



“ELECTRONIC PACKAGING MATERIALS FOR SIC POWER MODULES”

Dr Michael Jörger, Head of Business Line Power Electronic Materials,
Heraeus Electronics GmbH

WORLD BECOMES ELECTRIC

POWER ELECTRONICS HAS SIGNIFICANT POTENTIAL FOR CO₂ REDUCTION AND IS INEVITABLE TECHNOLOGY TOWARDS ZERO EMISSION WORLD

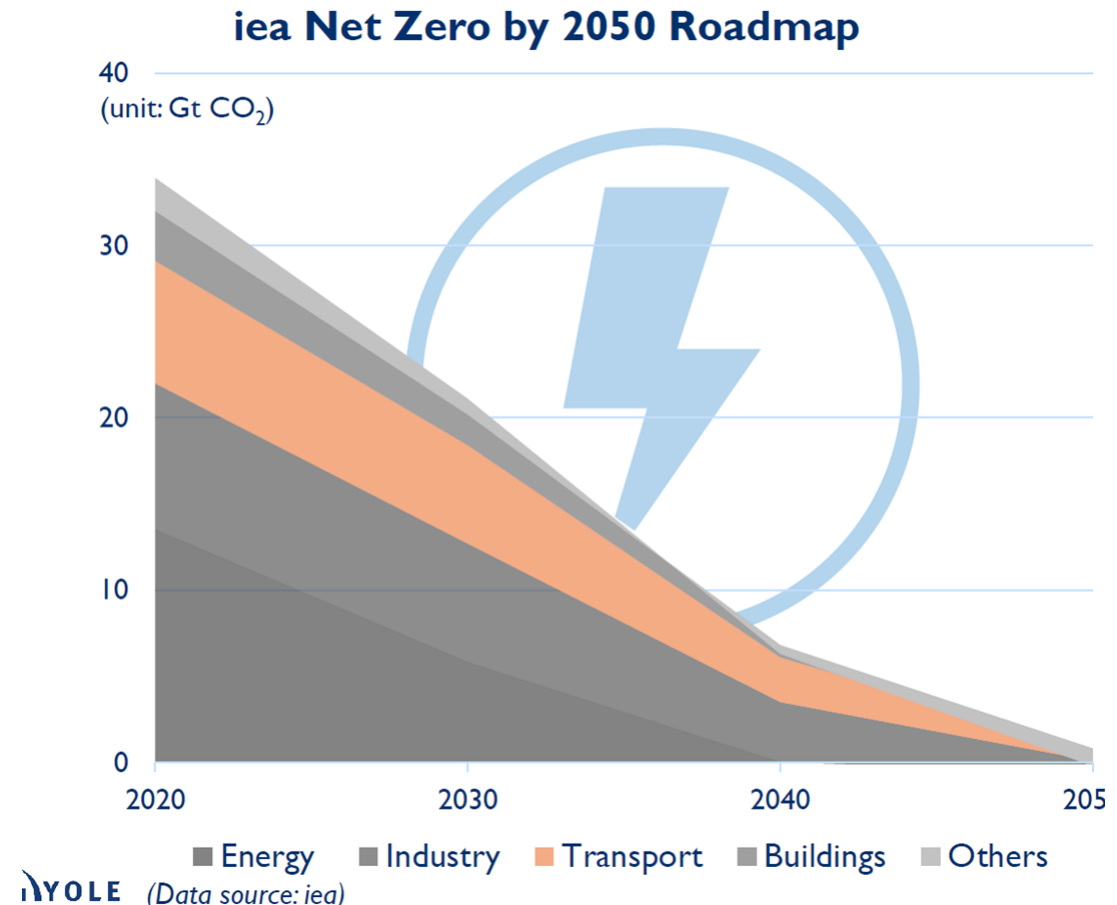
Megatrends

Climate change & sustainability

Shortage of energy & resources

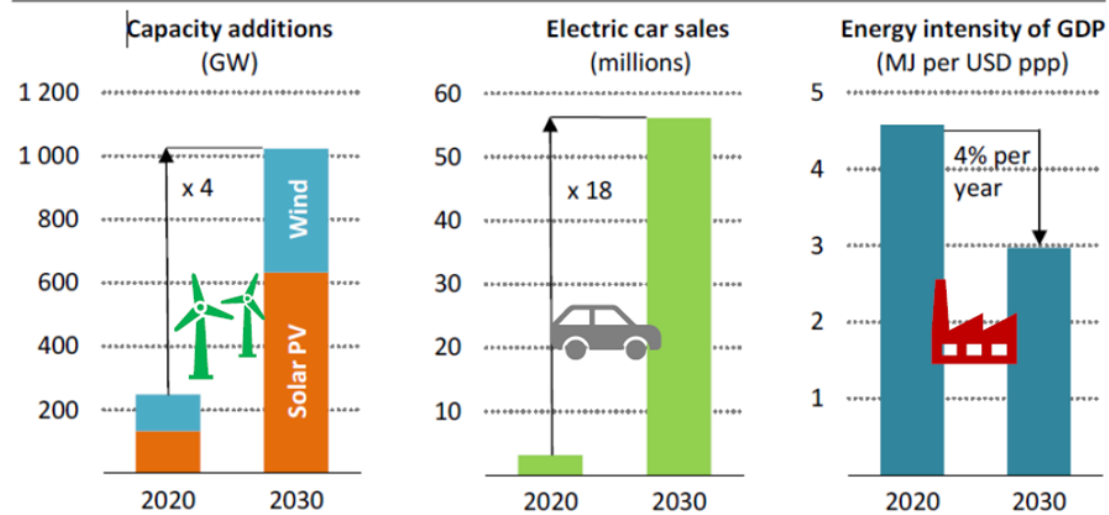
Seamless mobility

Urbanization & megacities



Power Electronics play a key role in today's increasingly electrified world...

