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## **Flexible Electronics Outlook & Lessons Learned**

April 2019

Peter Yu

# Agenda

Flexible  
Electronics  
Market Trends

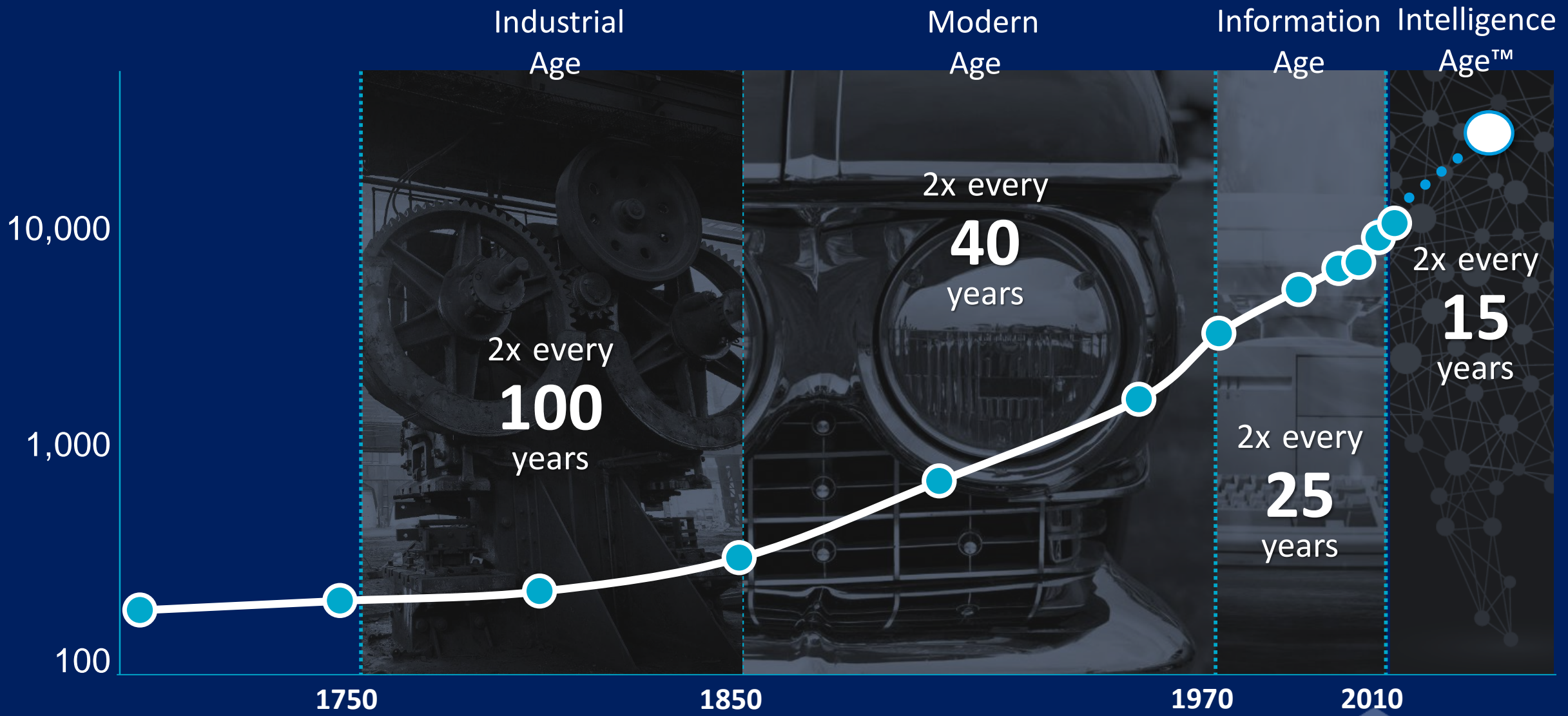
Early Lessons  
Learned

Outlook by  
Technology

Conclusion

# Average World GDP per Capita

(\$ USD)



Source: World Bank, Maddison Project, De Long- UC Berkeley ("Intelligence Age" TM by Flex)

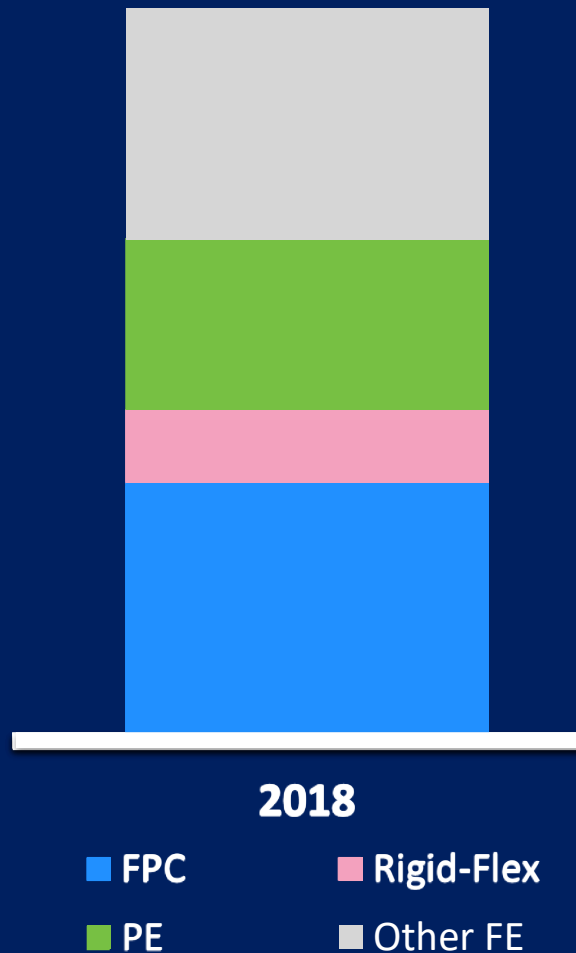


## ...simply connect the dots

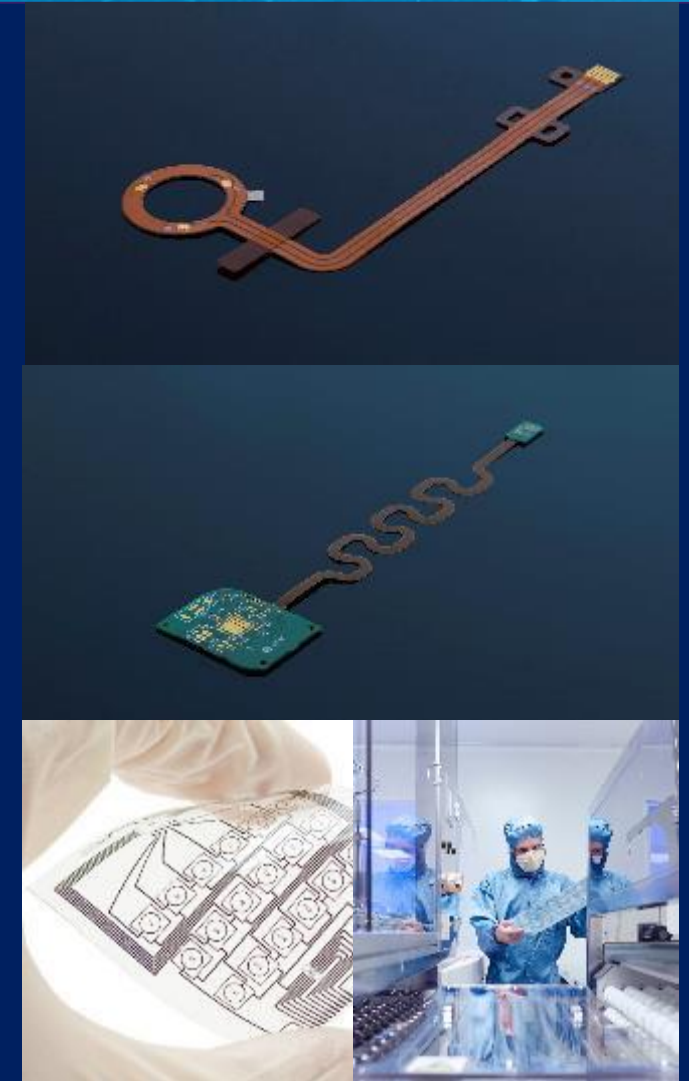


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# Printed & Flexible Electronics was a \$30B Market in 2018



- Flexible Printed Circuits market size estimated to be US\$10.3B
- Rigid-Flex PCB estimated to be worth \$3B
- Printed Electronics estimated to be worth \$7B
- Other “Flexible Electronics” market estimated to be \$9.5B



