

# Expanding with electronics in Eastern Europe



Managing Director József Bodor

Insulated gate bipolar transistors, or IGBT, are high-power semiconductor devices which are noted for their high efficiency and fast switching. They switch electric power in many modern appliances: electric cars, lifts and escalators, air-conditioners, wind turbines and photovoltaic systems. One of the leading manufacturers of these highly useful devices is Infineon Technologies, a world leading semiconductor firm. The German company is currently expanding its Hungarian IGBT assembly and testing site which is shared by two Infineon companies: Infineon Technologies Cegléd Kft. and Infineon Technologies Bipoláris Kft.



Cegléd is a backend site shared by Infineon Technologies Cegléd Kft. and Infineon Technologies Bipoláris Kft.



The Hungarian plant specialises in IGBT modules, high-power semiconductor devices noted for their high efficiency and fast switching

Infineon provides semiconductor and systems solutions for three main areas of application: energy efficiency, communications and security. The company has over 26,000 employees worldwide and turns over in excess of 4.3 billion EUR. “We strive to be the most responsive partner for innovative semiconductor devices, solutions and services to improve our customers’ competitiveness,” József Bodor, managing director of both Infineon Technologies Cegléd and Infineon Technologies Bipoláris, describes the mission of Infineon. In the Group’s international expansion strategy, its operations in Hungary play a vital role. Infineon Technologies Cegléd and Infineon Technologies Bipoláris, the latter being a wholly owned subsidiary of Infineon

Technologies Bipolar GmbH & Co. KG in Warstein, Germany – a joint venture of Infineon Technologies and Siemens – are both situated in Cegléd, about 80 km to the south-east of Budapest. “The two companies share a backend site dedicated to the assembly and testing of IGBT modules,” explains Mr. Bodor. “The power devices are used in a wide range of industrial applications, in particular in power generation and distribution.” In addition to IGBT modules, the Cegléd plant produces several other semiconductor components such as disk-type thyristors, diode discs and bipolar modules. The Cegléd site, which generates over twelve million EUR in annual revenues and employs a total of 460 people, including 180 at Infineon

Technologies Bipoláris, is currently being expanded to meet the growing demand for power modules for renewable energy and traditional motor drive applications. “Until 2012, we will invest around 17 million EUR in new buildings and manufacturing equipment,” says Mr. Bodor. The expansion, which will more than double the volume of IGBT modules produced in Cegléd to six million annually, will be supported by the Hungarian government with 1.4 million EUR in project funding. “We have already won four state grants, which has a stabilising effect on our long-term development in the country,” states Mr. Bodor. Other success factors include Cegléd’s strong affiliation with the parent company and a healthy, medium-term strategy with

well-defined goals. “We are dedicated to providing power chips and modules enabling efficient generation, distribution and consumption of the electrical energy available,” concludes Mr. Bodor. ■

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