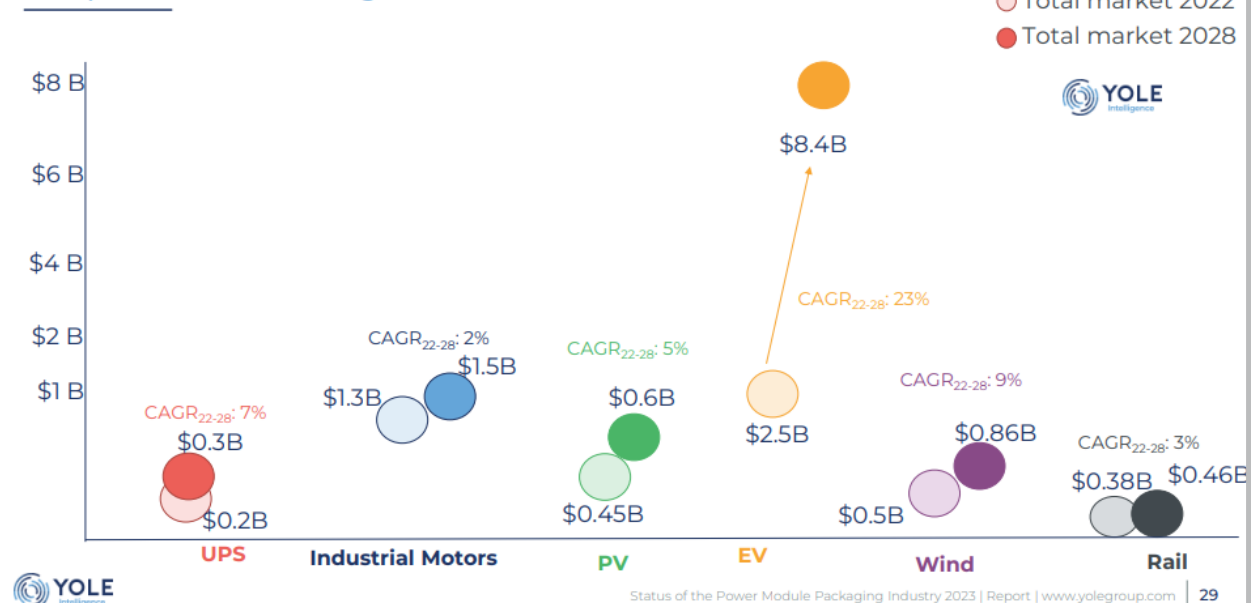
Key clean technologies ramp up by 2030 in the net zero pathway



Note: MJ = megajoules; GDP = gross domestic product in purchasing power parity.

POWER MODULE MARKET DEVELOPMENT, BY APPLICATION

Comparison of market segment size and evolution

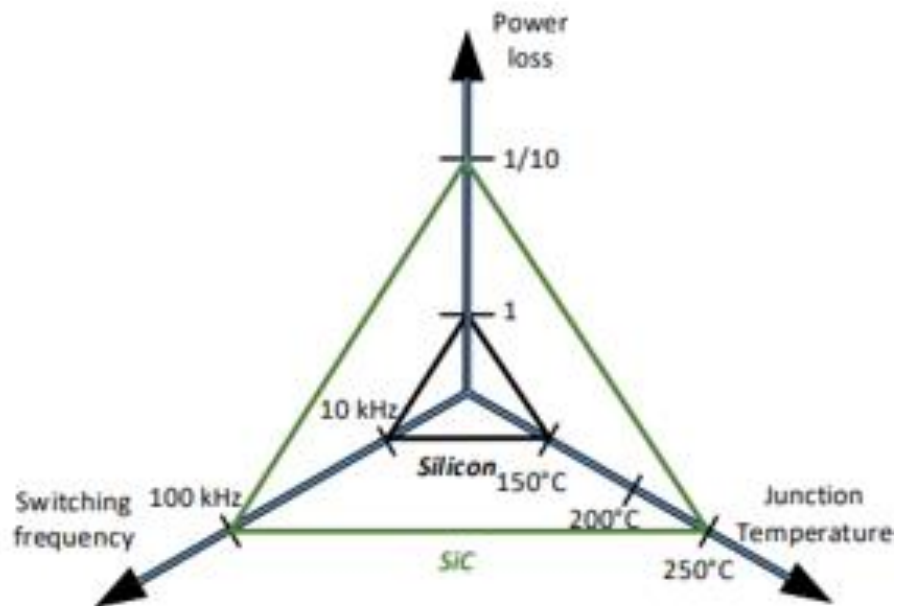


....from generation to distribution and consumption in industrial, automotive, renewable energies, appliances ...

Source: Yole Report Status of the Power Electronic Industry 2023

**POWER MODULES SHIFT
FROM SI TO SIC**

SUPERIOR PROPERTIES OF SIC DRIVES PERFORMANCE GAINS



Source: Dr T Blank, KIT, Electronic Packaging Conf 2018,

Electric Vehicles

28% CAGR (19-29)

200kW Silicon

220kW SiC

40% reduction in weight

Source: ROHM Semiconductor, 2018

EV Chargers

5% CAGR (19-29)

Service Transformer

EV Charger

50-kW Same charging speed

10X smaller with same charging rate

Source: Electronic Design, 2018

Power Supplies

17% CAGR (19-29)

SiC system

Si-based footprint

30% reduction in size

Source: Cree, Mitsubishi 2019

Solar Inverters

11% CAGR (19-29)

