## **New High Performance Infrared Detectors for Space**

CENTRE FOR EARTH OBSERVATION INSTRUMENTATION EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES WORKSHOP

Keith Barnes – Programme Manager, Science business segment

2ND MAY 2019







- Overview of Leonardo Company
- Infrared Detectors Business and technology
- Space Heritage
- Detector developments for Current flight programmes
- Detector pre-developments
- COTS detectors for space imaging
- Technology developments
- Conclusions



# A top 10 Global Defence & Aerospace Company

Leonardo is a global high-tech company and one of the key players in Aerospace, Defence and Security worldwide.

### **Divisions**



Helicopters



Electronics



Cyber Security

### Subsidiaries/Joint Ventures







**MBDA** 37.5% BAE Systems 37.5% Airbus Group 25% Leonardo



ATR 50% Leonardo 50% Airbus Group





2018 Results

(€bn)

12.4

Revenue

Order backlog

15.3 New

orders



# **Major UK presence**

### Edinburgh

Radar, Lasers, Infra-Red Counter Measures, Electro-Optic Targeting

### Luton and Lincoln

Defensive Aid Suites, Radar Warning Receivers, Jammers, EW Cyber, EW Training, Mission Systems Integration, Satellite services, Geo-information and ground systems

### **Bristol**

Cyber and Information Assurance, Critical Infrastructure, Training & Simulation

### Yeovil

End-to-end helicopter capability

### **Basildon**

Optronics, Defence Communications Systems, Critical National Infrastructure (CNI), Land Systems, Acoustics

### Southampton

**Infra-Red Detection**, Defence Communications Systems, Traffic Control Systems



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# **Southampton History**

60 year heritage in cooled and uncooled IR Detectors













- **1950** Work began on infrared detectors at Mullard Research Laboratories (Philips)
- 1993 Business purchased by GEC-Marconi
- 1999 GEC-Marconi defence interests purchased by British Aerospace to form
  - BAE Systems Plc
- **2005** JV between Italian company Finmeccanica and BAE Systems to create Selex S&AS
- 2007 Finmeccanica buy BAE Systems stake
- 2010 Selex Galileo re-branding
- 2013 Company re-organisation to form Selex ES
- 2014 Integration of 3 Selex ES sites at Southampton
- 2016 Creation of a single company and re-branding to Leonardo (Leonardo MW Ltd is the UK legal entity)



# Infrared Detectors Southampton UK

#### World leader in the design, development and manufacture of IR detectors

180 people (>70 degree or above)9500m2 facility, 3000m2 clean roomsLRQA Quality Assurance ISO 9001:2008 | AS9100 Rev D | ISO14001:2004

#### Markets include:

- Infrared spectroscopy
- Space & Astronomy instruments
- Thermal Imaging for Land-based, Naval & Airborne systems
- Missile Guidance

### **IR Material Technologies:**

### DLATGS

Single element room temp pyroelectric detectors, broad spectral response

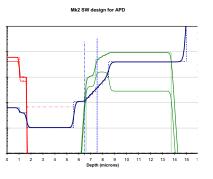
### Mercury Cadmium Telluride (MCT)

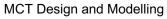
High performance SW (0.8 - 3) MW (3-5), LW (8-11.5um) and broadband 2-D FPA detectors, Dual Colour and HD LW and VLW PC detectors



# Technology – MCT hybrid photovoltaic arrays

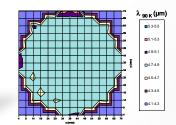
Proprietary MOVPE semiconductor growth technology and indium bump bond flip chip hybridisation



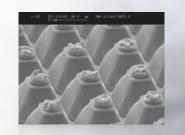




3<sup>rd</sup> generation MCT growth on low cost 3" and 4" GaAs substrates



λ Mapping



Wafer scale MCT processing into mesa diode arrays with Indium bump interconnect to ROIC



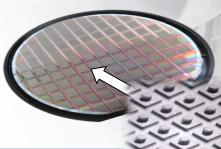
Space test cleanroom



Dedicated space assembly cleanroom



Flip Chip bump bonder

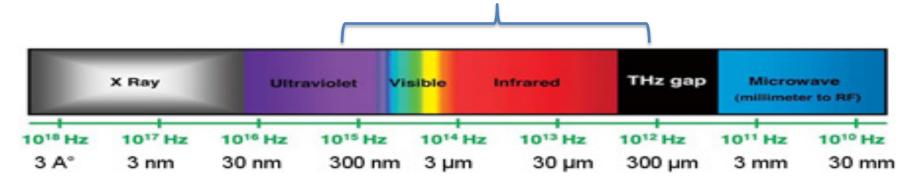


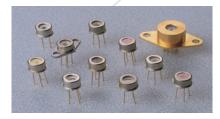
CMOS Wafer Indium Bump Deposition & Probe Testing