#### Sources:

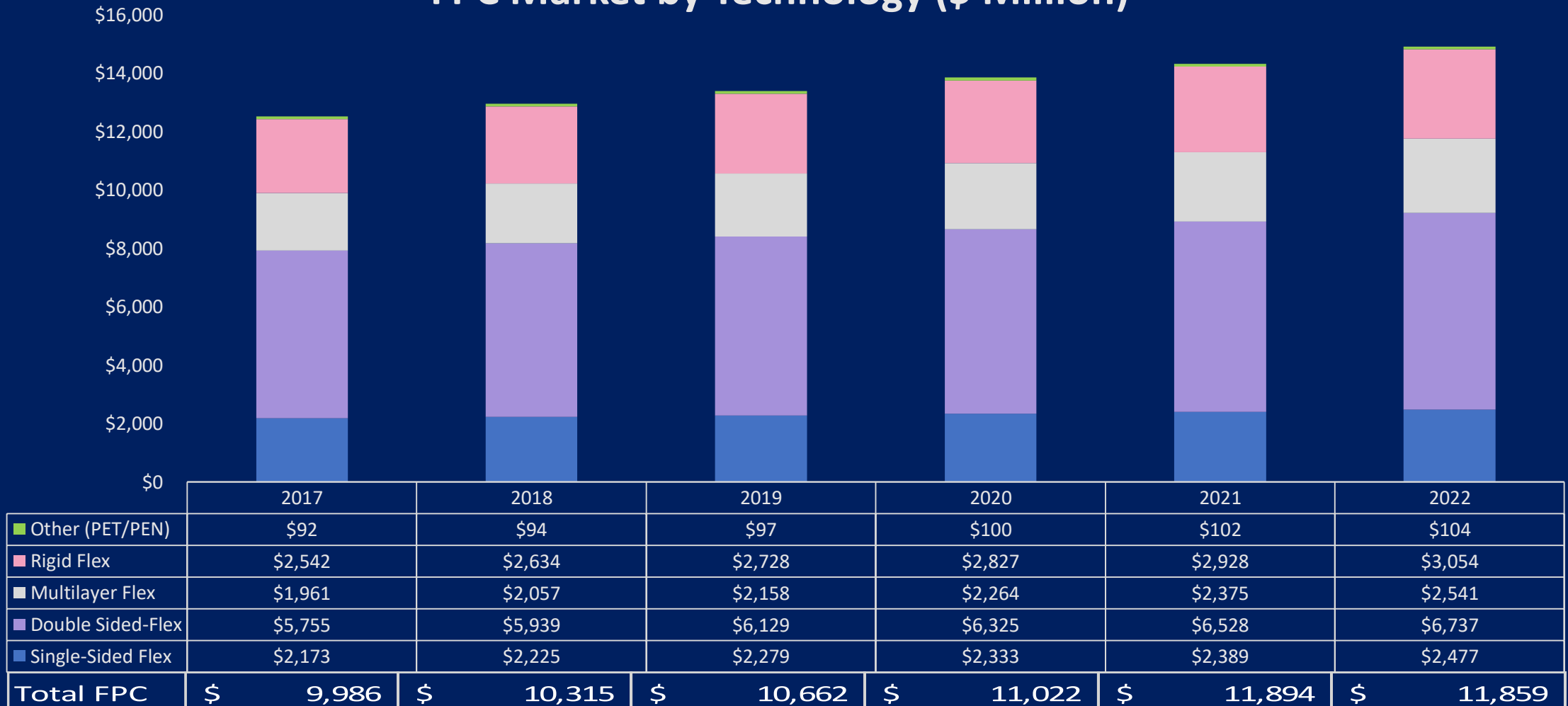
FPC & Rigid-Flex: Prismark Research & NTI

Printed Electronics: MarketsandMarkets

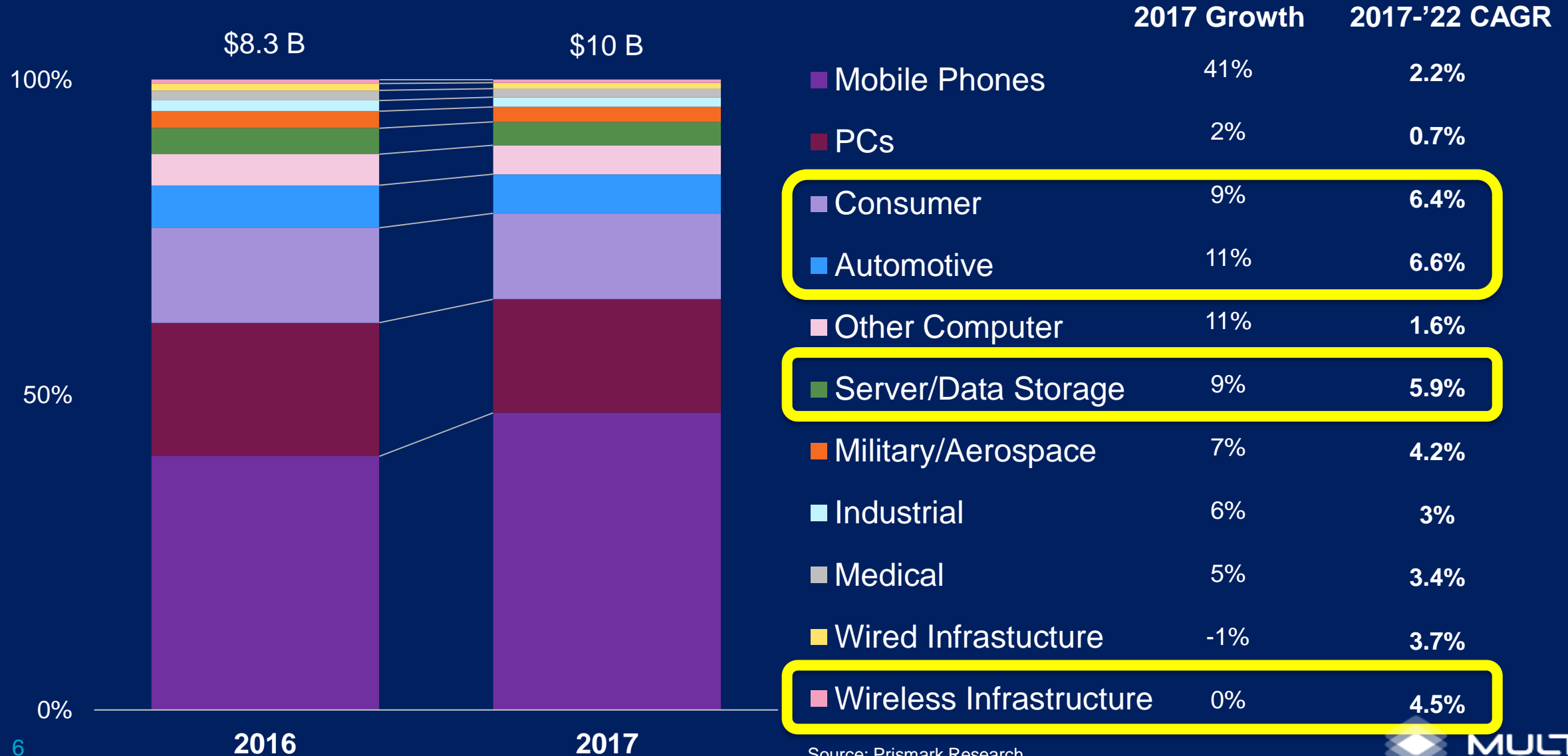
Other FE: Zion Research (<http://pcb.icconnect007.com/index.php/article/104477/?skin=pcb&p=1>)

# Flexible Printed Circuits: Largest but Slowest Growth at 3.5%

FPC Market by Technology (\$ Million)



# FPC Growth Driven by Certain Applications



Source: Prismark Research



# Wearables to Grow in High Teens by Unit Volume

*...but price erosion / commoditization will stunt FPC value growth*

Worldwide Wearable Devices by Product Category, Shipment Volume, Market Share, and 5-Year CAGR(shipments are in millions)

| Product    | 2017 Volumes | 2017 Market Share | 2021 Volumes | 2021 Market Share | 2017 - 2021 CAGR |
|------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Clothing   | 2.8          | 2.30%             | 11.6         | 5.10%             | 42.80%           |
| Earwear    | 1.8          | 1.50%             | 10.5         | 4.60%             | 54.40%           |
| Modular    | 1.6          | 1.30%             | 1.5          | 0.60%             | -2.80%           |
| Other      | 0.4          | 0.30%             | 0.2          | 0.10%             | -10.50%          |
| Watch      | 67.4         | 55.40%            | 154.4        | 67.30%            | 23.00%           |
| Wrist Band | 47.6         | 39.10%            | 51.3         | 22.40%            | 1.90%            |
| TOTAL      | 121.7        | 100.00%           | 229.5        | 100.00%           | 17.20%           |

