



SAND2020-2541PE

# NANO-ENABLED MICROINDUCTORS FOR POWER ELECTRONICS

ERIC LANGLOIS, PH.D. | SANDIA NATIONAL LABORATORIES

INNOVATE NEW MEXICO®  
TECHNOLOGY SHOWCASE

March 3, 2020 | Albuquerque, New Mexico



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**



**Sandia  
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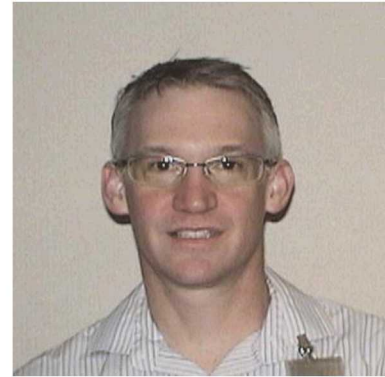
# SANDIA TEAM



**Eric Langlois, Ph.D**  
*MEMS Technologies*



**Dale Huber, Ph.D.**  
*Nano systems Synthesis  
& Analysis*

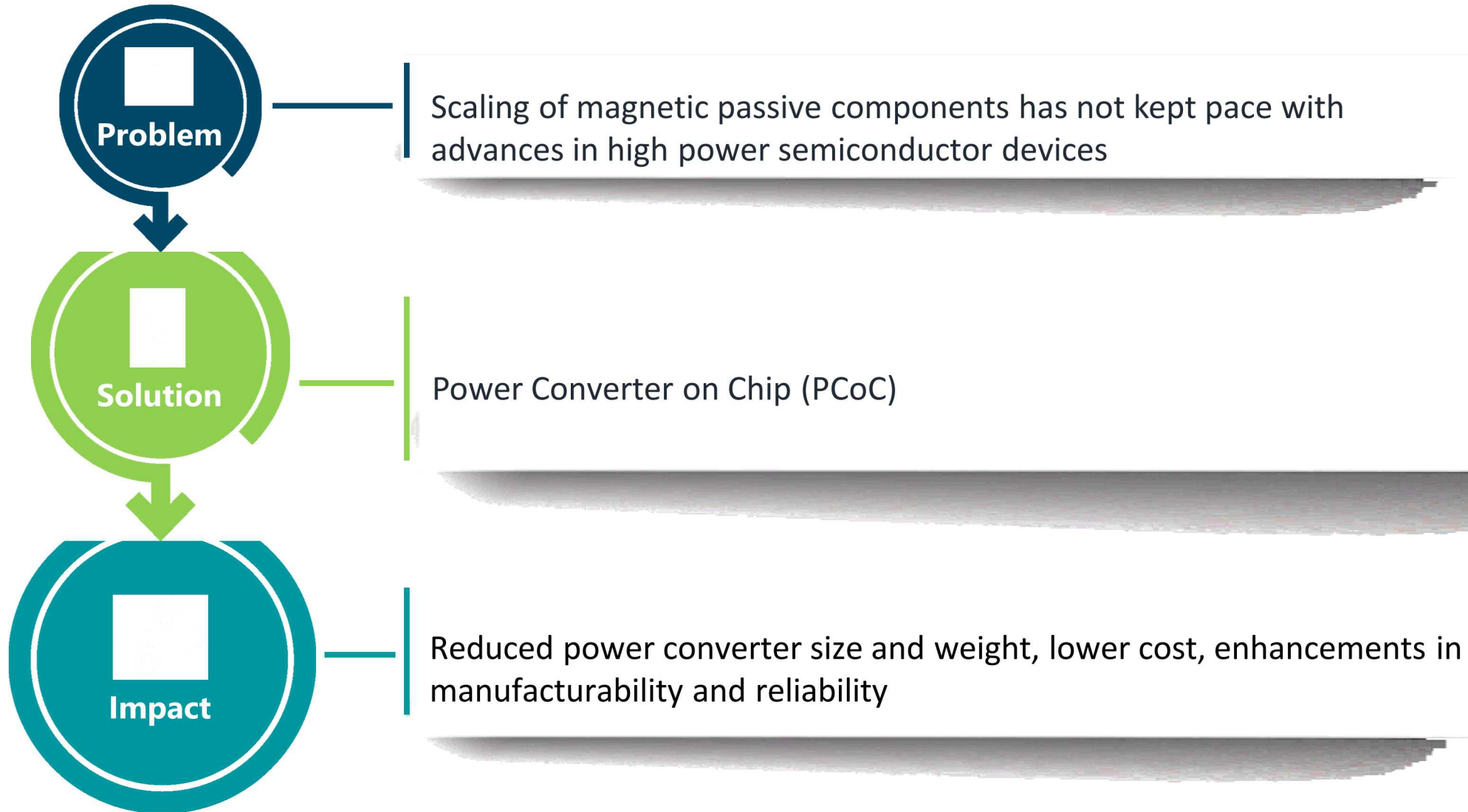


**Todd Monson, Ph.D.**  
*Nanoscale Sciences*

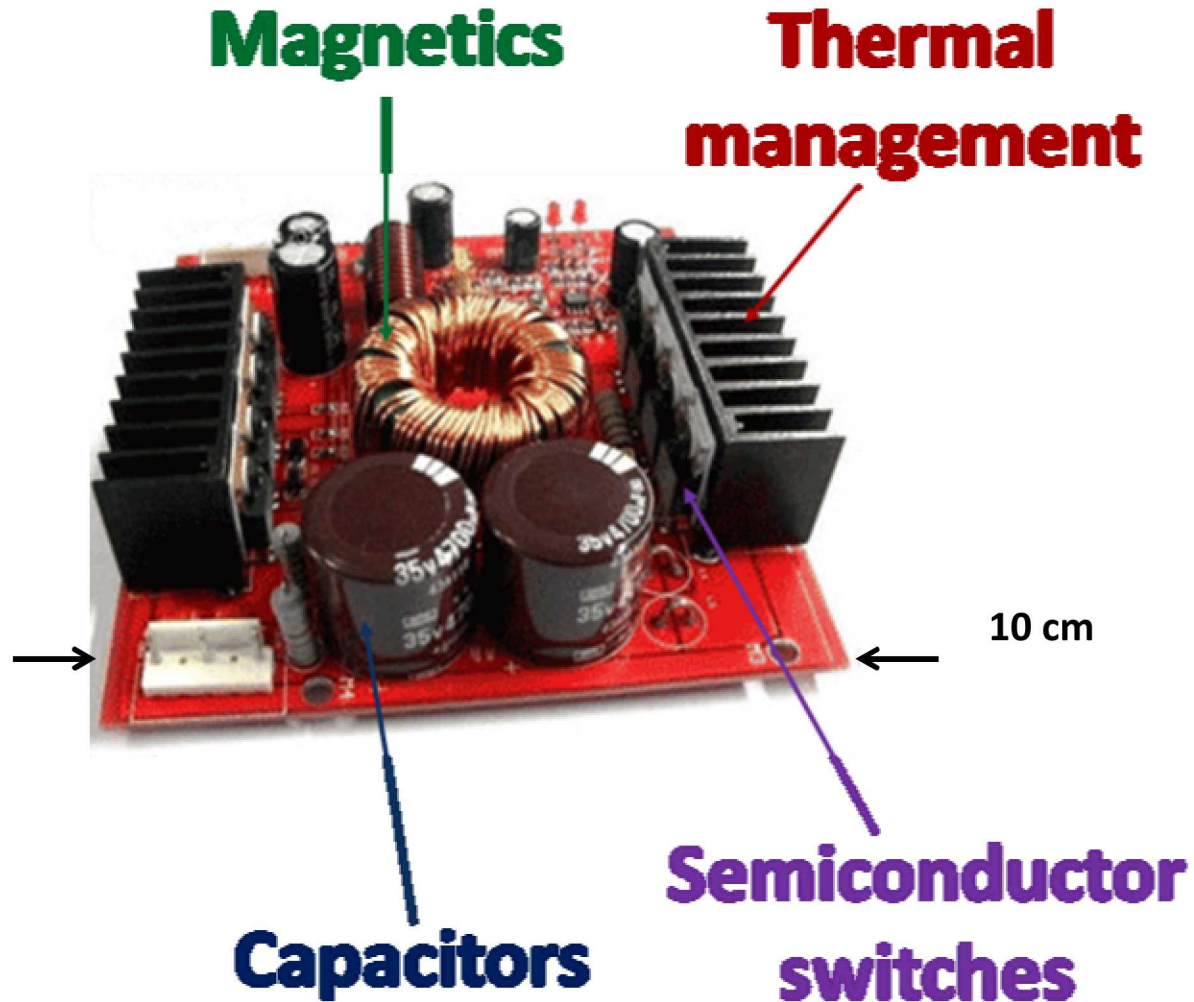


**Jamin Pillars, Ph.D.**  
*Electrochemistry*