20kW IGBT Solution

20kW SiC Solution

50% reduction in power losses

Source: ON Semi, 2020

Stronger

Greener

Faster

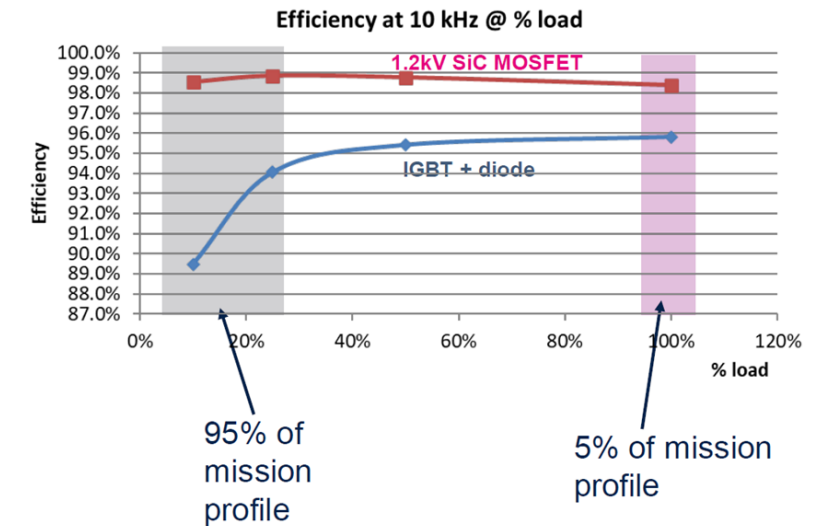
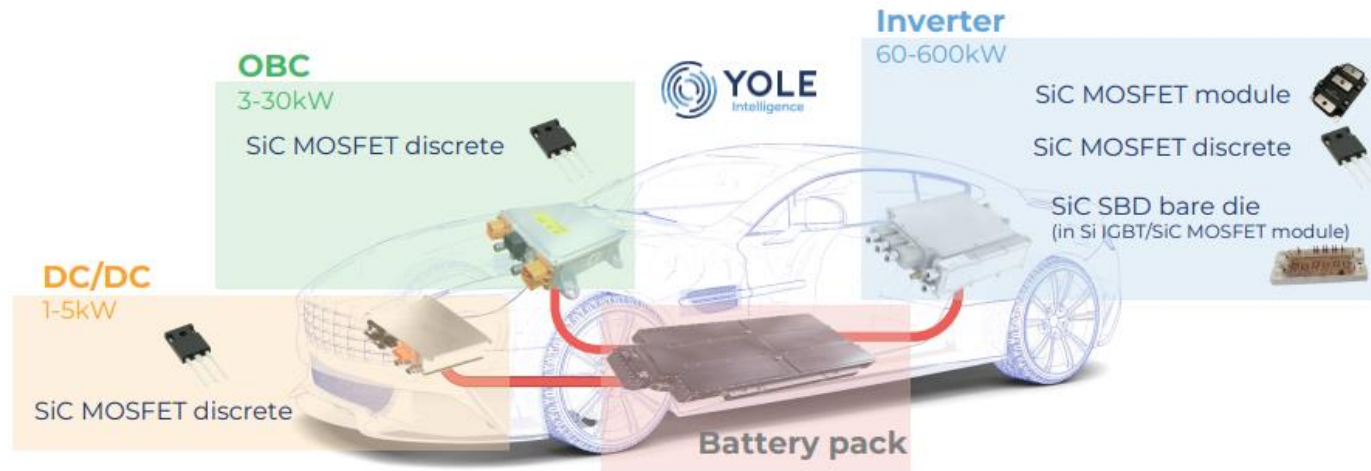
Smaller

Lighter

Cheaper

Cooler

E-MOBILITY: IT IS ALL ABOUT EFFICIENCY



- Extend driving range
- Increase charging speed
- Reduce weight and cost of cooling systems
- Reduce system costs
- Growth Area for SiC Power Modules – xEV – CAAGR₂₀₂₂₋₂₈: 32%

Source: Yole, Power Electronics for eMobility 2023
ST, Power Electronics Conference Brussels Apr. 2023

CONSEQUENCES FOR ELECTRONIC PACKAGING

SEMICONDUCTOR DEVELOPMENTS DRIVE NEED FOR NEW PACKAGING SOLUTIONS

WBG SiC & GaN
Smaller & Thinner Dies

Increased Power Density

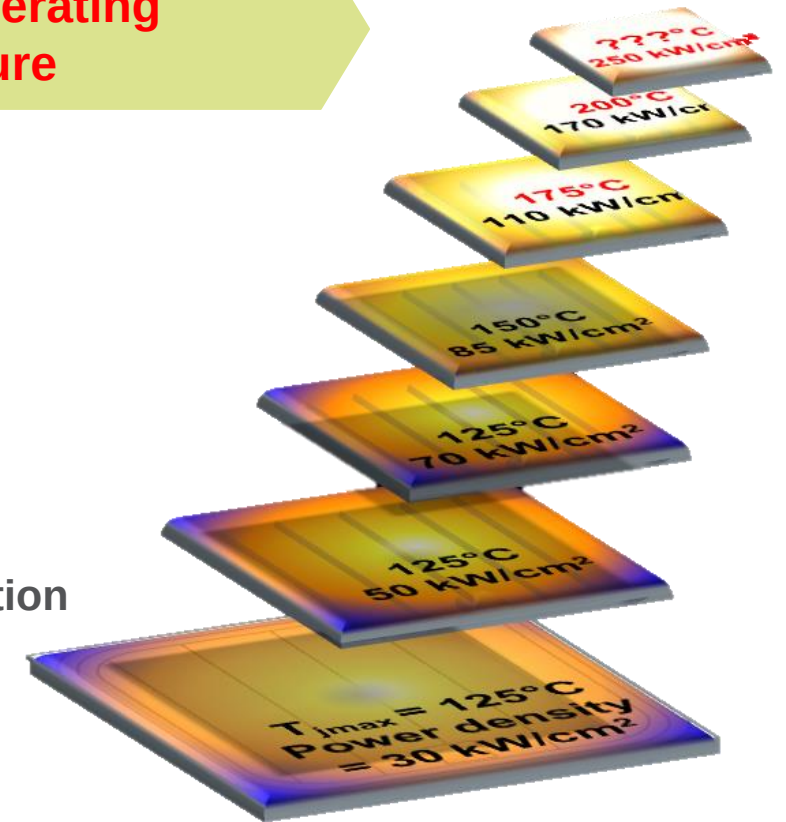
Higher Operating
Temperature

Benefit through smaller dies

- Reduction of chip size / cost
- Lower losses / higher efficiency
- Increase of power & current density per chip

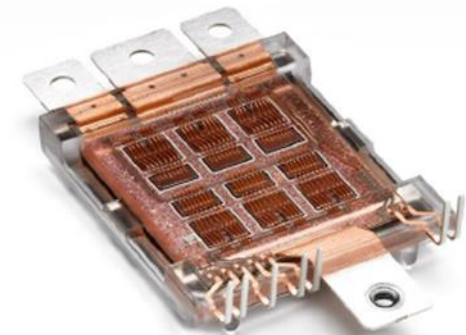
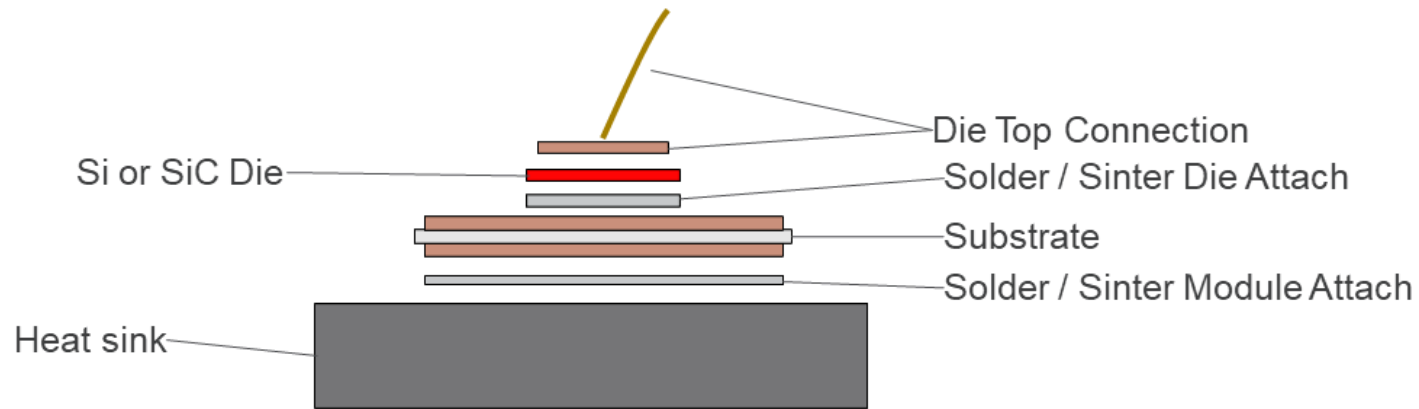
Improved Performance of packaging solutions required