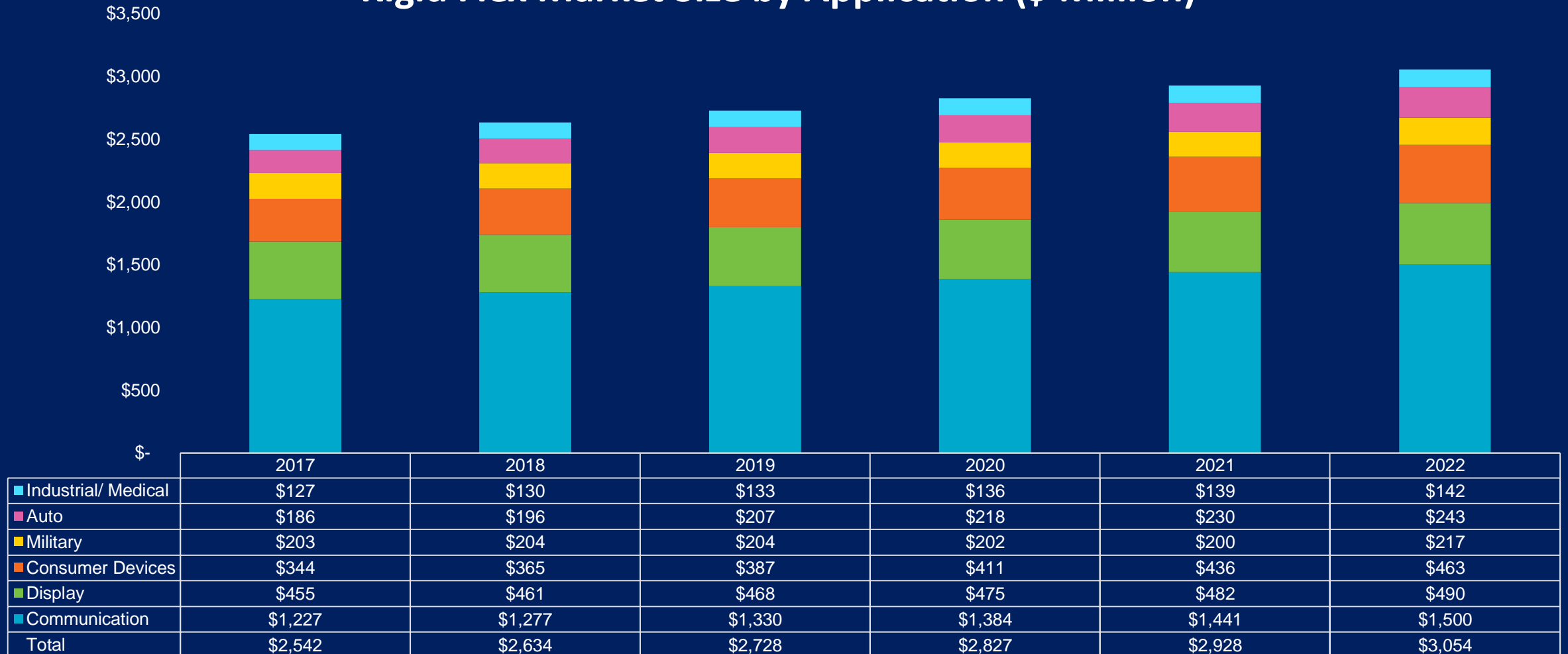
Source: IDC Worldwide Quarterly Wearable Device Tracker, September 14, 2017





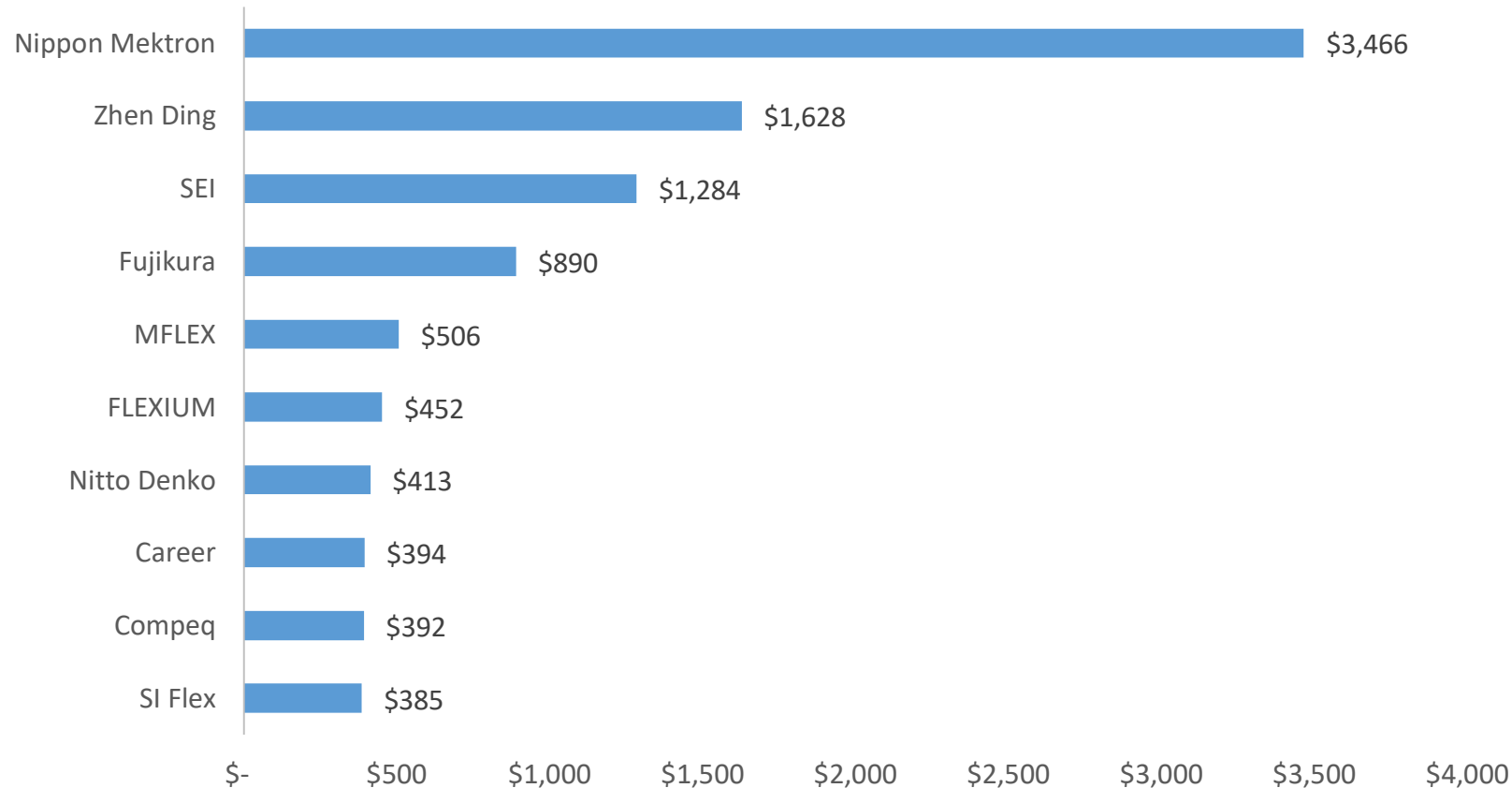
# Rigid-Flex Follows Closely FPC's Growth

## Rigid Flex Market Size by Application (\$ Million)



# But Leading Players Differ Between Rigid-Flex vs. FPC Makers

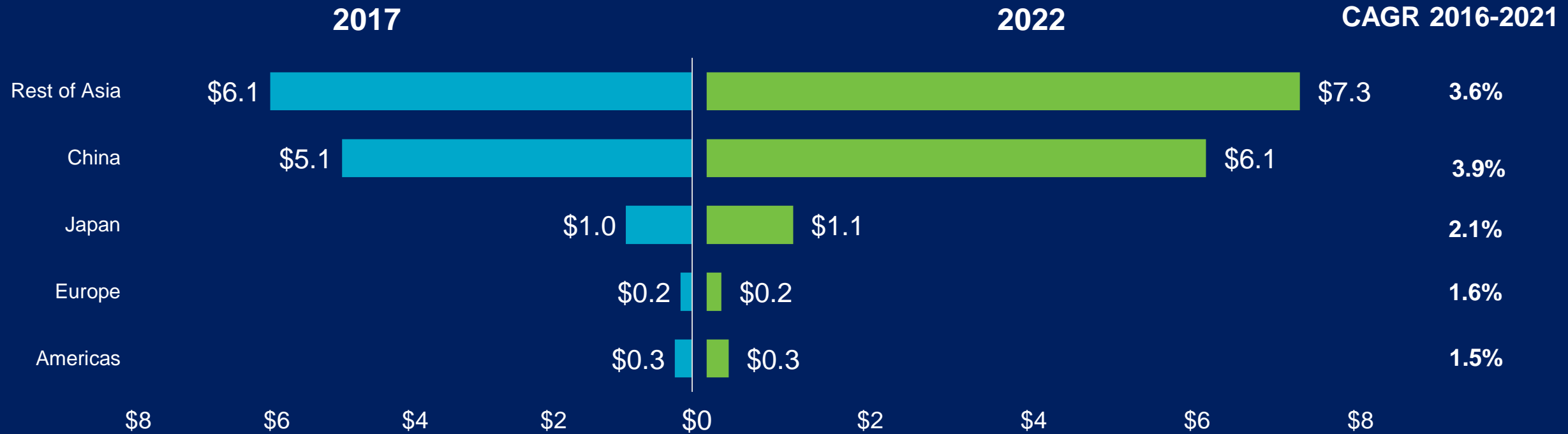
Top 10 Flexible Printed Circuit Producers by Revenue (\$M)