# BACKGROUND



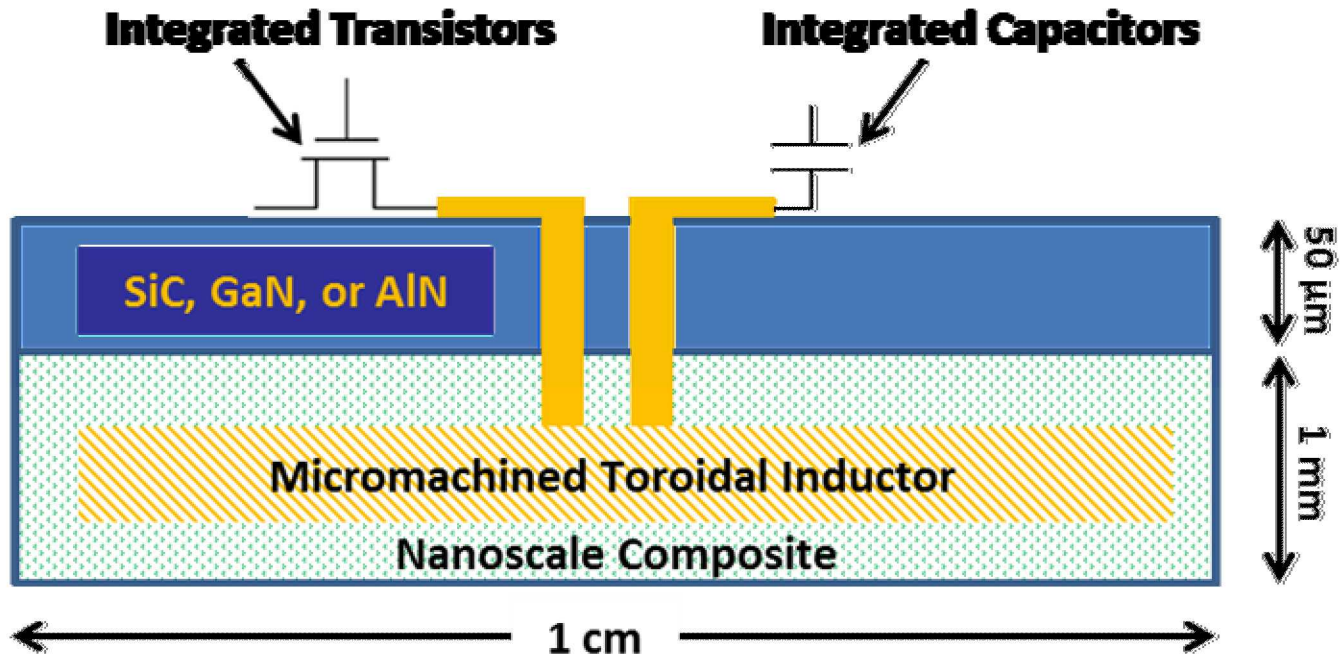
# Background



## Status Quo

*Discrete components on  
Printed Circuit Board  
(PCB)*

# Background

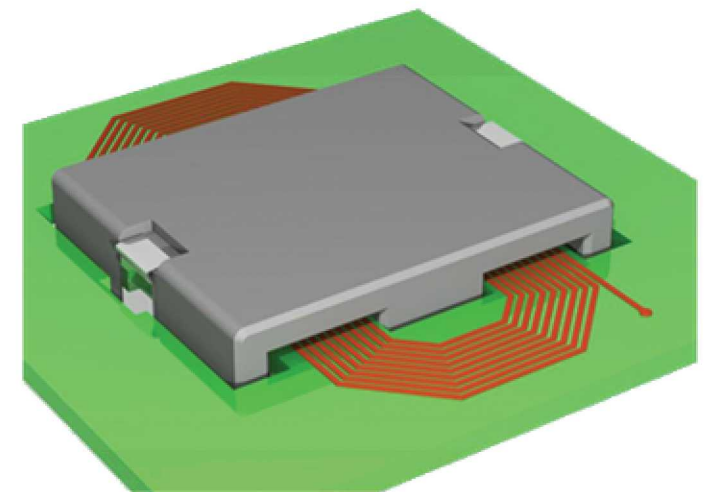
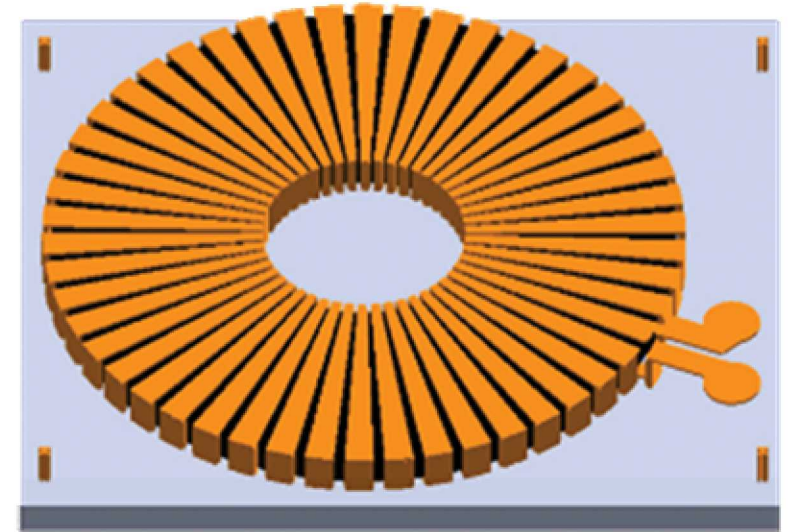


