

THE DRIVE FOR SILICON CARBIDE:

### A Look Back and the Road Ahead

Gregg Lowe CEO, Wolfspeed



### **Cree to Wolfspeed**

Built the world's first,
largest, and only 200mm
Silicon Carbide fabrication
facility in Marcy, New York

Applications include transportation, power supplies, power inverters, and wireless systems

Focused on silicon carbide and gallium nitride materials and devices for power and radio frequency

Develop + manufacture wide-bandgap semiconductors

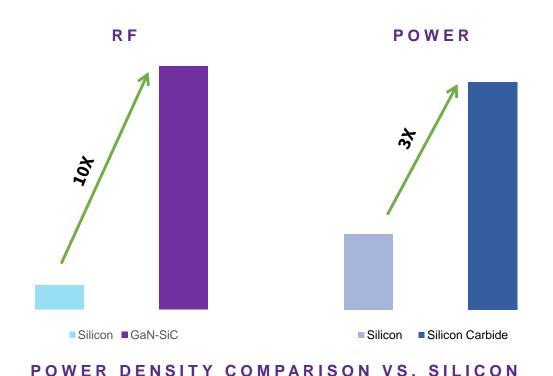
Revenue: \$922 million (2023)

## "What are you doing here?"

John Palmour Co-founder of Cree Research



## The next generation in power semiconductors will be driven by silicon carbide technology



#### **SiC Inverters are:**

- Lighter
- Smaller
- More efficient, 5% 10%
   increase in vehicle range

### GaN-Silicon Carbide in 5G enables:

- Increased capacity and coverage
- 2X more users per tower
- More than 10X increase in data

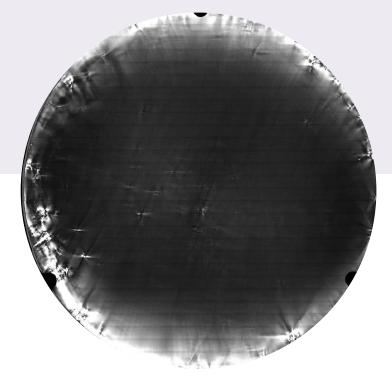
"We were full of big plans and high hopes, but we were too young and too stupid to know how hard it was going to be, how long it would take, or if it was even possible."

John Palmour

On the founding of Cree Research

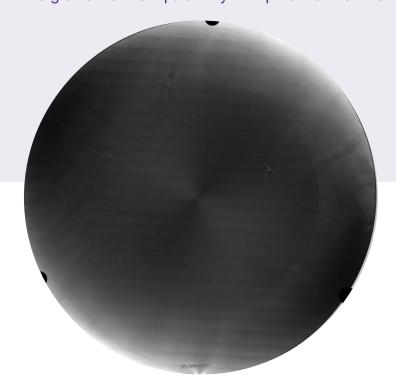
### Manufacturing SiC: Not for the faint of heart

CROSS POLARIZATION (XPOL)
Image shows structural imperfections



200mm wafer

CROSS POLARIZATION (XPOL)
Image shows quality improvements



200mm wafer

## "There is no reason anyone would want a computer in their home."

Ken Olsen

Founder, Digital Equipment Corporation, 1977

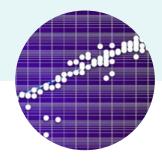
## Major semiconductor market changes don't happen often















TODAY

1947 Bipolar Transistor

invented

CMOS Transistor

1963

1963 - PRESENT

Moore's Law

First silicon carbide MOSFET:

New benchmark for energyefficient power switches

Initial uses: solar inverters, high-voltage power supplies and power conditioning in industrial power applications

Key building block for more efficient power conversion systems, decreasing size, weight and bill of materials

# SiC Inverter: Higher upfront price but lower system cost



\$300-\$600 savings in battery costs

Up to \$1,000 savings in cooling system costs

\$3.50 to \$7 return on every dollar for SiC over silicon

- Goldman Sachs, 2019

## Accelerating EV adoption is driving \$1.2 Trillion+ investment – the secret is out

GLOBAL OEMS AND CORPORATES HAVE MADE SIGNIFICANT COMMITMENTS TO EVS



























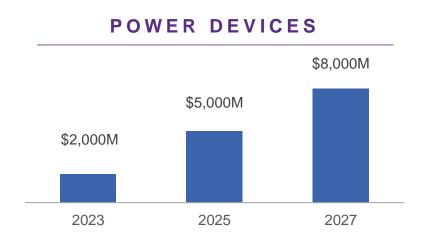






### Attractive markets with ample runway to support rapid growth

SERVICEABLE MARKET OPPORTUNITY (M)