- Increased power loss per chip area requires materials with **improved heat dissipation**
- More power needs **better current carrying capability** of packaging materials
- Increased operating temperatures and **reliability** challenges
- Higher switching frequencies require solutions for **reduced parasitic inductance**



Source: Challenges of New Packaging Solutions for Power Modules, Prof. R. Eisele FH Kiel, Anton Miric HDE, PCIM Conference May 2021

SIMPLIFIED POWER MODULE PACKAGE



Power module platform compatible both with IGBT and SiC technologies
(Source: Danfoss)

SUBSTRATE TECHNOLOGIES

DCB VS AMB SUBSTRATES

WHY DO WE NEED NOVEL SOLUTION FOR SUBSTRATE?

***Trend of SiC
power package******Requirements
for MCS material******Al₂O₃ DCB******Si₃N₄ AMB***High
operation TLow CTE
mismatch with
SiC (~ 4 ppm)

~ 7 ppm



~ 2.5 ppm

High power
densityHigh thermal
conductivity

~ 25 W/m K



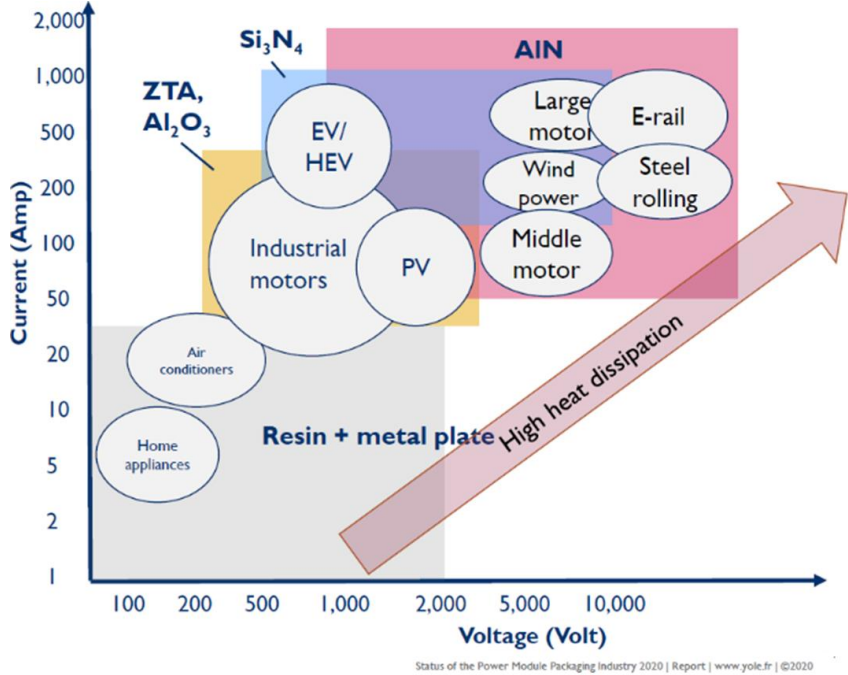
~ 80 W/m K

High reliability

High resistance to
fracture~ 3 MPa·m^{1/2}~ 7 MPa·m^{1/2}

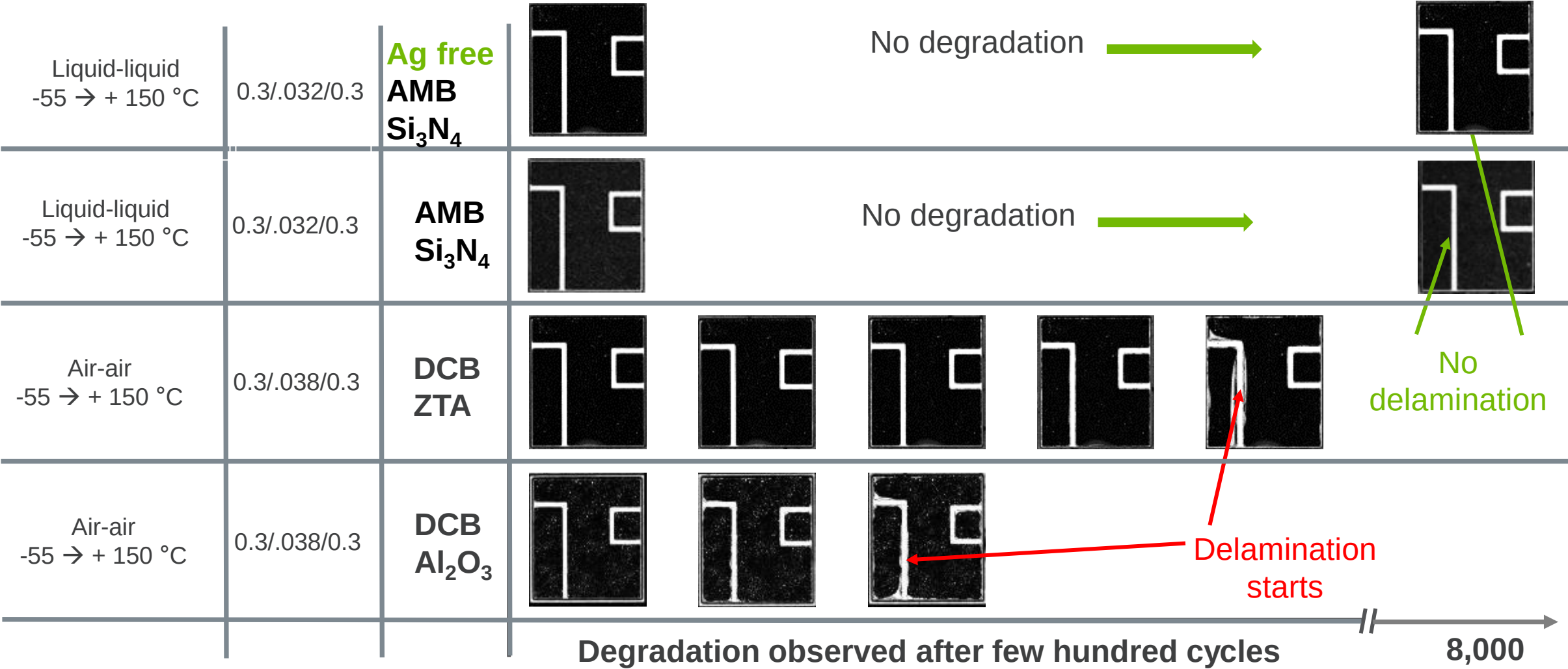
Si₃N₄ SUBSTRATE IS THE MOST SUITABLE SOLUTION FOR SIC PACKAGE