# **Technology – DLATGS pyroelectric detectors**

- Broad spectral capability of DLATGS extends from 0.2µm to >100µm
- Deuteration increases the Curie Temperature from 49° C to 60° C
- Alanine doping enables material to repole after exposure to temperatures above it's Curie point
- Industry standard packages available include TO5, TO66 and TO37
- Standard window materials include KBr, CsI, ARC ZnSe, CaF<sub>2</sub>, KRS-5, Polythene, Diamond
- Additional environmental protection including parylene coating and hermetic window sealing
- TO66 and TO37 packages include a single stage peltier cooler (TEC) to enable temperature stabilisation element









# **Applications – DLATGS pyroelectric detectors**

# Lab based FT-IR Spectrometer Portable Hand-held SIZAIRASCA SCAILES 35 IR Microscope Thermal emission spectrometer on Mars Rover

Company General Use

10

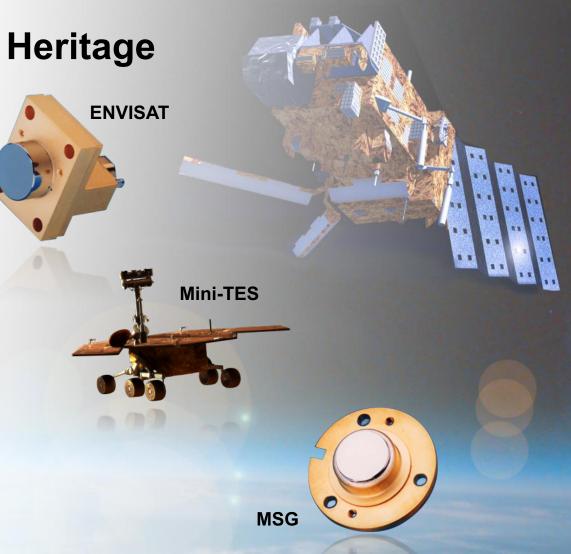


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# **Infrared Detectors – Space Flight Heritage**

Selective chopper radiometer 1972 Nimbus 5 for NASA in collaboration with University of Oxford 1974 Horizon sensor – X4 Miranda Earth Satellite UK/USA 1975 IR spin scan radiometer Synchronous meteorological satellite for Hughes Corporation 1977 Meteosat 1st generation 1991 ATSR (Along track scanning radiometer) – UARS for RAL 1998 PMIRR (Pressure modulated infra red radiometer) Mars Mariner for University of Oxford STRV2 – 2 colour PV array for DERA/BMDO 2000 2001 BIRD (bispectral integrated detector cooler assembly) for DLR 2002 MIPAS (Michelson interferometer for passive atmospheric sounding) Envisat for ESA 2003 Raytheon Mini TES on NASA's Mars Spirit and Opportunity Rovers 2004 SEVIRI (Spinning Enhanced Visible and InfraRed Imager) Meteosat 2nd generation (MSG) 2016 OSIRIS-REx thermal emission spectrometer (OTES) NASA asteroid sample return mission 2018 GOSAT 2 - Greenhouse Gas Observing Satellite-2 FTIR – JAXA mission UAE Planetary Science Mission – Study of climate and atmosphere 2020 2020 ISEM (Infrared Spectrometer for ExoMars) for ESA





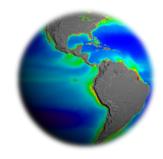
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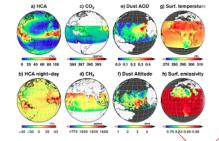


# Infrared Detector – Current Space Flight Programmes

- 2021 NASA LUCY mission to Jupiter's Trojan asteroids
- TGS The first space mission to study Jupiter's swarms of Trojan asteroids mission will revolutionize knowledge of planetary origins and the formation of the solar system.
- 2022 NASA PACE OCI SWIR detectors
- MCT Plankton, Aerosol and Cloud Ecosystems (PACE) on Ocean Colour Instrument (OCI) Monitoring global phytoplankton distribution and abundance with unprecedented detail, the OCI will help us to better understand the complex systems that drive ocean ecology.
- 2022 CNES IASI-NG to be launched on MetOp SG A
- MCT Infrared Atmospheric Sounding Interferometer New Generation Measurement of the temperature and water vapour profiles of the Earth's atmosphere for Meteorology, and huge potential to measure greenhouse gases, clouds, aerosols, ozone and trace gases.









