

Global and China Micro Electronic-Acoustics Component 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**

The report highlights the followings:

- 1. Introduction to Micro Electronic-Acoustics System
- 2. Downstream Market of Micro Electronic-Acoustics
- 3. Micro Electronic-Acoustics Industry
- 4. 21 Micro Electronic-Acoustics Enterprises

The micro electronic-acoustics industry began to deteriorate in the second half of 2013, reflecting a broad decline in gross margin and average selling price of products except earphone and headphone. The industry leader-AAC has accidentally suffered downdrafts entering 2014 for several reasons: it is impossible for the mobile phone market including the smartphone market to reproduce high growth, and China's smartphone market shows signs of decline. According to data released by China Academy of Telecommunication Research of MIIT, the domestic mobile phone market accumulated shipments of 293 million units in January-August 2014, down 24% as opposed to 396 million units a year earlier, including 254 million smartphones (down 11.3% yron-yr). Besides, the tablet PC market apparently stopped growing e.g. a slowdown in iPad shipments, in contrast to the slightly improved laptop computer market.

#### Revenue of Major Micro Electronic-Acoustics Component Vendors, 2010-2014

	(USD m				
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Merry	251	271	262	341	415
GoerTek	294	508	890	1311	1672
AAC	440	648	995	1,308	1,397
Hosiden	269	198	164	145	160
Foster	1,264	1,476	1,730	1,670	1,680
BSE	60	203	205	270	290
Knowles WWW.rese	425	511	671	778	780
Fortune Grand Technology	108	116	110	102	80
Panasonic Electronic Devices	210	208	220	206	180
New Jialian	54	58	35	25	20
Star Micronics	51	30	40	45	
Bujeon	156	219	259	407	450
Cresyn	173	280	316	455	560

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On the other hand, the micro electronic-acoustics industry amid intensified competition has created space for generous profits in the transfer process from manual to automatic, and players have now completed the layout of automatic production lines, leading to non-existence of potential for cost reduction. Nowadays, mobile phone competition focuses on thickness, CPU, screen and camera, less concerned about sound performance, whose improvements depend on earphone rather than the phone itself, thus vendors prefer to adopt cheap electroacoustic components.

In the field of micro electromechanical system (MEMS) microphone, large MEMS foundries or IDMs provide cheap MEMS dies which causes a drastic drop in MEMS microphone prices. The fierce price war has brought a rare loss for Knowles, not to mention other companies.

Mobile phone audio frequency is developing towards integration, speaker/receiver is firstly integrated into speaker modules, then box, and now equipped with function of LDS antenna. Then there is microphone mounted on FPC which enables flexibility for addition of multiple FPCs to mobile phones, simplifies circuit board design, improves stability and reduces thickness. All audio frequency components in a mobile phone may be integrated into a module in the future to bring the price down.

Micro electro-acoustic vendors have intensified efforts to develop non-electro-acoustic products to compensate for the decline in performance, but the huge initial investment is a burden to the overall gross margin. As the only highlight in electro-acoustics, headphones even those priced above USD100 won the broad market following the popularity of expensive phones such as iPhone, so did China's bluetooth headphone in the wake of booming auto sales. Merry, Cresyn and GoerTek best represent companies prosperous in the headphone business.

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