Ceramic Material	Thermal conductivity @ 20°C [W/(m·K)]	Fracture Toughness [MPa·m ^{1/2}]	Bending strength [MPa]	Coefficient of thermal expansion [ppm/K]	Substrate reliability	Substrate cost
Al ₂ O ₃	≥ 20	4	> 450	6.7-8.7 (@100-600°C)	0	+++
ZTA	≥ 22	≥ 4.5	> 600	<7 (@40-400°C)	+	++
AlN	≥ 170	> 3	400	4.7 (@20-300°C)	0	-
Si ₃ N ₄	≥ 80	6-7	> 650	2.6 (@20-500°C)	+++	-



Source:
 Challenges of New Packaging Solutions for Power Modules, Prof. R. Eisele FH Kiel, Anton Miric HDE, PCIM Conference May 2021
 Silver-free thick film copper bonding for highly reliable metal ceramic substrates, Dr. Andre Schwöbel HDE, CIPS Conference 2022

C-SAM IMAGES SHOW SUPERIOR THERMAL CYCLING PERFORMANCE OF Si₃N₄ AMB



DIE ATTACH & MODULE ATTACH SINTER VS SOLDER

WHY DO WE NEED NOVEL SOLUTION FOR DIE AND MODULE ATTACH

***Trend of SiC
power package******Requirements
for DA material******Solder******Ag Sinter***High
operation THigh melting
point

~ 220 °C



~ 960 °C

High power
densityHigh thermal
conductivity

~ 50 W/m K

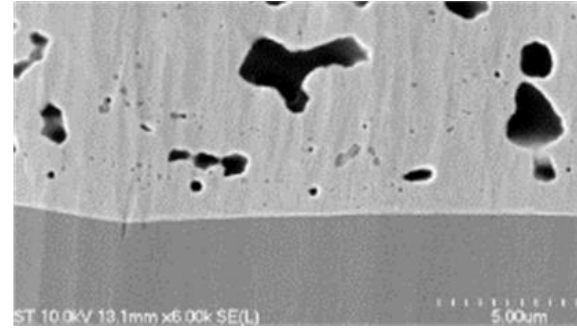
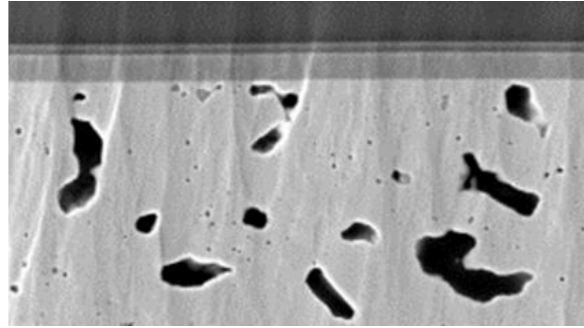
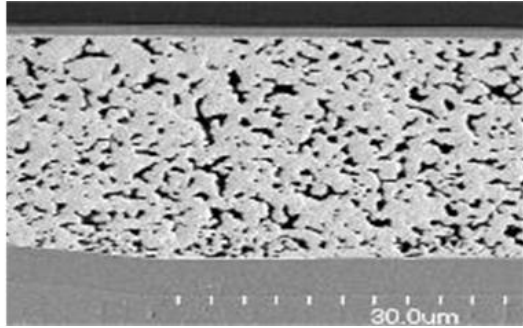


~ 250 W/m K

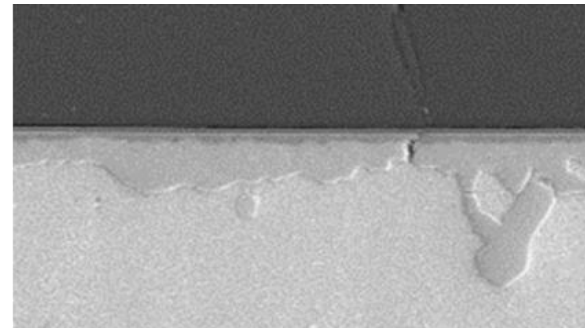
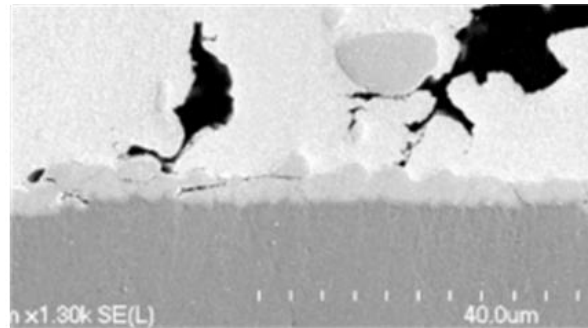
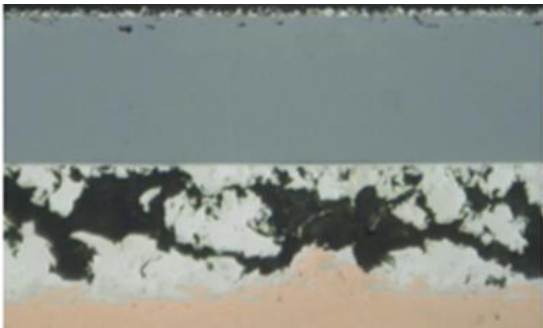
High reliability