### **IASI NG Infrared Detector Requirements**

These are realised as Mercury Cadmium Telluride (MCT) infrared sensing arrays in 4 detectors

- Detection unit stored at a cryogenic temperature (of around -200 °C)
- Coverage of the infrared band of 3.6 to 15.5 microns
- Designed for optimum signal-to-noise ratio
- Common 4 x 4 array format of 1.3 mm square macropixel to match IASI-NG instrument optics
- Band 1 uses 1<sup>st</sup> generation MCT growth technology to give best performance for longwave material
- Bands 2, 3 and 4 use Leonardo proprietary 3<sup>rd</sup> generation MCT growth technology hybridized to custom silicon readout IC

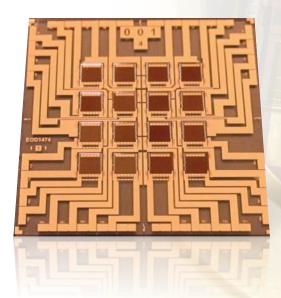
4	3	2	1	BAND	
3.6-4.4	4.4-5.1	5.1-8.7	8.7–15.5	μm	
3 <sup>rd</sup> GENERATION PHOTOVOLTAIC			1 <sup>st</sup> GENERATION PHOTOCONDUCTIVE	TYPE	



### IASI-NG Band 1 MCT Photoconductive Array 1<sup>st</sup> generation technology

Heritage from other space programmes such as Meteosat second generation SEVIRI instrument

- Referred to as 1st generation infrared growth technology which became mature in the 1970s.
- Ideal for very long wave detectors, up to 17 microns, where they are superior to photodiodes in S/N and detectivity
- 4 x 4 macropixel array to match IASI-NG instrument optics
- New, optimized design, developed to give best performance for IASI-NG each macropixel comprises 12 strip labyrinth device





### IASI-NG Bands 2, 3 and 4 Photovoltaic Arrays 3<sup>rd</sup> generation technology

IASI-NG detectors are the first detectors developed, qualified and manufactured for space using Leonardo's 3rd generation MCT technology They share the heritage, reliability, and manufacturability of Leonardo's conventional MCT arrays in production in Southampton

#### MCT DIODE ARRAY

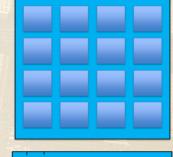
- MCT chips are approximately 1cm square
- 4 x 4 macropixel array, each macropixel 1.3mm square
- Formed of a continuous matrix of photodiodes on 22 micron pitch

#### **CUSTOM SILICON READOUT INTEGRATED CIRCUIT (ROIC)**

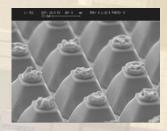
- Designed for IASI-NG to provide required functionality in a radiation hard design
- Integrated 5 x 5 diode memory cell within the silicon readout IC allow for diode selection/deselection to achieve highest performance