## Future State

*Power Supply on Chip  
(PSoC)*

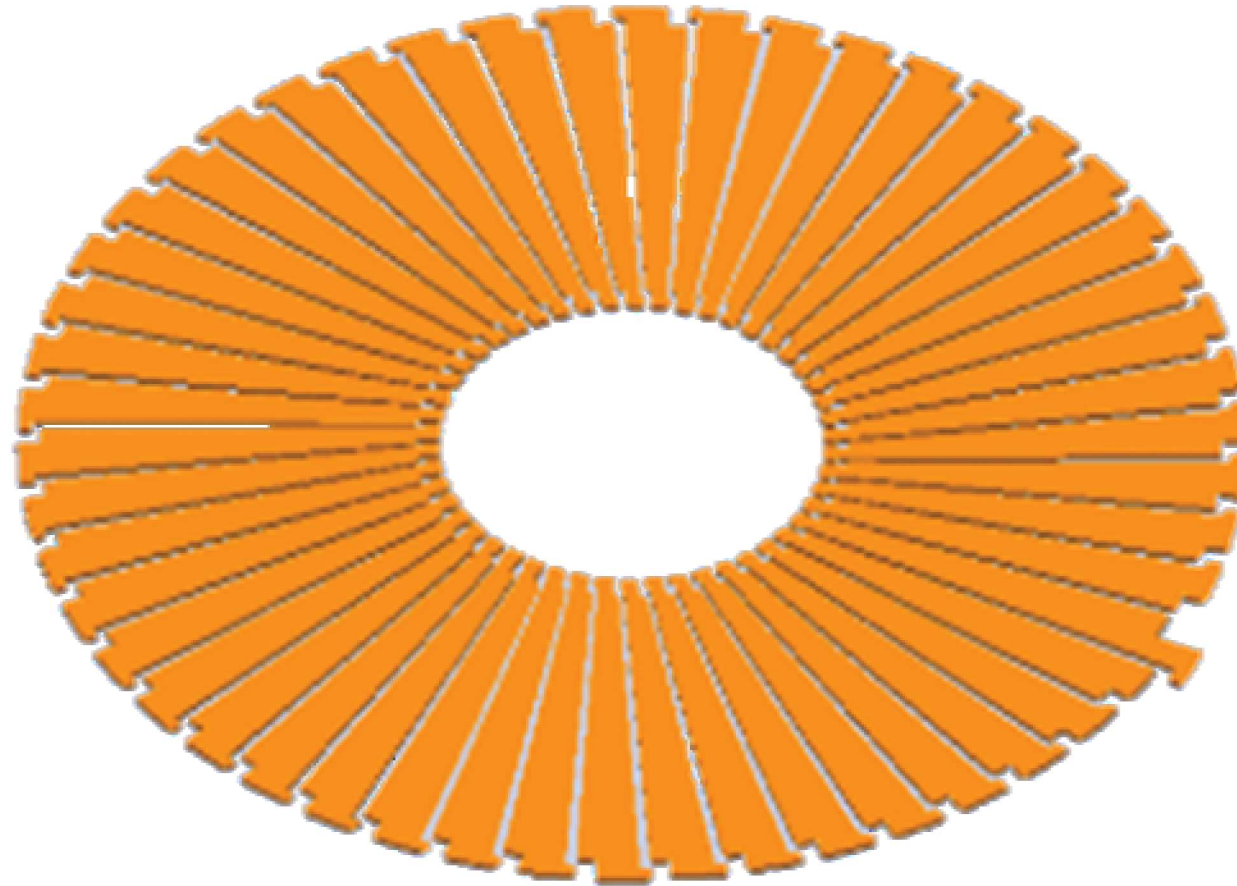
# INNOVATION

- **Superparamagnetic iron/iron-oxide nanoparticle composite core material.**
  - Zero hysteresis and eddy current loss → enables higher frequency (1MHz) switching.
  - CMOS & III-V backend compatible (low temperature (< 60°C) processing, 3D liquid-to-solid molding).
- **MEMS processing and other novel fabrication techniques.**
  - (MEMS Micromachining) optical photolithography, electroforming, e-beam metal evaporation.
  - (Novel Techniques) 3D printing (molds, wires), femtosecond laser drilling (nanocomposite), potting epoxy.