High creep
resistance $T_w/T_m > 0.7$  $\sim T_w/T_m < 0.3$

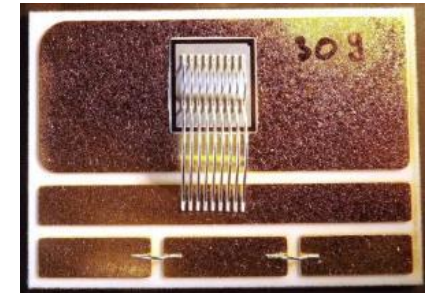
AG-SINTER JOINT SHOWS NO DEGRADATION AFTER 130K THERMAL CYCLES



Sintered Module with AlCu-Wire after 130.000 Power Cycles



Soldered Module with AlCu-Wire after 56.000 Power Cycles

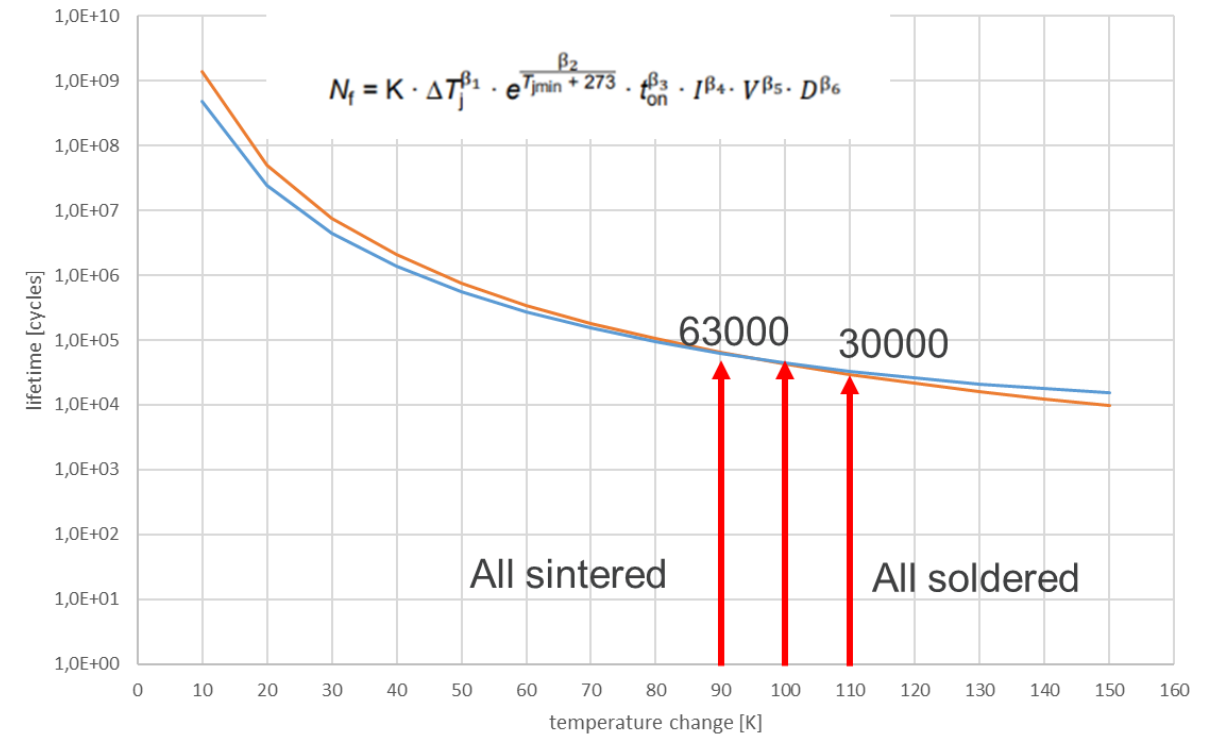
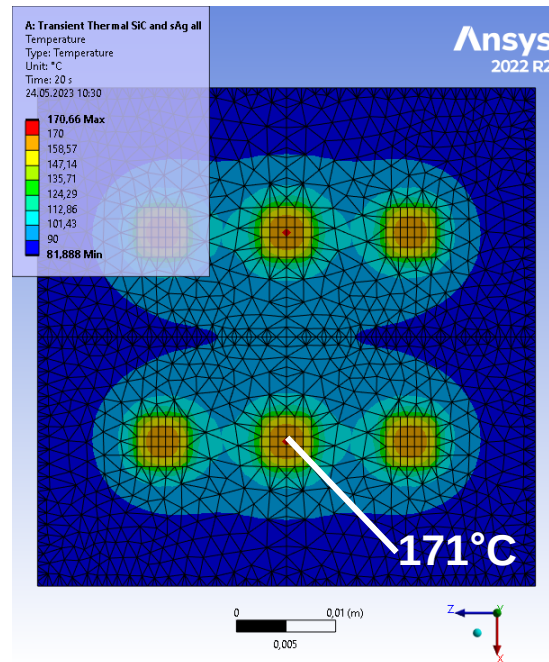
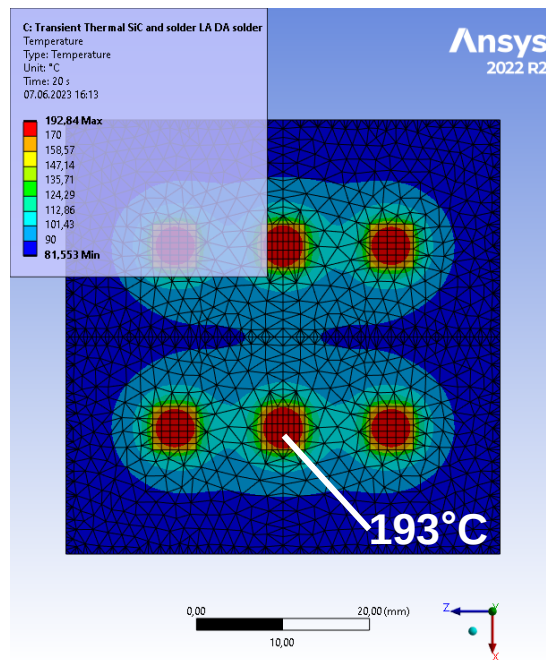


Test parameters:
 $T_{on} = T_{off} = 15 \text{ sec}$
 $T_C = 40^\circ\text{C}$
 $dT_{max} = 110 \text{ K}$
 $T_{max} = 150^\circ\text{C}$

Source: T.Krebs et al, 63rd ECTC, 2013

ALL SINTERED MODULE HAS A SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASED LIFETIME

