Revenue and Gross Margin of Renesas, Q2 2012-Q4 2013
- Organizational Structure of Renesas
- Revenue Breakdown of Renesas by Division, FY Q3 2011-FY2014
- Organization Chart of Novatek
- Revenue and Operating Margin of Novatek, 2006-2014
- Monthly Revenue and YoY Growth of Novatek, Apr 2012-Feb 2014
- Quarterly Revenue of Novatek by Product, Q1 2011-Q4 2013
- Affiliated Enterprises of Himax
- Revenue and Operating Margin of Himax, 2006-2014
- Revenue of Himax by Product, 2006-2013
- Shipments of Himax, 2002-2013
- Gross Margin of Himax, 2007-2013
- OPEX of Himax, 2007-2013
- Quarterly Revenue of Himax by Product, Q3 2011-Q4 2013
- Quarterly Operating Expenses of Himax, Q1 2011-Q4 2013
- Quarterly Gross Margin of Himax, Q3 2011-Q4 2013
- Proportion of Big Customers of Himax, 2007-2013
- Supply Chain of Himax
- Revenue and Operating Margin of Ilitek, 2007-2014
- Monthly Revenue and YoY Growth of Ilitek, Feb 2012-Feb 2014
- Shipment of Ilitek, 2007-2012
- Shipments of Ilitek by Application, 2008-2013
- Revenue and Operating Margin of Raydium, 2007-2014
- Monthly Revenue and YoY Growth of Raydium, Feb 2012-Feb, 2013

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- Output, Sales Volume and Output Value of Raydium, 2011-2012
- Revenue and Operating Margin of Orise, 2007-2014
- Revenue of Orise, Q1 2010-Q4 2013
- EBT of Orise, Q1 2010-Q4 2013
- Monthly Revenue and YoY Growth of Orise, Feb 2012-Feb 2014
- Output of Orise, 2008-2011
- Sales Volume of Orise, 2008-2013
- Revenue of Orise by Product, Q1 2009-Q4 2013
- Revenue of Orise by Customer, Q2 2012
- Revenue of Orise by Customer, Q4 2013
- Quarterly Shipment of Orise, Q1 2009-Q2 2013
- Revenue and Operating Margin of Sitronix, 2006-2014
- Monthly Revenue and YoY Growth of Sitronix, Feb 2012-Feb 2014
- Revenue of Sitronix by Product, Q1 2011-Q4 2012
- Monthly Revenue and YoY Growth of Fitipower, Feb 2011-Feb 2014
- Revenue and Operating Margin of Silicon Works, 2009-2014
- Revenue of Silicon Works by Product, 2009-2013
- Organizational Structure of Lusem
- Revenue and Gross Margin of Magnachip, 2004-2013
- Revenue of Magnachip by Business, 2004-2013
- Revenue of Magnachip by Region, 2009-2013
- Wafer Fabs of MAGNACHIP
- Revenue and Operating Margin of Melfas, 2007-2014
- Revenue of Melfas by Product, 2007-2014

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- Revenue and Operating Margin of Melfas, Q1 2011-Q4 2013
- Revenue of FocalTech by Customer, 2013
- Schematic of GT813
- Revenue and Operating Margin of Elan, 2004-2014
- Monthly Revenue and YoY Growth of Elan, Feb 2012-Feb 2014
- Revenue of Elan by Product, Q1 2011-Q4 2013
- Revenue of Elan by Customer, 2010-2011
- Revenue and Operating Margin of Synaptics, FY2006-FY2014
- Revenue of Synaptics by Application, FY2004-FY2014
- Revenue of Synaptics by Region, FY2010-FY2014
- Revenue and Operating Margin of Cypress, 2007-2013
- Revenue of Cypress by Business, 2009-2013
- Revenue of Cypress by Region, 2009-2013
- Revenue and Operating Margin of Atmel, 2006-2013
- Revenue of Atmel by Business, 2008-2013
- Operating Income Breakdown of Atmel, 2012-2013
- Revenue of Atmel by Region, 2008-2013
- Touch Panel Control IC Roadmap of Atmel
- Revenue and Operating Margin of EETI, 2008-2014
- Monthly Revenue of EETI, Feb 2012-Feb 2014
- Revenue and Gross Margin of ChipMOS, 2003-2014
- Revenue of ChipMOS by Customer, 2011-2012
- Revenue of ChipMOS by Region, 2006-2012
- Revenue of ChipMos by Business, H1 2012
- Revenue of Chipmos by Business, 2013



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- Revenue of Chipmos by Product, H1 2012
- Revenue of Chipmos by Product, 2013
- Revenue and Capacity of ChipMos LCDD Business, 2009-2013
- ChipMos Technology Roadmap, 2014-2016E
- Market Share of Global Graphics-driven IC Gold Bump Companies, 2012
- Revenue and Operating Margin of Chipbond, 2006-2014
- Geographical Distribution of Chipbond COG\COF Capacity
- Distribution of Chipbond TAB Capacity
- Monthly Revenue of Chipbond, Feb 2012-Feb 2014
- Revenue and Operating Margin of VIS, 2005-2014
- Revenue and Gross Margin of VIS, Q1 2011-Q4 2013
- Revenue of VIS by Node, Q1 2011-Q4 2013
- Revenue of VIS by Application, Q1 2011-Q4 2013
- Revenue of VIS by Product, Q1 2011-Q4 2013
- Shipments and Capacity Utilization of VIS, Q1 2011-Q4 2013

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