#### INDIUM BUMP BOND HYBRIDISATION

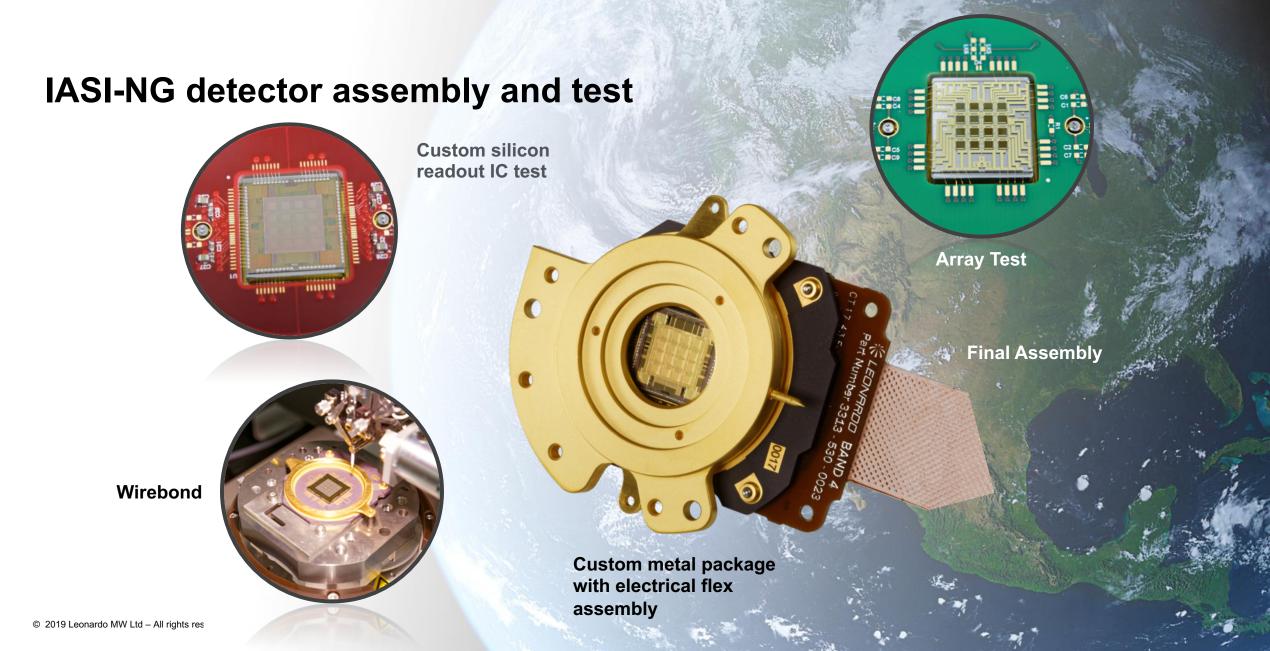
All MCT photodiodes are individually electrically connected to metallization pads on the Silicon chip









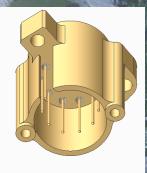


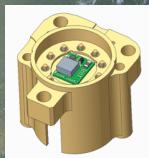


### **PACE for NASA**

#### SWIR MCT large area diode co-packaged with discrete electronic components

- PACE = Plankton, Aerosol and Cloud Ecosystems on Ocean Colour Instrument (OCI) planned launch 2022.
- Supply of engineering and flight sub-assemblies consisting of large area MCT diodes and other components.
- Wavebands from 1.5 to 2.5μm.
- 350μm diameter diode produced by shorting together 24μm pitch mesas.
  - Bump bonded to GaAs lead-out on which discrete electronic chip components are also mounted
- Low capacitance design
  - Small junction area compared to optical area.
- MCT with n-absorber and p-common (n on p)
  - Illumination through common
  - Common transmits radiation > 1.4 μm
  - Absorption starts at junction giving high internal QE and good linearity
- Gold plated Kovar non-hermetic package







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## **MCT detector pre-developments for Space Applications**

#### <u>ESA</u>

Large area avalanche photodiodes – DIAL ESA APD LFNIR 1k x 1k near infrared array \*Visible hybrid CMOS (with e2v) using LFNIR ROIC \*2k x 2k SWIR array including current CCN Very long wave low dark current SAPHIRA SWIR MCT APD gamma and proton testing

#### **CEOI / UK Space**

SWIR MCT APD life testing Heavy ion radiation testing of ESA LFNIR Extended (0.8 – 2.5 µm) response (SAPHIRA) 2k x 2k SWIR APD array Proton testing LFNIR \*CEOI/ANU SWIR 1k x 1k space environmental testing hyperspectra

#### NASA

PACE SWIR large area (ocean survey) \*1k x 1k NIR LFA APD array (UH – NASA)

\*Current projects



### **ROICs customised for Space & Astronomy Applications**

All ROICs are APD compatible

ME1000 SAPHIRA - Shortwave Avalanche PHotodiode for Infra-Red Applications

- ME930 LFNIR Large Format Near Infra-Red
- ME950 SWIR Short Wave Infra-Red

### ME1070 SWIR - 1k x 1k NASA funded

	ME1000 Saphira	ME930 LFNIR	ME950 SWIR	ME1070 1kx1k
Array Format	320 x 256	1280 x 1032	2056 x 2048	1024 × 1024
Pixel Pitch	24µm	15µm	17µm	15µm
CMOS Technology	0.6µm	0.35µm	0.35µm	0.35µm
Pixel Design	Source Follower	Source Follower	Source Follower	Source Follower
Number of Video Outputs	4 / 8 / 16 / 32	4 / 8 / 16 / 32	16	16
Max. Frame Rate	4kHz	5Hz	40Hz	15Hz



# MCT SWIR Avalanche photodiode arrays

Leonardo's SAPHIRA MCT arrays have recently been subjected to radiation testing under an ESA contract.