- Auto devices account for 50% of the opportunity, with a 30% CAGR
- As device cost decreases, Industrial markets expand, creating a \$40B+ opportunity



- Demand is expected to outstrip capacity
- Overall supply will continue to increase, but nominal impact on overall market share as 150mm to 200mm transition continues to reduce overall wafer cost

## The car as the solution to the power grid?

Bidirectional EV chargers supply power from an EV car battery to the grid during peak hours

The EV can charge during off-peak times

Grid demand more consistent + lower charging costs



### SiC: A powerful sustainability story

GLOBAL OEMS AND CORPORATES HAVE MADE SIGNIFICANT COMMITMENTS TO EVS

400V SI IGBT to 400V SiC MOSFET

7:1

400V SI IGBT to 800V SIC MOSFET

13:1

800V SiC MOSFET Taxi/Uber Scenario\*

24:1

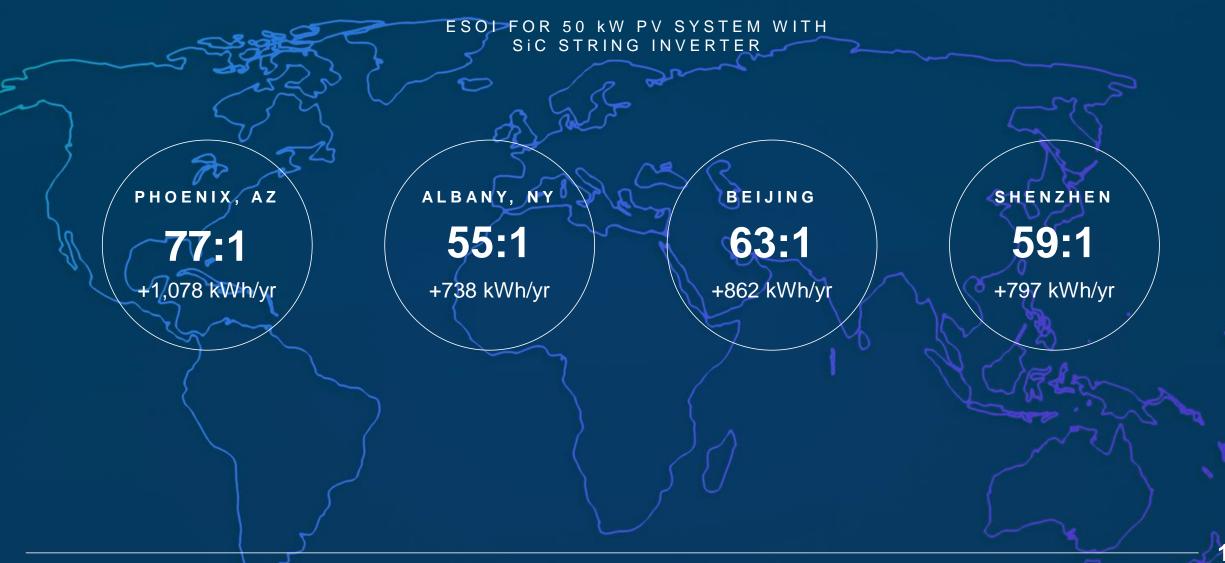
#### Increasing bus voltage from 400V to 800V:

Reduces total chip area (assumption is by 20%)

Reduces marginal energy investment by ~1 gj

Increases Energy Saved on Energy Invested (ESOI) by 85%

### Dramatic ESOI for SiC MOSFETs in PV Systems





### Creating the next generation of jobs





















Wolfspeed is a proud member of Power America

WOLFSPEED, A&T TO ESTABLISH JOINT R&D FACILITY TO FURTHER ADVANCE SILICON CARBIDE INNOVATION

- North Carolina agricultural & technical state university

### The pace of change: Fifth Avenue, New York City





EASTER 1900: FIND THE CAR

EASTER 1913: FIND THE HORSE AND CARRIAGE