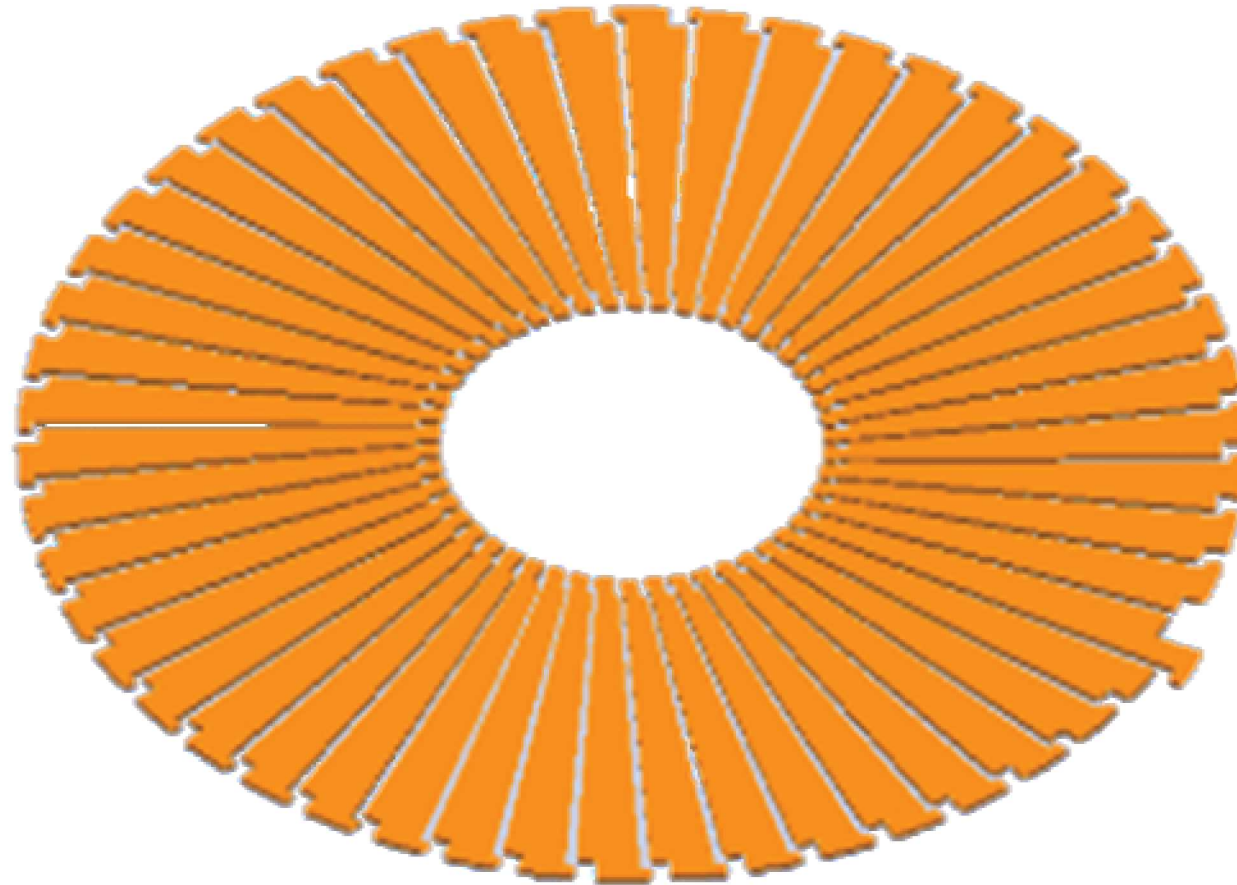
Planar Microinductor

# INNOVATION – 3D CAD Design