They are already enabling new science on ESO's ground based GRAVITY astronomy instrument

Jan 2016 First Light For Future Black Hole Probe

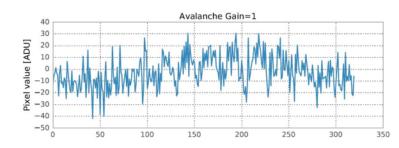
June 2016 Successful First Observations of Galactic Centre with GRAVITY

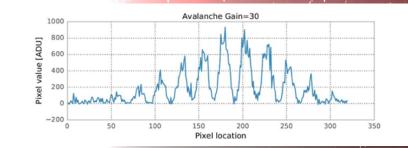
- July 2018 First Successful Test of Einstein's General Relativity Near Supermassive Black Hole
- Oct 2018 Most Detailed Observations of Material Orbiting close to a Black Hole

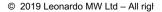
Mar 2019 GRAVITY instrument breaks new ground in exoplanet imaging

Each telescope has one SAPHIRA acting as **wavefront sensors**, observing the same star and controlling atmospheric distortion and a fifth SAPHIRA acting as a **fringe tracker** to lock the four telescopes together to a few nanometers.

This gives similar resolution to a space-based telescope of 130m diameter

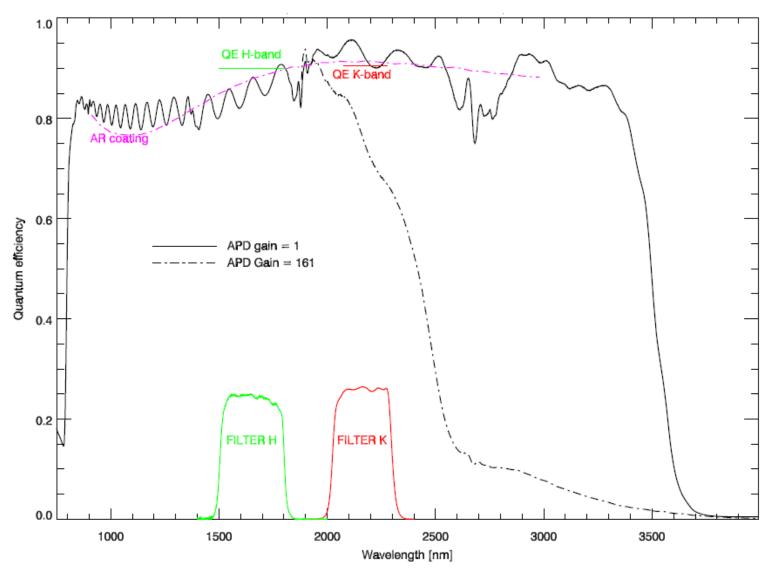








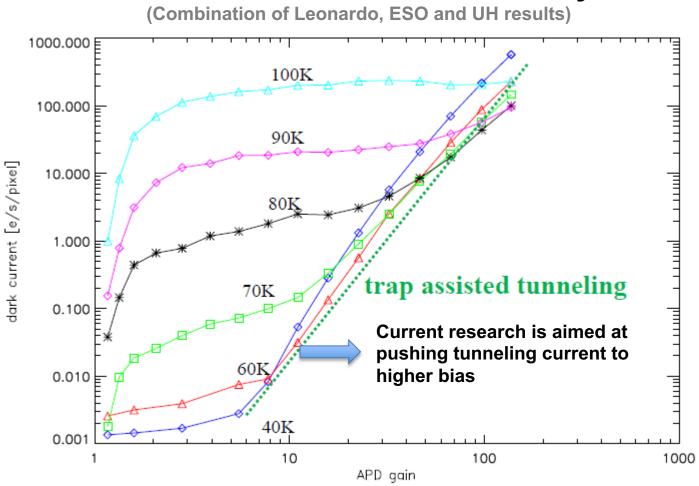
### SWIR APD Characterisation ESO measurement (QE)



