### Denso CASE (Connectivity, Automation, Sharing and Electrification) Research Report, 2020

July 2020



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#### 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

As one of the top three Tier1 suppliers in the world, Denso makes adjustments and deployments during the automotive industry disruption.

Sorting out Denso's existing product lines, up to 200-plus varieties are found, including virtually 70 for CASE (connectivity, automation, sharing and electrification).

### **Denso's CASE Products (Part)**

Driving Environment Recognition Systems	Collision Safety Systems
- Radar	- Airbag ECU
- Lidar	- Airbag Electronic Satellite Sensor
- Stereo Vision Sensor	- Accelerometer for Airbag System
- Sonar Sensor	- Pressure Sensor Satellite for Side Airbag System
- Sonar ECU	- Passenger Presence Sensor
- Surround Monitoring ECU	- Pedestrian Collision Detection Sensor
	- Passenger Presence ECU/Sensor
	- TPMS Receiver
Visibility Support Systems	Vehicle Dynamic Control Systems
- Digital Outer Mirror ECU	- DSS ECU
- Rain Sensor	- 4WD ECU
- Light Sensor	- Inertia Sensor for ESC
<ul> <li>Stepping Motor for Headlight Leveling</li> </ul>	- Accelerometer for Suspension
- Stepping Motor for Headlight Swivel	- Ele <mark>ctric</mark> Power Steering Motor
	- Mot <mark>or f</mark> or Skid C <mark>ont</mark> rol
Cockpit Information Systems	Information Security Systems
- Touch Display	- Central Gateway ECU
- Head <mark>-Up Dis</mark> play Unit (HUD)	- Sm <mark>art E</mark> CU
- Instru <mark>ment Cl</mark> uster	
- Remote Touch Controller	Products of Substation
- TCU (DCM)	- Inverter
- On-board Equipment for V2X	-DC-DC Converter
- ETC/ETC2.0 On-Board Equipment	mionna.oom
- VICS Antenna	
Other Products	Products of Power Supply
- Body ECU	- Electrical Powertrain Control Unit
- Smart Fob-key	- Lithium-Ion Battery ECU
-RKE Transmitter	- Battery Monitoring Unit
-RKE Receiver	- Lithium Battery Pack
- Smart Card Key	- Battery Current Sensor
- Touch Sensor	
- Power Seat Motor	Heat Pump Air-conditioning Systems
- Telescopic Steering Motor	<ul> <li>Electric Compressor with Gas Injection Function</li> </ul>
- Tilt Steering Motor	- Outside Heat Exchanger
- Electric Sunroof Motor	- Electronic Expansion Valve
- Power Slide Door Motor	- Heat Pump ECU
- Door Closer Motor	
- Power Window Motor	

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The number of auto parts will decrease in the trend towards CASE. In a recent opinion, automotive hardware will be standardized and contribute declining revenue and profits, and future competition lies in the ability to develop software-defined vehicles. Emerging carmakers have late-mover advantages with more software talents.

Another view is that Tier1 suppliers will be marginalized by OEMs (e.g., Tesla and VW) who try to lead research and development of operating system, DCU (or vehicle central computer) and core software and hardware systems.

It can be seen from Denso's CASE layout that the supplier not only makes deployments in all aspects of hardware but spends on software not less than IT-backed firms.

#### **Denso's Investment in Hardware**

The US government's crackdown on Chinese high-tech companies shows that just developing software and applications at the upper layer is not enough, and holding basic materials, core components and basic software is the only way to be free of others.

Denso lavishes heavily on core fundamental technologies, including magnetic materials, power semiconductors, solid-state batteries, magnetic heat pumps, human-computer interaction, AI, sensors, and quantum computing.

In 2018, Denso invested FLOSFIA and collaborated with the latter on developing a next-generation power semiconductor material ( $\alpha$ -Ga2O3) for vehicle application. Schottky Barrier Diode (SBD), Flosfia's  $\alpha$ -Ga2O3 material, can work under 600V and 10A, with rated power of 100W-1kW, outperforming SiC products in both efficiency and cost. SBD is expected to be spawned in 2020. Theoretically, SBD material is seven times more efficient than GaN in low frequency and doubles GaN in high frequency or more.

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Take on challenges to achieve fundamental innovation in materials, semiconductors, human characteristics, and AI

Denso has been devoted to researching automotive semiconductor technology since its IC Laboratory was set up in 1968, having made improvements in ECU, sensor and other products. In September 2017, Denso founded a subsidiary -- NSITEXE, a developer of next-generation high-performance semiconductors. DFP (data flow processor) independently developed by NSITEXE, differs totally from CPU and GPU. For practical use of DFP, Denso and NSITEXE then invested Blaize and quadric.io, two semiconductor start-ups. Blaize, founded by former workers at Intel in 2012, builds software and process architectures from the underlying layer for better AI computing. NSITEXE helps to develop an autonomous driving technology which makes instant judgment in extreme scenarios, by combining DFP and EPU from quadric.io.

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Leading Tier1 suppliers from Japan and Germany often adopt IDM model and have their own chip fabrication plants, compared with IC designers focusing on prevailing FABLESS model in China. Denso Hokkaido is Denso's key manufacturing site of semiconductor sensors. To meet the robust demand from electrification and autonomous driving markets, Denso plans expansion of its Hokkaido plant. The expansion project will break ground in July 2020 and be completed in June 2021. The number of employees will expectedly rise to about 1,150 in 2025.

#### **Denso's Investment in Software**

In 2025, Denso will boast 12,000 software talents worldwide; it will have more than 1,000 staffs and over 1,100 patents in autonomous driving field.

In addition to workforce enlargement for independent development, Denso also invests quite a few software firms.

Investee	Way of Investment	Main Products & Services		
NDIAS	Denso invested with NRI Secure	Cybersecurity		
Dellfer	Denso led the first funding round	Cybersecurity		
Airbiquity	Denso invested \$5 million	OTA		
eSOL	Denso acquired 2% equities	Real-time embedded software solutions		
Morpho	Denso acquired shares worth RMB64 million	Al, deep learning		
FotoNation	Denso invested and cooperated with it to develop DSM (Driver Status Monitoring) software	Driver monitoring system		
ZongMu Techn <mark>ology</mark>	Denso invested RMB100 million	Low speed automated driving, AVP		
Bond Mobility	Denso made a capital contribution	Shared mobility service		
Ridecell	Denso made a capital contribution	Autonomous MaaS		
ActiveScaler	Denso made an investment	Managed MaaS fleet management		
Maas Global	Denso made a capital contribution	Multi-modal subscription transport service for cities worldwide		
InfiniteKey	Denso acquired it.	"Phone-as-a-Key" technology		
Peloton	Denso made a capital contribution	Truck platooning		

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#### Denso's Big Competitive Edges in an Age of CASE

From Denso's alliance, acquisitions and investment map as below as well as the Abstract of this report, it can be seen that Denso is sinking to research and development of core technologies and parts.



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Tier1 suppliers once gave an impression that they were suppliers of integrated systems for OEMs. As OEMs more set foot in system integration, Denso has turned to research and development of more basic core technologies. Weighed by new entrants from all walks of life, Denso still stays competitive on the strength of its across-the-board product matrices, economies of scale, and software and hardware synergy.

For example, Denso's cockpit systems integrated with HMI and air-conditioning technologies will offer better user experience. This is an impossibility for the majority of companies who fail as well in high integration at the underlying layer.

Coordination between air-conditioning technology and HMI technology (thermal collaboration) — Challenges to create new value —



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