

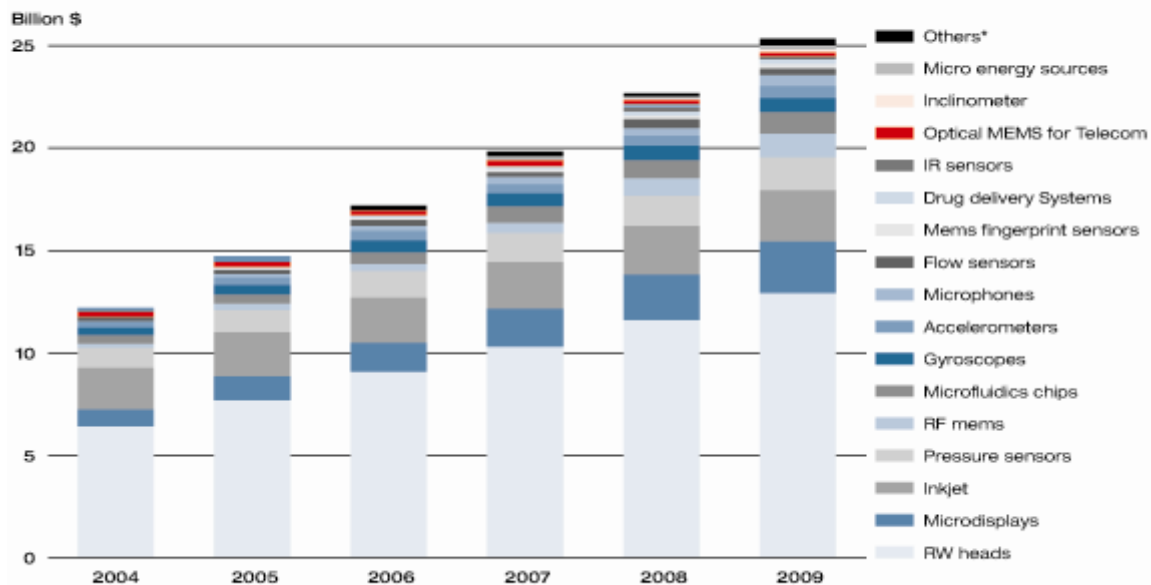
Press Release (For immediate release).

January 12th, 2006

Grenoble, France. Markets for microsystems will double over the next five years from \$12 billion in 2004 to \$25 billion in 2009, a CAGR of 16%, according to a new market report by NEXUS.

The “NEXUS Market Analysis for MEMS and Microsystems III, 2005-2009” report determines that MST/MEMS sensors and actuators continue to consolidate their position in established IT peripheral markets for read/write heads and inkjet heads, in addition to creating new opportunities for microphones, memories, micro energy sources and chip coolers, for example. The automotive sector remains a major application field with several high-volume safety products including air bags and tire pressure monitoring systems.

Total market for 26 MST/MEMS products, 2004-2009



*Other are: microreaction, chip cooler, MEMS memories, liquid lenses, microspectrometer, wafer probes, micro-mirrors for optical processing, micro-pumps, micromotors, chemical analysis systems

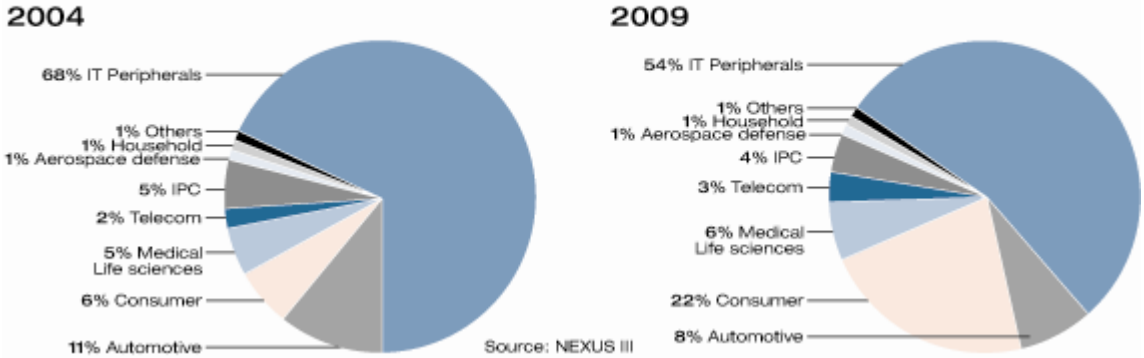
Source: NEXUS III

The study, coordinated by WTC - Wicht Technologie Consulting on behalf of NEXUS, updates two previous reports and covers 26 blockbuster and emerging MEMS/MST products, from accelerometers through micromirrors to zoom-lens autofocus actuators. NEXUS also breaks out three new applications for consumer electronics, industrial process control, and aerospace, defense and homeland security.