24



### Dark current in Mark 13/14 arrays



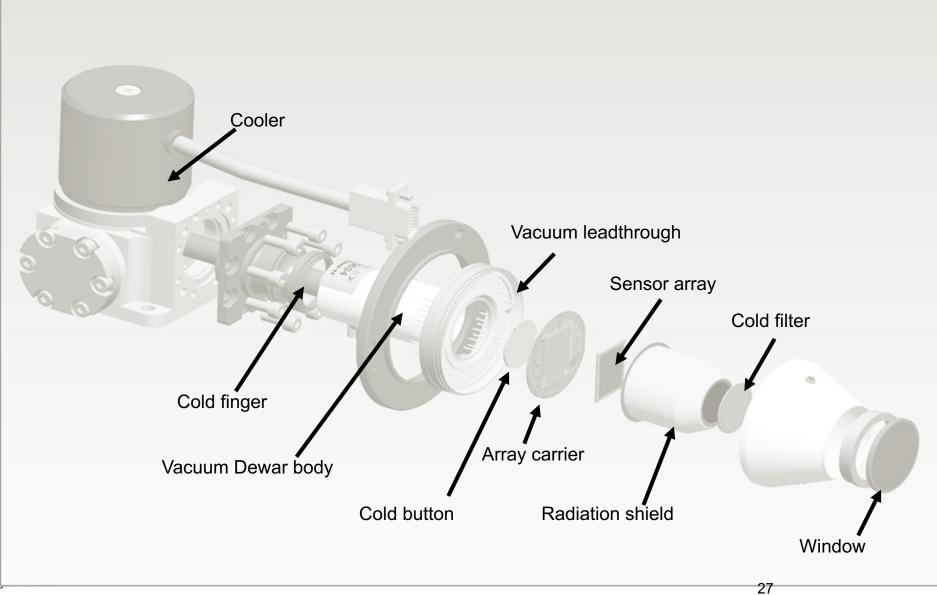
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### **Generic Infra-red detector assembly**



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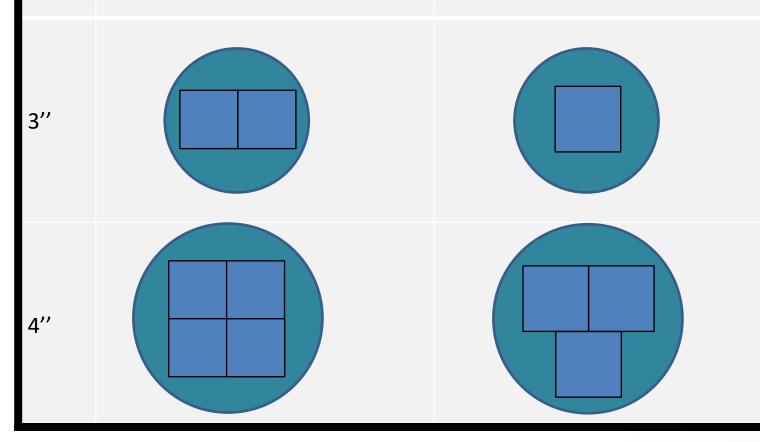


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# LARGE FORMAT ARRAYS : 4" vs 3" substrate

Example of a 2kx2k array on 15µm pitch, inclusive of dummy pixels = 32mm x 32mm Example of a 2kx2k array on 17µm pitch, inclusive of dummy pixels = 35mm x 35mm





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# CONCLUSIONS

All of these activities contribute to the competitiveness of Leonardo infrared detectors

- IASI-NGMaintains our 1st generation MCT PC technology capability<br/>Provides flight heritage for 3rd generation MCT PV technology<br/>Demonstrates capability to deliver a highly demanding detector development for space<br/>Developed skills across engineering, production and product assurance
- PACE Establishes working relationship and credibility with NASA Develops assembly techniques for space electronics
- CEOI Demonstrate suitability of new technology for space applications De-risks technology by increasing TRL and gather data for the next proposals
- SCIENCE Improved accuracy and confidence in instrument data Demonstrate fundamental laws of physics
- COMMERCIAL Exploits latest manufacturing and product technology for space Develops technology and skills to the benefit of the whole detector business Increases the profile of the company and the Leonardo detector business

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

