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Group4 releases 2 inch GaN-on-diamond wafers

Date announced: 3 Apr 2006

Materials developer and supplier Group4 Labs claims that it has released the world's first 2-inch GaN-on-diamond semiconductor wafers.

The 2-inch version of the recently introduced 10 x 10 mm GaN-on diamond wafer is the second product in the company's Xero Wafer family and shares the same technology.

According to Group4, the Xero Wafer technology permits unprecedented high temperature resilience for very high-power, high-frequency electronic, solid-state white lighting, military and photonics applications.

The two-inch wafer is said to be ideal for use in the conventional epitaxial growth of GaN and its aluminum and indium-based alloys.

The company's innovative technology enables the GaN layer to be atomically attached to a freestanding, proprietary, 25µm-thick polycrystalline CVD diamond substrate. The GaN exposed is an atomically-smooth surface finish, says Group4, that is epi-ready for further epitaxial deposition.

The device is commercially available as either a freestanding 2-inch wafer or on a disposable, silicon substrate to permit easy handling during wafer processing.

"This wafer is a 2-inch extension of what we introduced last month," explained Group4 Labs' CEO, Felix Ejeckam. "It's specially targeted to makers of power amplifiers (for cellular base stations), microwave and millimeter-wave circuits, UV laser diodes and ultra-bright blue/green/white LEDs who want tremendous power and thermal performance at little or no additional cost, compared to currently available semiconductor solutions."

Group4's GaN-on-Diamond 2-inch wafers are currently sold for \$5,000 - \$7,000 per unit (depending on quantity) through the company's online store.

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