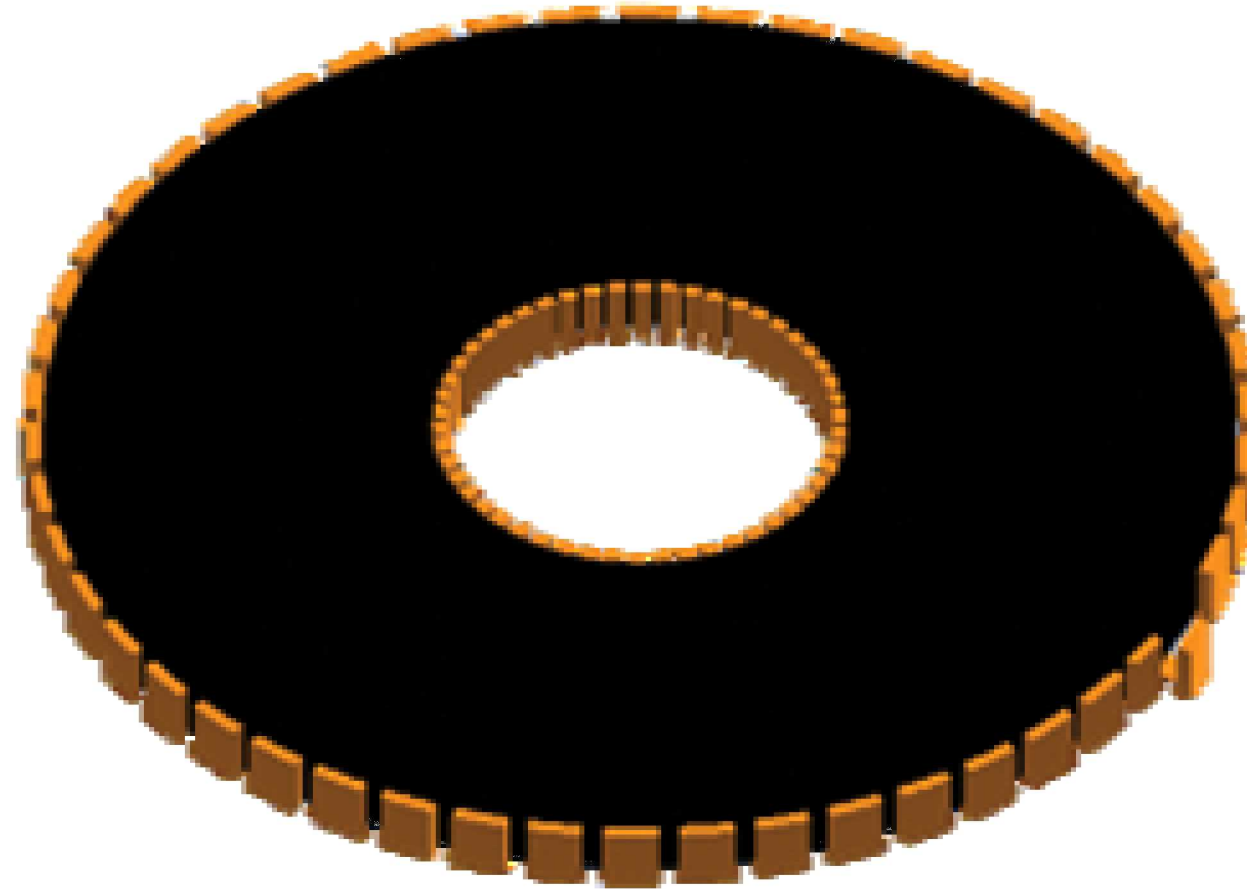
**50  $\mu\text{m}$  Electrodeposited Bottom Cu Layer**