Die attach and baseplate
soldered sintered

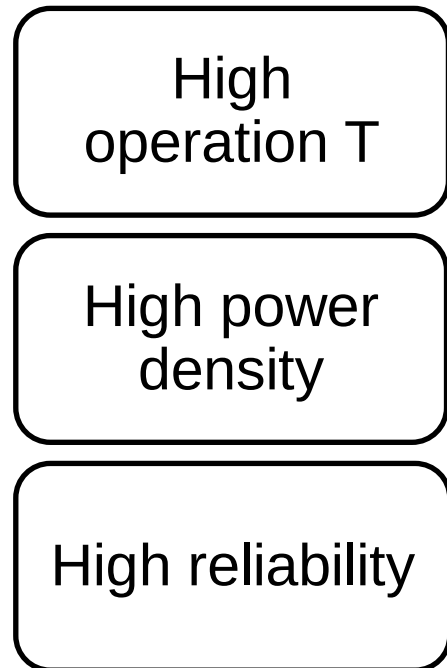
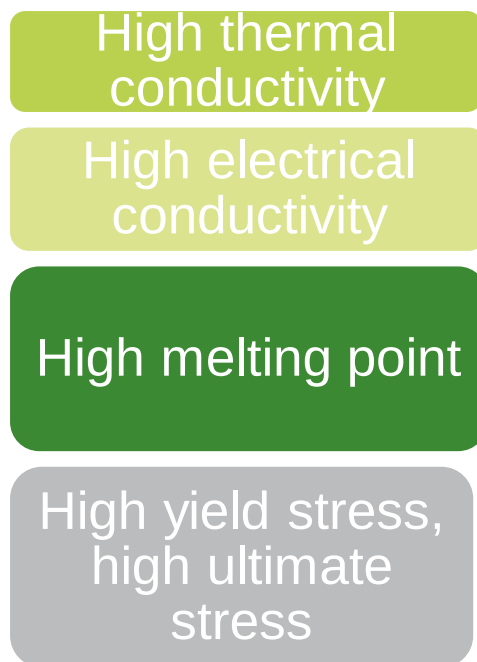
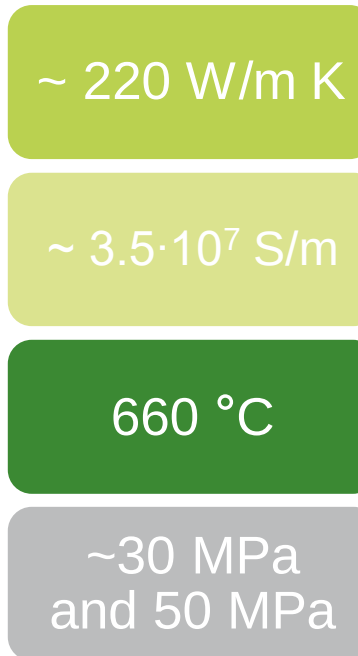
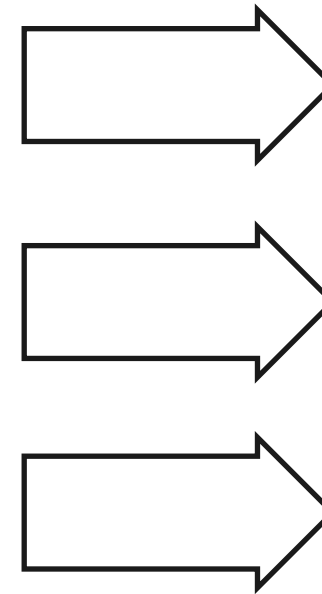
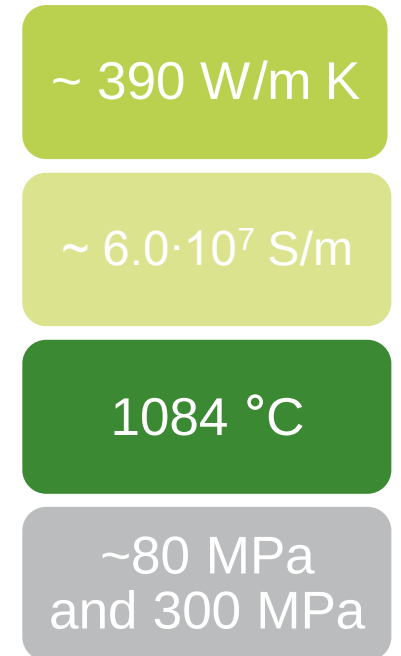


22 K difference completely soldered vs sintered device
-> All sintered module can significantly increase the lifetime of the system

Source: B. Fabian, Heraeus Sinter Seminar

DIE TOP CONNECTIONS AL VS CU DIE TOP CONNECTIONS

WHY DO WE NEED NOVEL SOLUTION FOR DIE TOP CONNECTION?

Trend of SiC power package***Requirements for die top interconnection material******Al Wire******Cu Wire***

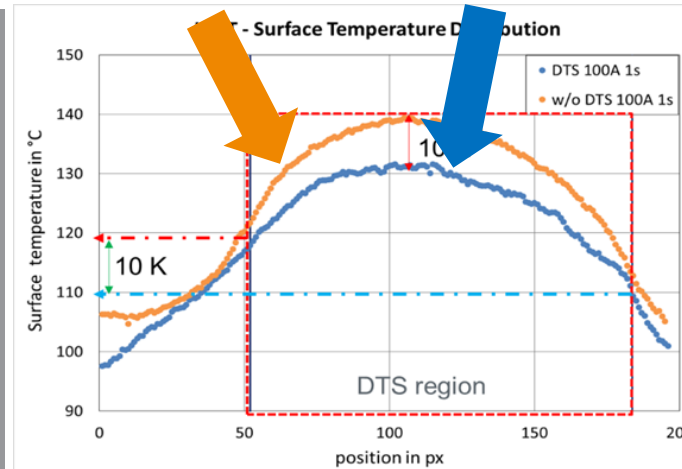
POWER CYCLING SOLDER & AL WIRE VS. SINTER & CU WIRE

SOLDER / AL WIREBONDING

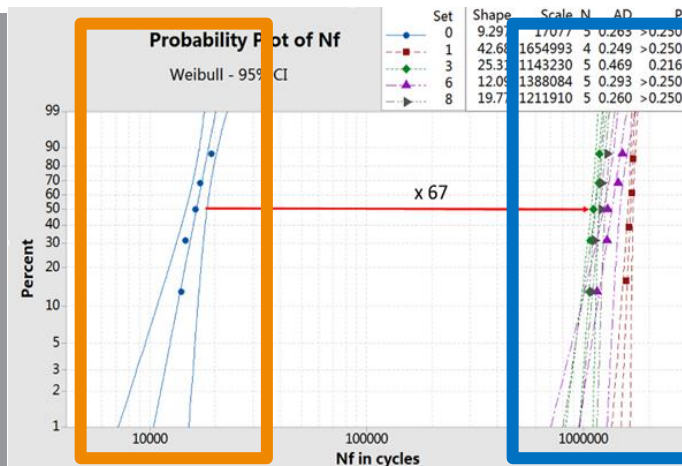
- › **Bond wires:**
400µm Al wire
- › **Die attach:**
SnAg solder