Top Rigid-Flex Producers

- TTM Technologies
- AT & S
- Multek
- Schoeller-Electronics
- Royal Circuits
- Flexible Circuit
- All Flex Inc.
- San Francisco Circuits
- NCAB Group
- Tech-Etch
- Molex
- Cirexx
- Pioneer Circuits
- Micro Systems Technologies
- CONTAG AG
- Samsung Electro-Mechanics
- Rigid-Flex International
- EPEC
- PCB Solutions
- Flexible Circuit Technologies (FCT)

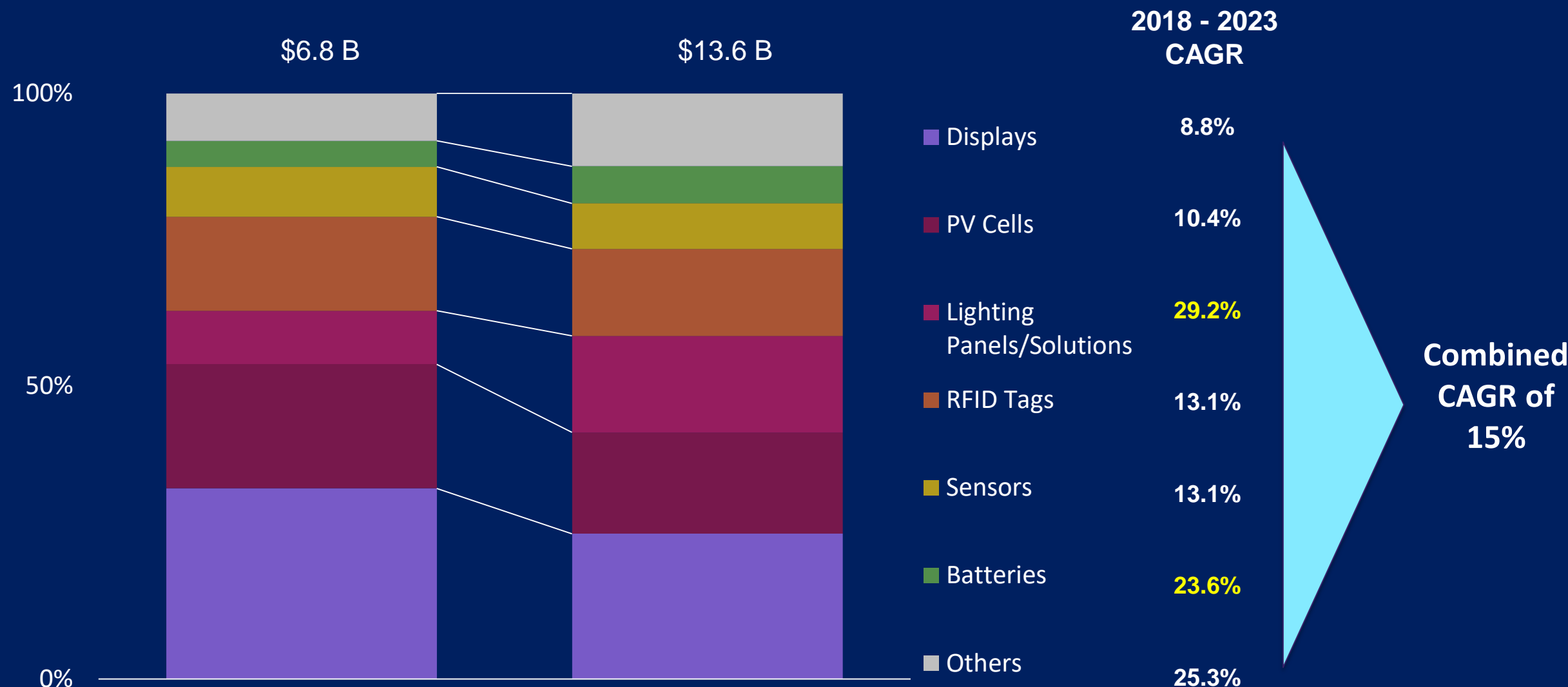
# Total Combined FPC & Rigid-Flex Growth by Region



- China has become the largest manufacturer of FPC - China, accounting for 40% of the total FPC market in 2017, will continue to be the market leader through 2022 growing at a CAGR of 3.6% between 2017 and 2022
- Americas will report lower FPC growth between 2017 and 2022 at CAGR 1.5%