# INNOVATION – 3D CAD Design



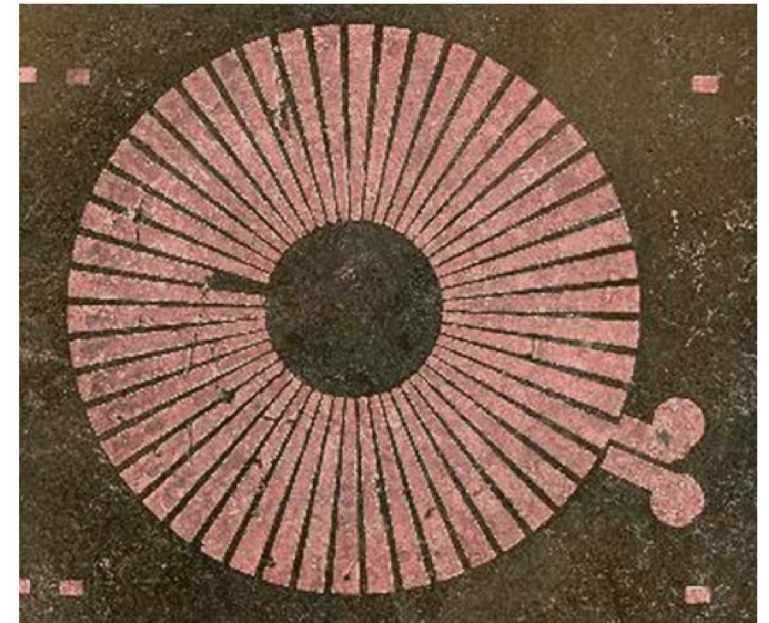
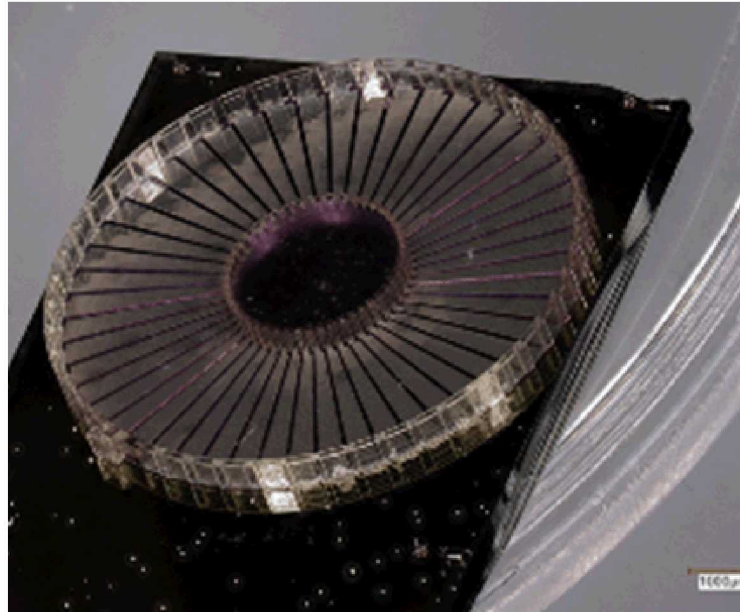
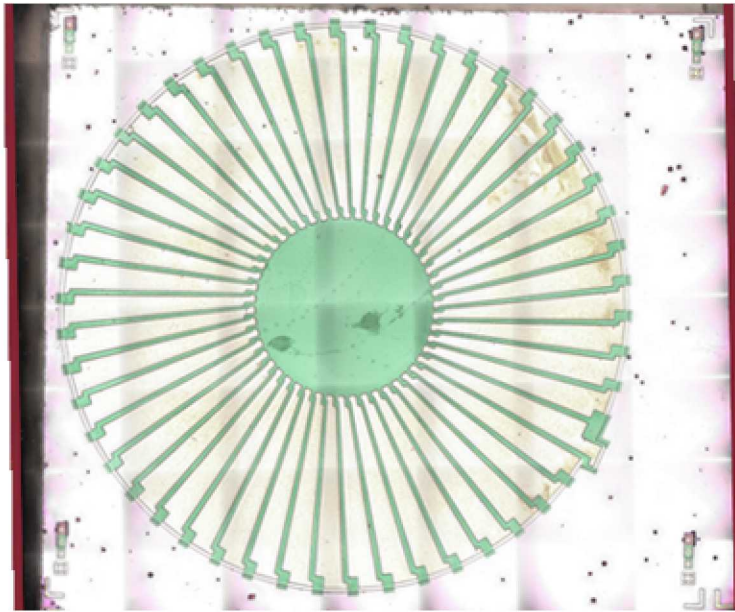
**3D Printed Cu Via and Nano-Core Mold**

# INNOVATION – 3D CAD Design



**50  $\mu\text{m}$  Electrodeposited Top Cu Layer**

# INNOVATION – Current Fabrication Status



# APPLICATIONS

## RESEARCH

- Power electronics

## GOVERNMENT

- DoD power bus systems (missiles, aircraft, ships, drones, etc.)

## INDUSTRY

- Stand-alone microinductors and transformers for power electronics

The Bourns logo consists of the word "BOURNS" in a bold, white, sans-serif font, set against a dark blue rectangular background.

- Integrated microinductors/transformers for chip-scale power converters

The Analog Devices logo features a white play button icon inside a black square, followed by the words "ANALOG DEVICES" in a bold, black, sans-serif font.The Linear Technology logo features a stylized red and white graphic element resembling a 'T' or a wave, followed by the words "LINEAR TECHNOLOGY" in a bold, red, sans-serif font.

# NEED/MARKET POTENTIAL

“

*The worldwide market for Chip Power Inductors is expected to grow at a CAGR of roughly **4.2%** over the next five years, will reach \$1.2B in 2024, from \$940M in 2019*

”

- MARKET WATCH



# STATUS



1. LDRD

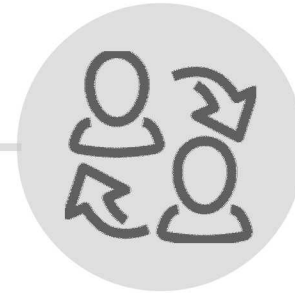
Proof of Concept



2. IP Protection

SD#15171  
SD#15172

USPTO Patent  
Application



3. Maturation

Process  
Development



4. Partnerships

Deployment

# QUESTIONS