TEMPERATURE



RELIABILITY



Powercycling: I(const.)=136A/ton=1s, toff=2s, DT=130K, Tmax=175°C, failure 5% increase VCE

SINTER / CU WIREBONDING

- › **Bond wires:**
400µm Cu wire
- › **Die attach:**
Ag sinter



- ➔ **More homogenous heat distribution**
- ➔ **Reduced thermal stress on die topside**

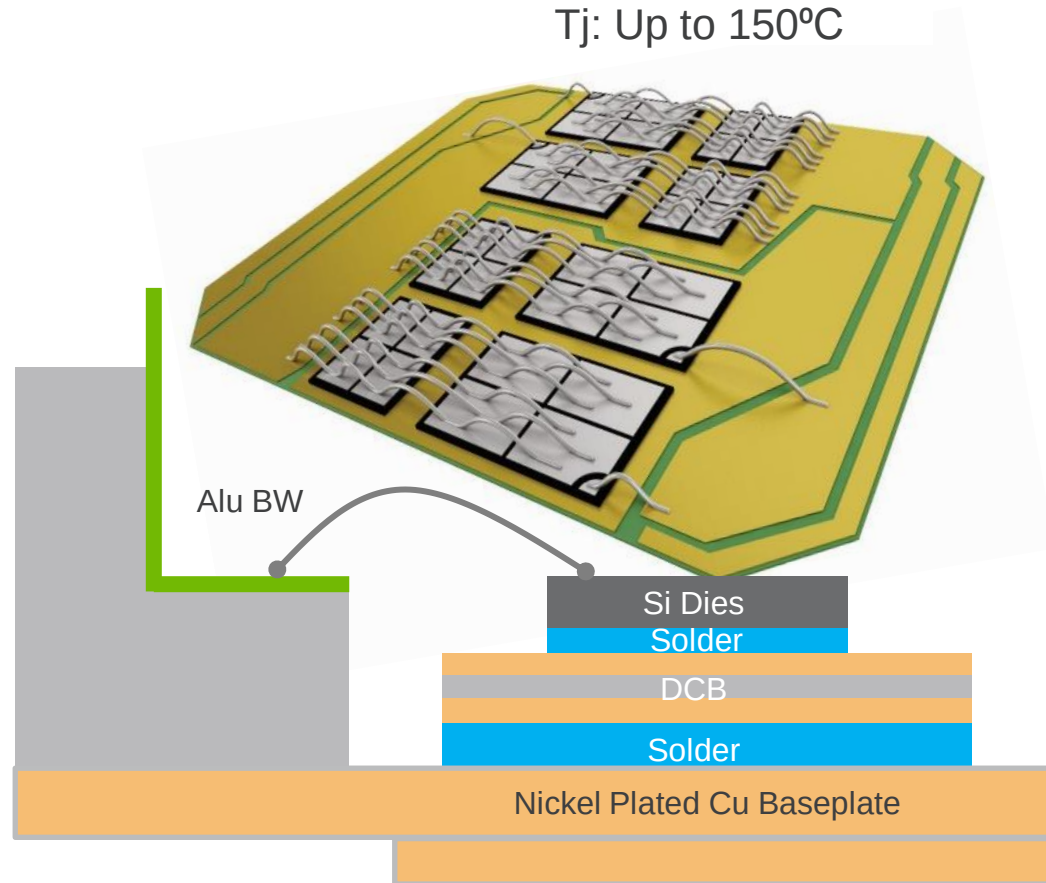
- ➔ **Number of cycles increased by a factor > 60**
- ➔ **Highest lifetime and performance**

CONCLUSION

IN SUMMARY – TO BENEFIT FROM THE CHANGE OF SI TO SiC BASED POWER MODULES A CHANGE IN ELECTRONIC PACKAGING MATERIALS IS REQUIRED

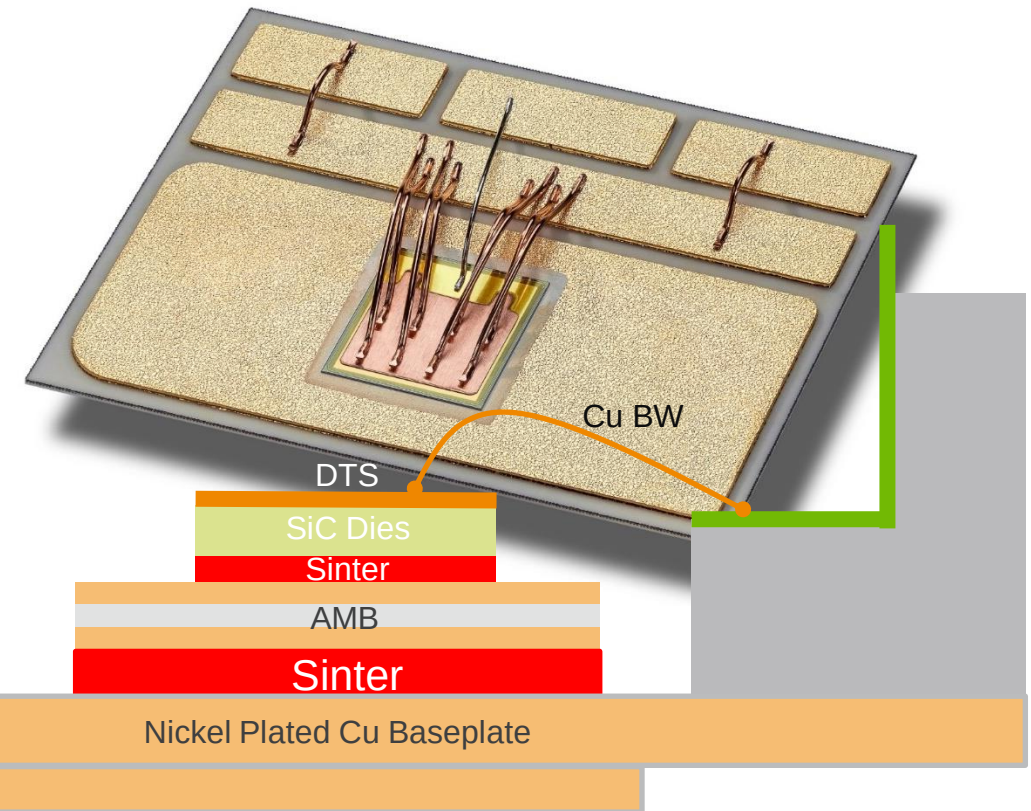
IGBT

Tj: Up to 150°C



SiC

Tj: more than 175°C





THANK YOU
FOR YOUR INTEREST IN HERAEUS ELECTRONICS.
Let us unlock **your** potential.