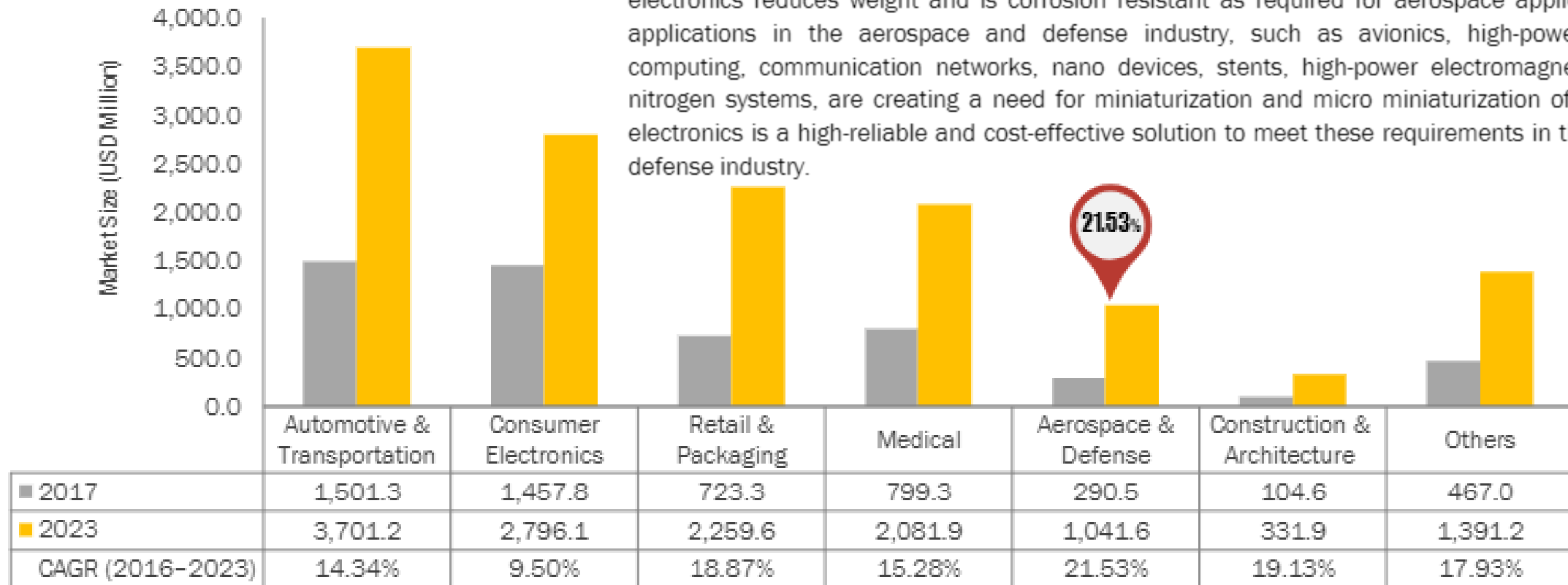


# Printed Electronics is Growing Fast, Surpassing FPCs by 2022



# Aerospace & Defense Will Lead Printed Electronics Growth

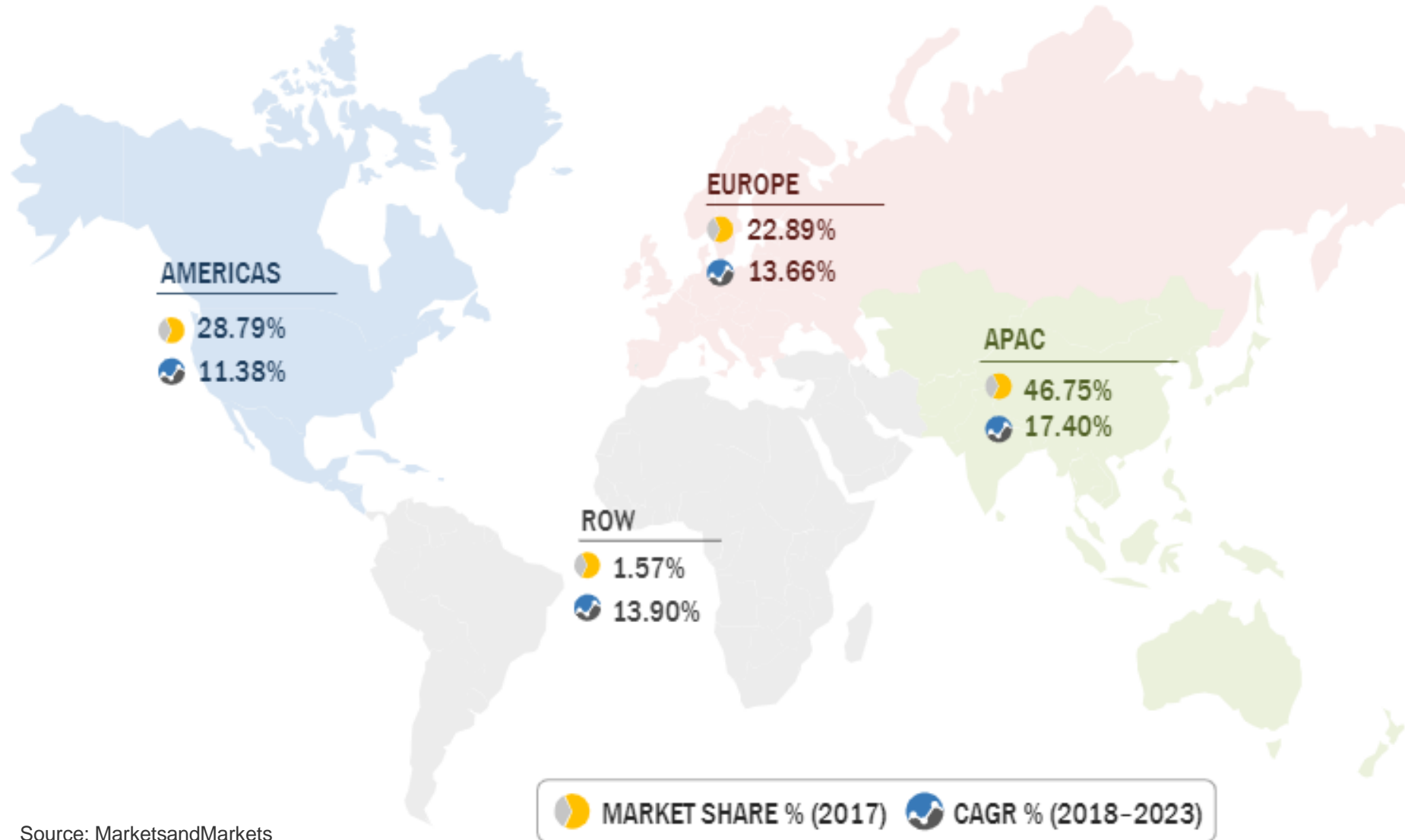
The printed electronics market for the aerospace & defense industry is likely to grow at the highest CAGR in the coming years. This technology is used in an unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) owing to its advantages such as lightweight, less complexity, and high reliability, which ultimately results in low maintenance requirements. Further, printed electronics technology reduces wiring in several aircraft solutions such as in-flight entertainment systems and aircraft structural health monitoring systems. Similarly, printed electronics reduces weight and is corrosion resistant as required for aerospace applications. Emerging applications in the aerospace and defense industry, such as avionics, high-power lasers, radars, computing, communication networks, nano devices, stents, high-power electromagnetic systems, and nitrogen systems, are creating a need for miniaturization and micro miniaturization of systems. Printed electronics is a high-reliable and cost-effective solution to meet these requirements in the aerospace and defense industry.



Note: "Others" includes advertising & media, textiles, and semiconductor industries.

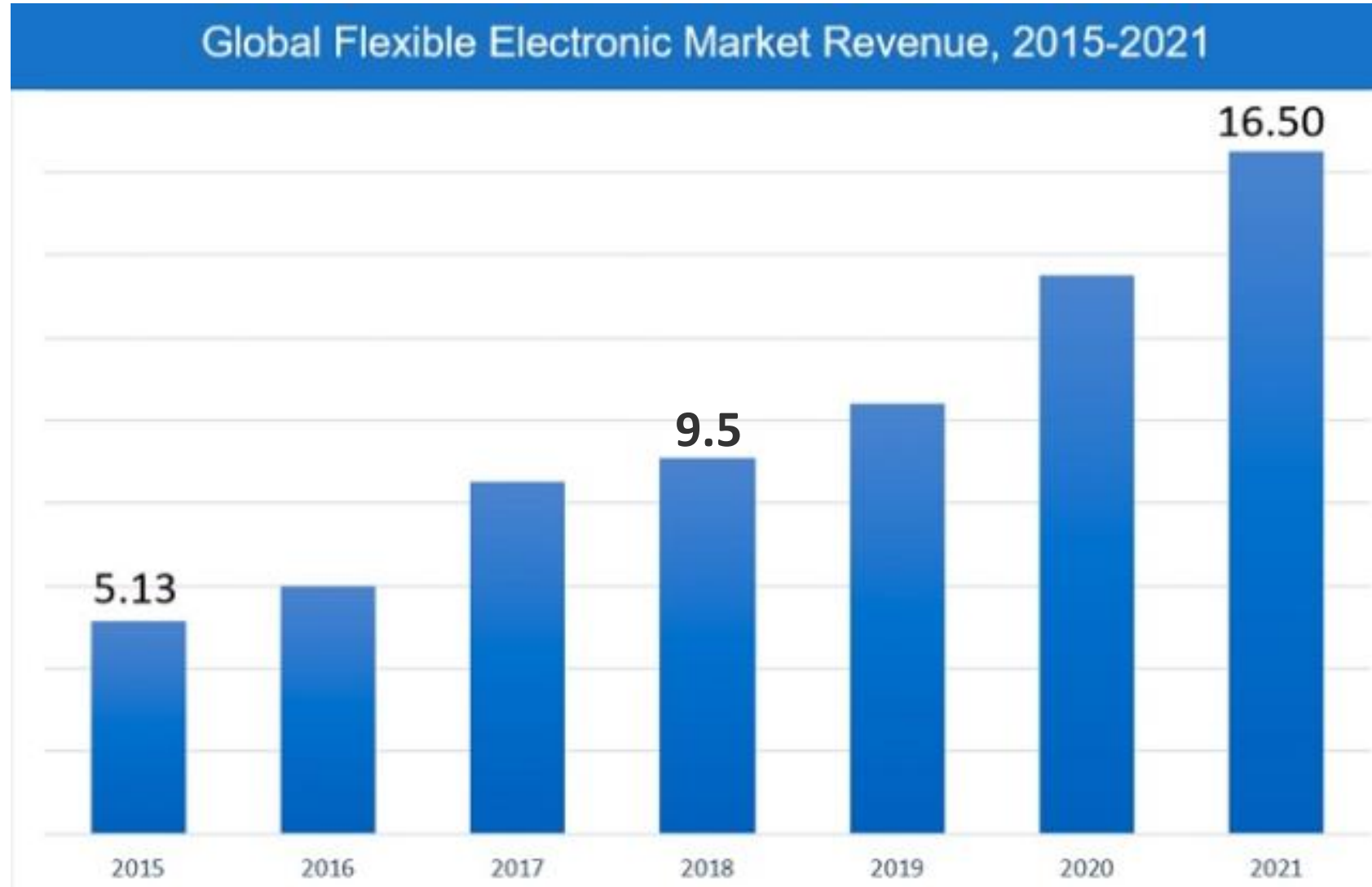
Source: Secondary Literature, Expert Interviews, Hellenic Organic and Printed Electronics Association (HOPE-A), Organic and Printed Electronics Association (OE-A), Canadian Printable Electronics Industry Association (CPES), Korea Printed Electronics Association (KoPEA), and MarketsandMarkets Analysis

# APAC: Largest & Fastest-Growing Printed Electronics Region





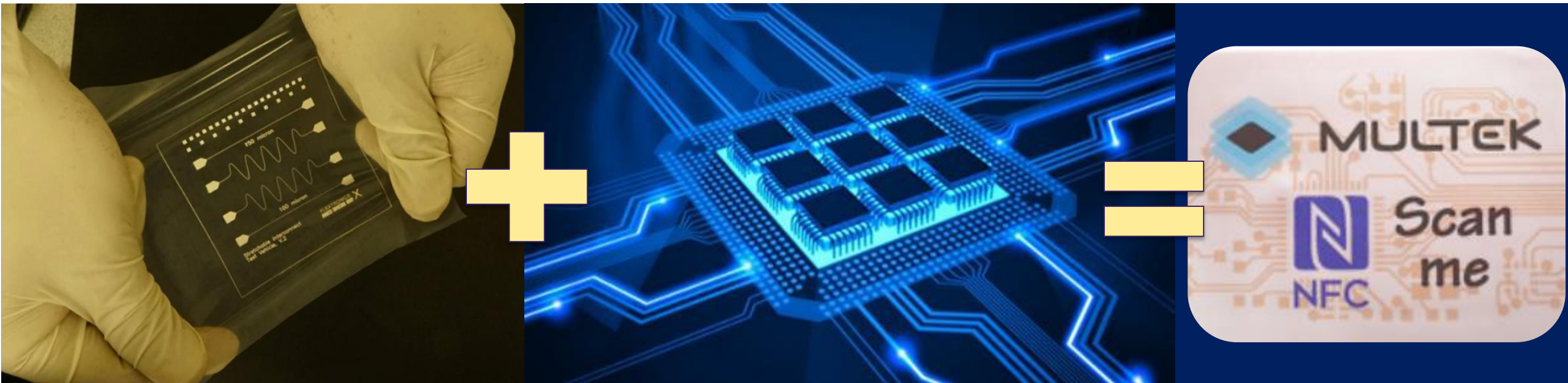
# Flexible Electronics is the Fastest-Growing of all Segments