Helping to propel the market is the meteoric rise of the consumer electronics segment, which is forecast to almost quadruple its share from 6% of the MST/MEMS market in 2004 to 22% in 2009 (a CAGR of 50%).

“The growth of consumer electronics for MST is breathtaking,” said Dr Henning Wicht, managing director of WTC. “In this segment we see rear and front projection TVs for home theatre, as well as HDDs serving the increasing storage requirements of digital equipment such as DVD recorders, digital cameras and camcorders, and portable MP3 players. A big driver is the the mobile phone, which already features motion sensors and is amenable to a battery of additional sensors and functions like liquid lenses for camera zoom, fingerprint sensors, microfuel cell power sources, gas sensors and weather barometers,” said Dr. Wicht.

MST/MEMS market by application fields, 2004-2009



Key findings:

In 2009, read/write heads continue their dominance with 50% of the market. A new development is the ascendance of microdisplays (e.g. from Texas Instruments), which nudge the stable market for inkjet heads into third place. Of the 26 products analysed in the new report, 14 will have market volumes over \$100 million, and completely new products such as microfuel cells, fingerprint sensors and liquid lenses will be together worth \$250 million in five years.

All markets are broken out by component price and unit volume trends over the study period. Key manufacturers are identified in each market segment. New features of the update, which follows recognized reports covering 1996-2000 and 2000-2005, include three new application fields and a regional analysis of strengths for North America, Europe and Asia. The “NEXUS Market Analysis III, 2005-2009” features 55 tables and graphs contained in 240 pages, and is available from WTC - Wicht Technologie Consulting for €1,100.

Comments from first readers:

"The recent NEXUS Market Analysis for MEMS and Microsystems III, 2005 – 2009 is an excellent compilation of microtechnology based microelectromechanical systems. The study clearly distinguishes between the value for the 1st level packaged MEMS/MST devices and the value of non-MEMS/MST parts. The application/ product matrix table provides a fast access to important fields in MEMS business. Numerous detailed descriptions help to get an insight into MEMS/MST concepts and their application fields. Information on volumes supports an overview on average selling prices. The compendium is a must for anyone active in micro-technology based MEMS/MST products."

Dr. Werner Klingenstein, Infineon, Director Technology strategy focus MEMS

" This provides a good perspective on mst gyros and their applications. The reporting at the component level is a timely and helpful description of this growing and important market."

Bob Sulouff, Director Business Development, Analog Devices, Micromachined Products Division

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About NEXUS

NEXUS (The Network of Excellence in Multifunctional Microsystems) was initiated by the European Commission to promote microsystem technology (MST) and pursue MST adoption by European industries in order to strengthen and secure Europe's competitiveness in world markets.

The Task Force on "Market Analysis for MST" was established in 1996 and was charged with producing an application oriented, in-depth study of the MST market. The first market analysis report covering the years 1996 - 2002 was published in 1998 and, rapidly, found world wide recognition. A second market analysis report, extending the forecast to the years 2002 to 2005, was published in 2002. These first two editions will be denoted "NEXUS-1" and "NEXUS-2" in this study.

NEXUS has grown steadily during the past nine years to become an independent non-profit association operating for the benefit of its membership. More information on NEXUS may be found at www.nexus-mems.com.

About WTC - Wicht Technologie Consulting

WTC - Wicht Technologie Consulting provides market intelligence, strategic consulting and business development support for the microsystems, microelectronics and nanotechnology industries. The company has gained an international reputation for its in-depth knowledge and ability to explain the technical, economic and competitive issues that influence supply and demand in these rapidly changing industries. For more information, please visit our web site at www.wtc-consult.de.

Please note that all data and analysis deduced from this press release must be accompanied by a statement identifying WTC - Wicht Technologie Consulting, Frauenplatz 5, D-80331 Munich as the source and publisher.