



Bucharest, 29th April 2011

In the attention of Mr. Dan Dascalu

Dear Professor Dascalu,

With respect to your Nanoprospect activities we are honored to be asked by our opinion regarding Nanotechnology perspectives in Romania.

From my understanding Romania has an excellent reputation in terms of intellectual potential being naturally inclined toward research and analyze. The tradition of intellectual development needs to be continued by new generations of young researchers, educators and innovators.

In order to evaluate the nanotechnologies potential we should think, first of all, to the benefit that will be brought in Romania by this development. Infineon Technologies Romania is part of the Semiconductor Industry. This industry is able to offer very high level jobs in research, development and innovation. Other worldwide big semiconductor companies like Intel, Freescale, Onsemi, Microchip are already present in Romania trying to develop their business. Semiconductor Industry is one of the main drivers of Nanotechnology Industry. From my perspective it is clearly evident that nanotechnology has a good potential to develop based on the support offered by the development of semiconductor industry.

We are talking about a worldwide semiconductor market of over 300 billion USD which is growing fast due to new demands in applications. We can't imagine our today life without electronics and semiconductors. Romania will be part of this market increasing his market share only if simultaneously research, education and private innovators are focused with a clear organizational frame.

In the last years we noticed a significant change in the educational system toward industry needs and also a good collaboration with the European Community in terms of research projects. There are excellent premises to develop further these achievements.

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The education, research and innovation systems need to create a multidisciplinary development concept to integrate students, researchers and industrial activities in clusters of emerging technologies.

The future in education is to migrate more and more towards interdisciplinarity and I think nanotechnology can offer such a platform.

The Romanian researchers should orient their target more in applied research in order to be much closer to the new trends in the society development in domains like energy saving, mobility and security. Infineon Technologies is one of the main players in these domains being number one worldwide in automotive electronics semiconductor products.

Automotive Industry is one of the area where nanotechnology has a big potential to develop. The new trends in Hybrid Cars and E-Mobility will increase the application of electronics in modern cars. In Romania there is already present a strong automotive industry represented by companies like Renault, Ford, Continental. If Romania wants to benefit for the inherent automotive industry development we must establish a relevant research infrastructure network to create strategic public-private partnerships between education system, industrial partners and government funding agencies.

Romania should aim to produce the intellectual pool required to take full advantage of new nanotechnology development. By bringing international innovation culture and business dimensions in the teaching curricula the education will be able to support and encourage initiative, competition of new ideas and responsibility in defining research careers of younger researchers. At this point in time Romania needs to find the most appropriate approach for industry-university-government interaction in order to enable the multidisciplinary request of Nanotechnology Development. Connecting the research in Universities with Industry on European and Governmental funding projects is only one solution but will be not enough if there will be no focus on long term evolution.

The importance of nanotechnology practical applications is now crucial for society future developments. Energy efficiency and recyclable technologies are important world drivers, bio, medicine and mobility will always be important and vital. All of these new

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domains are using as base of their development the microelectronics. Now, Europe is in strong position to make the transition from Microelectronics to Nanoelectronics but the research challenges and infrastructure investments required are high – and Europe's world competitors in the USA and Asia Pacific are already establishing dedicated nanoelectronics research networks. Therefore an important step for Romania will be to involve the Semiconductor Industry consortium to gather resources to pursue long term research in nanoelectronics.

Availing ourselves again of this magnificent opportunity, please accept Prof. Dascalu - the assurances of our highest consideration./.



Dr. Michael Neuhaeuser

Vice-President and General Manager

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