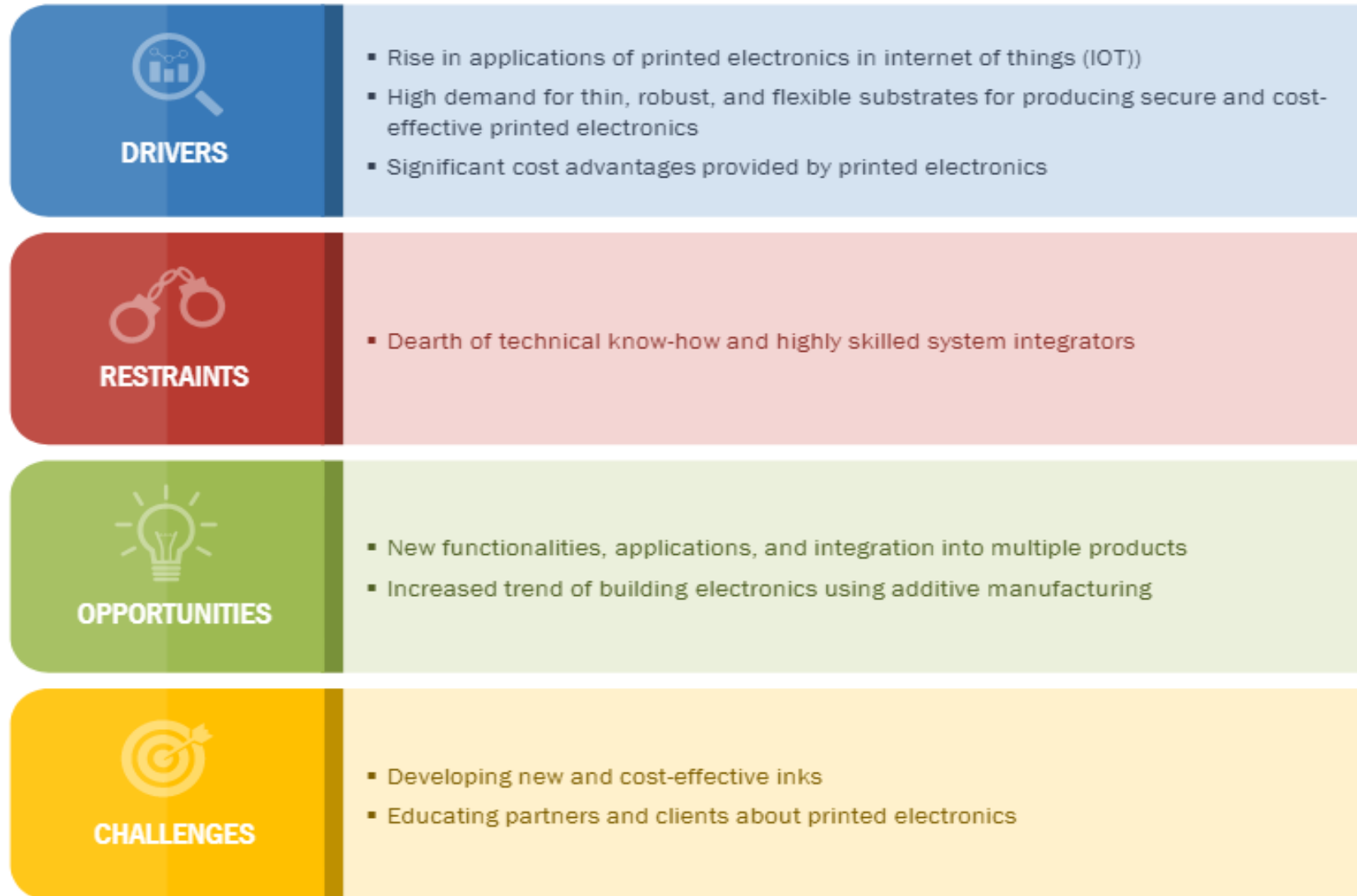
- Global demand for the flexible electronics market was valued at \$9.5B in 2018 and is expected to generate revenue of \$16.5B by 2021, growing at a CAGR of slightly above 21% between 2016 and 2021
- Key elements of the market, in the view of most analysts, include flex displays, sensors, batteries, and memory
- IDTechEx Research finds that the total market for printed, flexible and organic electronics will grow from \$31.7 Billion in 2018 (of which the \$9.5B opportunity for Printed Electronics is a subset) to \$77.3B in 2029

# Flexible Hybrid Electronics (FHE)

*FHE is an emerging form of Flexible Electronics enabled by the advances made in the FPC, Rigid-Flex, Printed Electronics, Semiconductors and Roll-to-Roll Assembly technologies*



# Printed and Flexible Electronics Market Dynamics





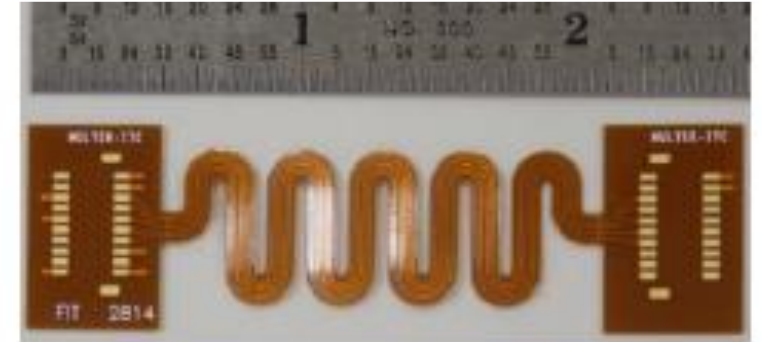
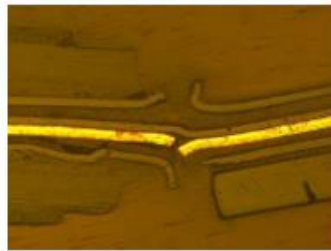
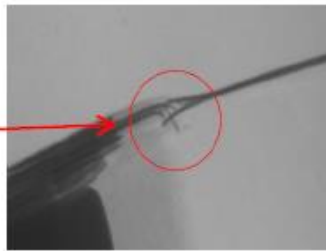
# Lessons Learned: Fitness Bands – Tech & Cost Challenges



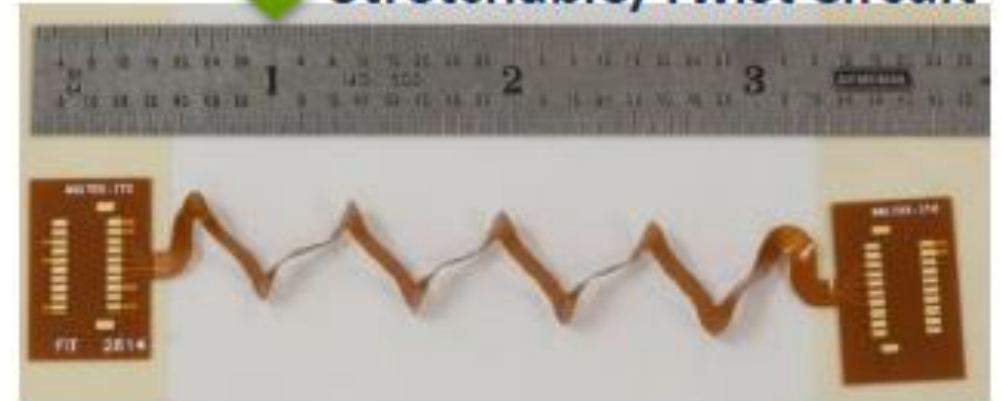
dropping  
compression  
twisting  
flexing



