



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Rob Lineback, Senior Market
Research Analyst
IC Insights, Inc.
Phone: +1-972-447-0812
Email: rob@icinsights.com

Power Transistors to Climb Back to Record Levels by 2007

Low voltage, extended battery life, and energy conservation needs fuel rebound

SCOTTSDALE, ARIZONA -- April 20, 2006 -- Price erosion and a sharp slowdown in unit growth caused power transistor sales to slip 4.6% in 2005 to \$7.7 billion from a record high \$8.1 billion in 2004. The slump, however, will be short-lived. Power transistor sales are forecast to increase by about 3% in 2006 and nearly 9% in 2007, which will push worldwide revenues to a new annual peak of \$8.7 billion next year, according to IC Insights' new 200-page *2006 Optoelectronics, Sensor/Actuator, and Discrete (O-S-D) Report*.

Since the early 1990s, power transistor applications have steadily expanded in automotive electronics, personal computers, cell phones, industrial equipment, home appliances, consumer electronics, and many battery-operated portable products. From 1990 to 2010, the power transistor market is expected to increase at a cumulative average growth rate (CAGR) of 8% per year to \$10.5 billion in 2010, based on IC Insights' forecast. During this 21-year time span, the entire discrete semiconductor market will increase at a CAGR of 5%, according to the new *O-S-D Report*.

Power transistors accounted for about half of the \$15.7 billion discrete semiconductor market in 2005. By 2010, power transistors are forecast to represent about 54% of the projected \$19.6 billion in discrete semiconductor sales, says the *O-S-D Report*, which provides full analysis of optoelectronics, sensor/actuator devices, and discretives based on industry standard WSTS definitions.

In the discrete semiconductor market, both power field-effect transistors—mostly power MOSFETs—and insulated gate bipolar transistors (IGBTs) are fueling growth. While integration trends continue to move more transistor functions onto ICs, the number of discrete power devices is actually increasing in many systems applications because of a growing need to conserve, control, and condition electricity from wall plugs and batteries. Consequently, more power MOSFETs are needed in desktop PCs, notebook computers, cell phones, portable systems, and consumer products to enable microprocessors and other ICs to run at top speeds but at low operating voltages.

Low-voltage power MOSFET revenues are expected to increase at a CAGR of 6% between 2005 and 2010 to reach \$4.3 billion in 2010, predicts the *O-S-D Report*. High-voltage power MOSFETs (above 200V) are forecast to increase at a CAGR of more than 9% to \$1.7 billion in 2010.

Meanwhile, IGBTs are forecast to be the fastest growing power transistor group in the 2005-2010 timeperiod with a CAGR of about 12% for transistor products and nearly 11% for

(1 of 2)

modules. IGBTs—which typically serve rugged, slower-switching power applications in automobiles, industrial systems, lighting, and many home appliances—posted sales of \$1.4 billion for transistor and module products combined in 2005. IC Insights is forecasting a 14% increase in total IGBT sales to \$1.6 billion in 2006.

The new *2006 O-S-D Report* expands IC Insights' coverage of the semiconductor industry with detailed analysis of trends and growth rates in the optoelectronics, sensor/actuator, and discrete market segments. The report is available for \$1,990 in either a three-ring binder or CD-ROM format. Additional individual copies of the CD-ROM or binder sell for \$495 each. The report is also available under a multi-user corporate license for \$5,290. Special discount rates for the *O-S-D Report* are available to current subscribers to IC Insights' *McClean Report*, which provides an in-depth analysis of the IC portion of the semiconductor industry.

About IC Insights

IC Insights, Inc., based in Scottsdale, Arizona USA, is dedicated to providing high-quality, cost-effective market research for the semiconductor industry. Founded in 1997, IC Insights offers coverage of global economic trends, the semiconductor market forecast, capital spending and fab capacity trends, product market details, and technology trends, as well as complete IC company profiles and evaluations of end-use applications driving demand for ICs. For more information, contact +1-480-348-1133 or info@icinsights.com, or visit www.icinsights.com.