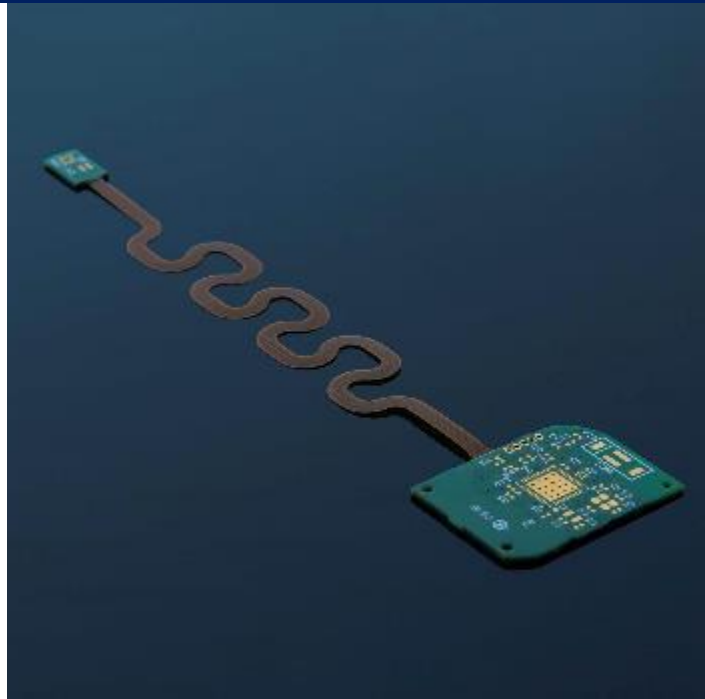
electrical  
failure



Stretchable/Twist Circuit

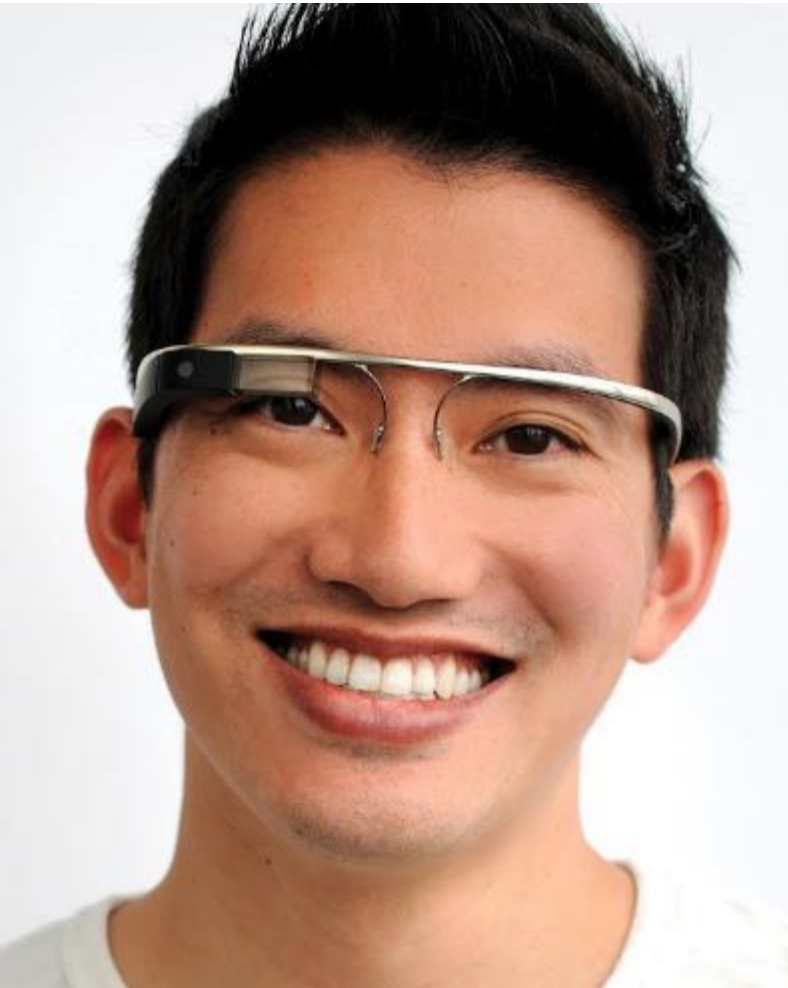


# Lessons Learned: Running Shoes – Software Drives Success



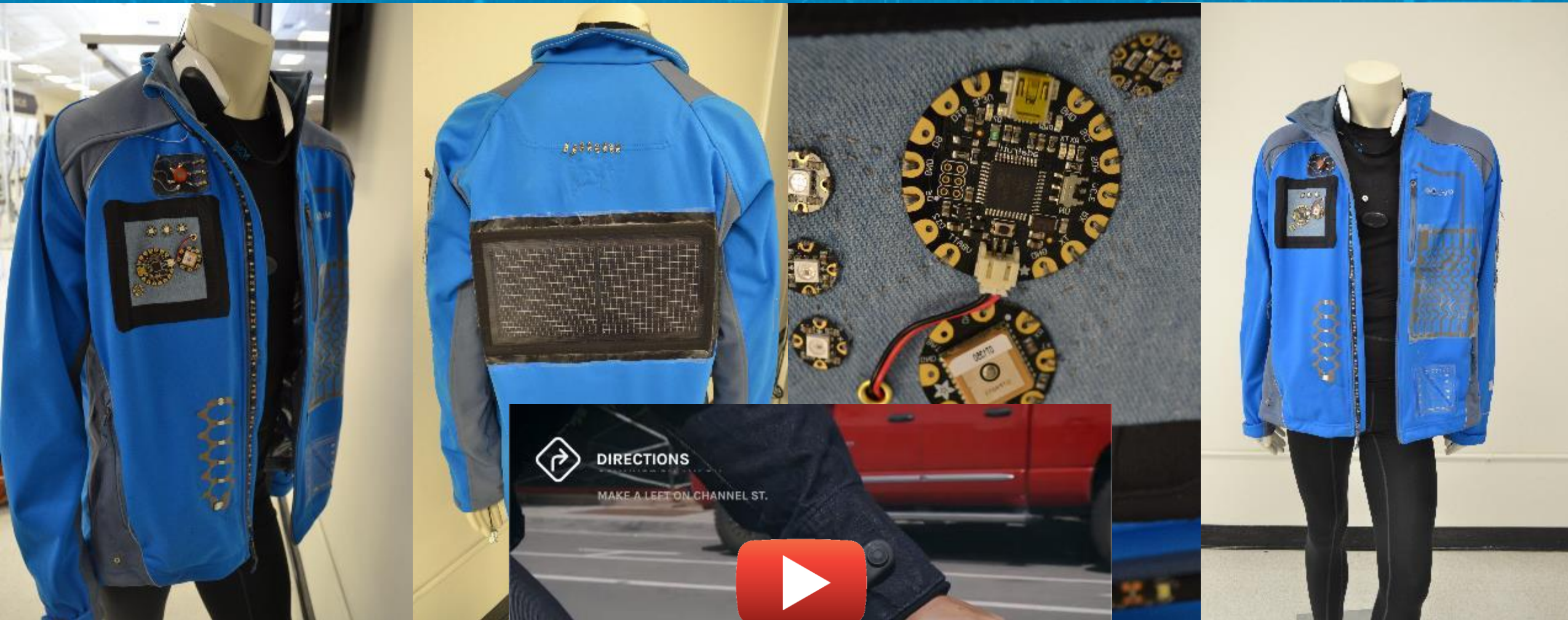


# Lessons Learned: Smart Glasses – Market May Not Materialize





# Lessons Learned: Smart Clothing – Simpler is Better



# Typical Technology Outlook for Flexible Circuits (Panel)

|  |     | 2019             | 2020             | 2021             | 2022             |
|--|-----|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Layer Count:                             | max | 14               | 14               | 16               | 16               |
| Maximum Board Thickness:                 | mm  | 1.8              | 1.8              | 2                | 2                |
| Minimum Board Thickness:                 | μm  | 50               | 50               | 45               | 40               |
| BGA Pitch:                               | μm  | 350              | 350              | 300              | 250              |
| Inner Layer Line/Space:                  | μm  | 50 / 50          | 50 / 50          | 45 / 45          | 40 / 40          |
| Outer Layer Line/Space:                  | μm  | 50 / 50          | 50 / 50          | 45 / 45          | 40 / 40          |
| Minimum Substrate Thickness:             | μm  | 12.5             | 12.5             | 9                | 9                |
| Laser μVia Diameter:                     | μm  | 75               | 75               | 50               | 50               |
| μVia Aspect Ratio:                       | μm  | 0.8:1            | 0.8:1            | 0.9:1            | 0.9:1            |
| Minimum Mechanical Drill Via Diameter:   | μm  | 150              | 150              | 100              | 100              |
| Minimum Punched Via Diameter:            | μm  | 500              | 500              | 500              | 500              |
| Minimum μVia Pad Size:                   | μm  | μVia Dia + 120   | μVia Dia + 100   | μVia Dia + 75    | μVia Dia + 50    |
| Minimum Mechanical Drilled Via Pad Size: | μm  | TH Via Dia + 150 | TH Via Dia + 150 | TH Via Dia + 150 | TH Via Dia + 150 |
| Layer to Layer Registration (ELIC):      | μm  | +/- 50           | +/- 50           | +/- 40           | +/- 40           |
| Front to Back Same Core Registration:    | μm  | +/- 50           | +/- 50           | +/- 40           | +/- 25           |
| Solder Mask Registration:                | μm  | +/- 25           | +/- 25           | +/- 20           | +/- 15           |



# Typical Technology Outlook for Flexible Circuits (Roll-to-Roll)

|  |    | 2019             | 2020             | 2021             | 2022             |
|--|----|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Maximum Board Thickness:                   | mm | 0.090            | 0.105            | 0.105            | 0.105            |
| Minimum Board Thickness:                   | μm | 35               | 25               | 25               | 25               |
| BGA Pitch:                                 | μm | 350              | 300              | 250              | 200              |
| Line/Space:                                | μm | 50 / 50          | 30 / 30          | 25 / 25          | 20 / 20          |
| Minimum Substrate Thickness:               | μm | 25               | 12.5             | 10               | 10               |
| Minimum Conductor Thickness:               | μm | 12               | 10               | 5                | 5                |
| Laser μVia Diameter:                       | μm | 75               | 50               | 40               | 30               |
| μVia Aspect Ratio                          | μm | 1:1              | 1:1.2            | 1:1.4            | 1:1.4            |
| Minimum μVia Pad Size:                     | μm | μVia Dia + 150   | μVia Dia + 120   | μVia Dia + 50    | μVia Dia + 50    |
| Minimum Mechanical Drilled Via Pad Size:   | μm | TH Via Dia + 200 | TH Via Dia + 150 | TH Via Dia + 150 | TH Via Dia + 150 |
| Front to Back Layer to Layer Registration: | μm | +/- 50           | +/- 50           | +/- 13           | +/- 13           |
| Solder Mask Registration:                  | μm | +/- 25           | +/- 25           | +/- 25           | +/- 25           |

# Typical Technology Outlook for Rigid-Flex Printed Circuits

|  |       | 2019             | 2020             | 2021             | 2022             |
|--|-------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Maximum Rigid Layer Count:               | max   | 12               | 14               | 16               | 18               |
| Maximum FPC Layer Count:                 | max   | 6                | 6                | 8                | 8                |
| Maximum Board Thickness:                 | mm    | 1.6              | 1.6              | 2.8              | 3                |
| Rigid BGA Pitch:                         | μm    | 350              | 350              | 200              | 150              |
| Inner Layer Line / Space:                | μm    | 30 / 40          | 30 / 40          | 30 / 30          | 25 / 30          |
| Conductor Thickness:                     | μm    | 12               | 12               | 9                | 7                |
| μVia Diameter:                           | μm    | 65               | 65               | 50               | 40               |
| μVia Aspect Ratio:                       | ratio | 0.8:1            | 0.8:1            | 0.9:1            | 0.9:1            |
| Minimum Mechanical Drilled Via Diameter: | μm    | 150              | 150              | 100              | 100              |
| Minimum μVia Pad Size:                   | μm    | μVia Dia + 120   | μVia Dia + 100   | μVia Dia + 75    | μVia Dia + 50    |
| Minimum Mechanical Via Pad Size:         | μm    | TH Via Dia + 150 | TH Via Dia + 150 | TH Via Dia + 150 | TH Via Dia + 150 |
| Minimum Core Thickness:                  | μm    | 40               | 40               | 25               | 25               |
| Minimum Prepreg Thickness:               | μm    | 35               | 35               | 25               | 25               |
| Layer to Layer Registration (ELIC):      | μm    | +/- 50 (ELIC)    | +/- 50 (ELIC)    | +/- 40 (RDL)     | +/- 35 (RDL)     |
| Layer to Layer Registration (HDI):       | μm    | +/- 50 (HDI)     | +/- 50 (HDI)     | +/- 50 (HDI)     | +/- 40 (HDI)     |
| Same Core Front-Back Registration:       | μm    | +/- 12           | +/- 10           | +/- 10           | +/- 10           |
| Solder Mask Registration:                | μm    | +/- 25           | +/- 25           | +/- 25           | +/- 25           |



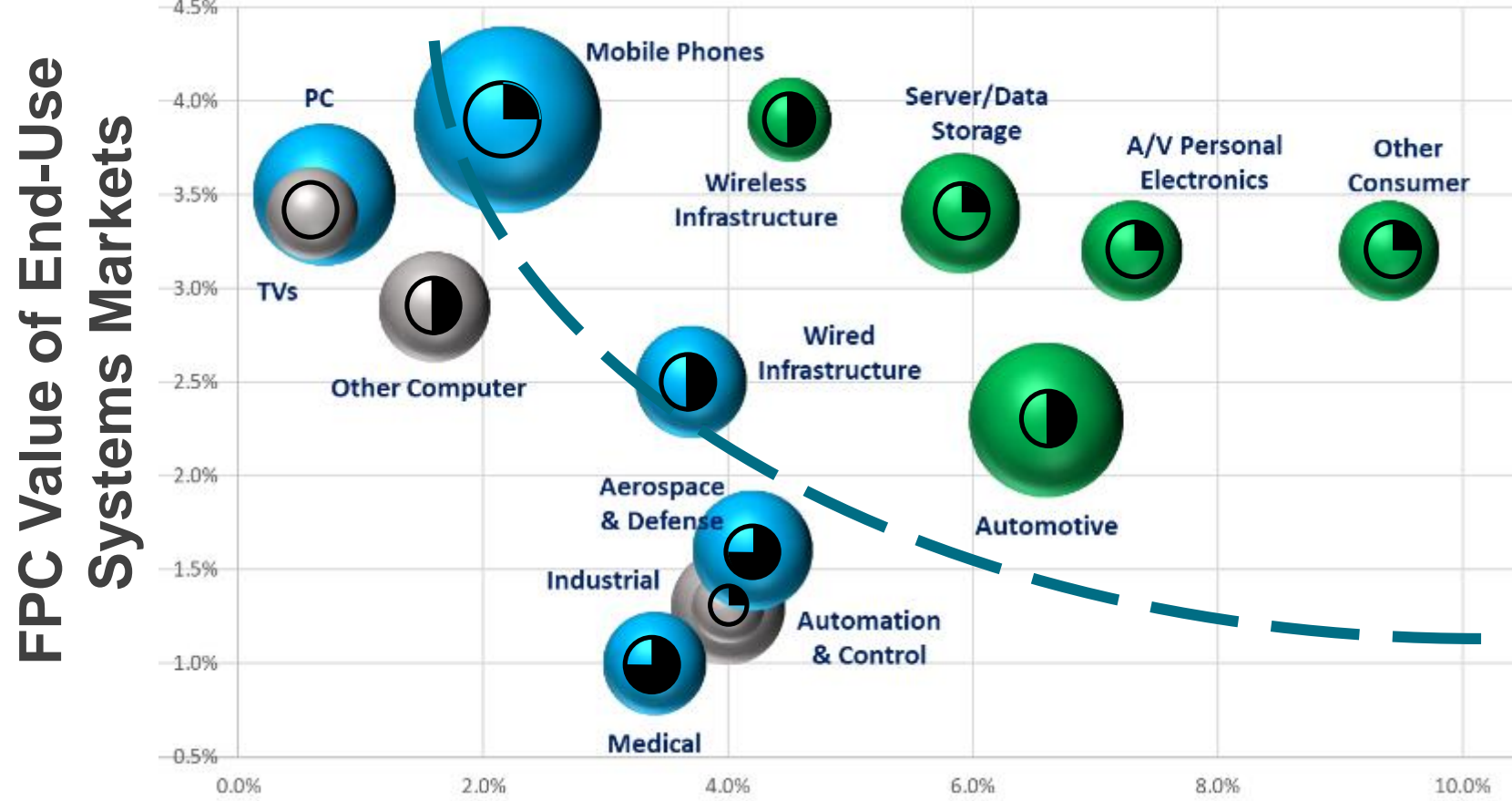
# Technology Outlook for Roll-to-Roll (Flexible) Assembly

|                             | Mature            | Advanced          | In Development    |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Board Thk (min) [mm]        | 0.032             | 0.027             | 0.027             |
| BGA Pitch [μm]              | 300               | 300               | 200               |
| Line/Space [μm]             | 40/40             | 30/30             | 25/25             |
| PI Substrate Thk (min) [μm] | 20                | 12.5              | 9                 |
| Conductor Thk (min) [μm]    | 14                | 6                 | 6                 |
| Laser Diameter [μm]         | 50                | 40                | 30                |
| μVia Preparation            | DM (BLH)          | DM                | DM                |
| μVia Aspect Ratio           | 0.5:1             | 0.9:1             | 1:1               |
| Pad Size (min) [mm]         | Laser Dia + 0.180 | Laser Dia + 0.102 | Laser Dia + 0.076 |
| L2L Registration [mm]       | +/-0.065          | +/-0.013          | +/-0.013          |

# Conclusion: Focus on the Right Markets



## End-Use Systems Markets (\$B) in 2022



2017-2022 Market CAGR

### Focus on Faster Growth

- Other Consumer
- A/V Personal Electronics
- Automotive
- Server/Data Storage
- Wireless Infrastructure

### Larger or Niche Segments

- Mobile Phones
- PCs
- Wired Infrastructure
- Aerospace & Defense
- Medical

# And Leverage Partners who Understand Technology Across Verticals

## Markets



## Trends



Density



Speed



Miniaturization

## Multek Solutions

## Talent & Interconnect Technology Center:

- Worldwide Network of Field Application Engineers
- Interconnect Technology Center co-located with Factory
- Technology Roadmap
- Predictive Modeling

## Technology Platform

New Characteristics / Featuring

New Materials

New Processes

## Tools & Methods:

- Materials Development & Evaluation
- IP Generation
- Advanced Measurement and Reliability
- Early Engagement Model

## Companies

Americas

Asia

Europe

Rest of World

**Thank You!**



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