

Course Description

Course name	#037 - Power Semiconductor Device Technology
Duration	3 days
Format	Public Classroom, Inhouse Event and Online

Overview

Dr. Jeffrey Gambino, ON Semiconductor, United States, is teaching this advanced 3-day course, which will provide a high-level overview of the entire fabrication process of modern Power Semiconductor devices.

Technical Focus

The rapid growth of the semiconductor industry has relied on the continual evolution of materials and processing compatible with fabricating modern silicon-based integrated circuits. Power semiconductor devices do benefit from scaling, but most of the performance improvements come from wafer fab and assembly process innovations, such as vertical gates, backside thinning, and Direct Bonded Copper (DBC) substrates, and from new substrate materials, such as SiC and GaN.

Course Content

This course includes all the key materials involved and the process areas utilized in device manufacturing, including the starting wafers, device design, wafer fab processes, assembly processes, yield, and reliability.

Who should attend?

The course is addressed to a broad audience and is not intended as a research review, although it will be taught at a high level and in many areas will require familiarity with the subject matter.

Course Daily Schedule

1. Introduction; Day 1 AM.

This section provides a brief overview of power semiconductor applications and the basics of power conversion, including the challenges associated with power conversion.

- a. Application
- b. DC-to-DC conversion
- c. AC-to-DC conversion
- d. DC-to-AC conversion

2. Brief Review of CMOS Device Physics; Day 1 AM.

This section provides a review of types of devices used for power electronics.

- a. p-n Junctions
- b. Bipolar Transistors
- c. MOS devices
- d. MOSFET devices
- e. HEMT devices

3. Wafer fabrication; Day 1 PM.

This section is a review of wafer fabrication processes and challenges, especially with regard to defects in each type of substrate.

- a. Si wafers + epitaxy
- b. SiC wafers + epitaxy
- c. GaN wafers + epitaxy

4. Basic Semiconductor processes; Day 1 PM.

This section provides an overview of semiconductor process technology with the main focus on Si devices, but with additional discussion on unique processes for SiC and GaN.

- a. Lithography
- b. Etch
- c. Isolation
- d. Gate Dielectrics
- e. Gate Stack
- f. Ion Implantation
- g. Contacts
- h. Interconnects.
- i. Packaging

5. Power Semiconductor Devices. Day 2.

This section is a detailed discussion on device design and fabrication.

- a. Si
 - i. Rectifiers
 - ii. MOSFETs

- iii. IGBTs
- iv. Thyristors
- v. Bipolar-CMOS-DMOS (BCD)

b. SiC

- i. Rectifiers
- ii. MOSFETs

c. GaN

- i. Accumulation mode
- ii. Depletion mode

6. Yield. Day 3.

This section is a brief review of in-line process monitoring and test strategy for power devices.

- a. Yield loss mechanisms
- b. In-line monitoring
- c. Statistical Process Control
- d. Test strategy

7. FEOL Reliability;

This section reviews reliability requirements and qualifications of power devices.

- a. Reliability statistics
- b. JEDEC and AEC1010
- c. Gate oxide Breakdown
- d. Bias Temperature Instability (BTI)
- e. High Temperature Reverse Bias (HTRB)
- f. Hot carrier instability (HCI)
- g. Unclamped Inductive Switching (UIS)
- h. Avalanche Stress Test
- i. Safe Operating Area (SOA)
- j. Latchup
- k. Electrostatic Discharge (ESD) and Electrical Overstress (EOS)
- l. Soft Errors

8. BEOL reliability;

This section reviews reliability requirements and qualification of interconnects and packaging for power devices.

- a. Electromigration
- b. Stress Migration
- c. TDDB
- d. Package reliability
 - i. Moisture Sensitivity Level (MSL)
 - ii. High temperature storage
 - iii. Thermal cycle
 - iv. Power-Temperature cycle (PTC)
 - v. Highly Accelerated Stress Test (HAST)

- vi. High Temperature Operation Life (HTOL)
- vii. Early Life Failure Rate (ELFR)

9. Future directions.

This section describes industry trends and outlook for the future.

- a. Si Devices
- b. Compound Semiconductors.
- c. 3D integration.

Instructor Biography

Dr. Jeffrey Gambino. PhD, ON Semiconductor, Oregon, USA.

Dr. Gambino received the B.S. degree in materials science from Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, in 1979, and the PhD degree in materials science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA, in 1984.

He joined IBM, Hopewell Junction, NY, in 1984, where he worked on silicide processes for Bipolar and CMOS devices. In 1992, he joined the DRAM development alliance at IBM's Advanced Semiconductor Technology Center, Hopewell Junction, NY. While there, he developed contact and interconnect processes for 0.25-, 0.175-, and 0.15-um DRAM products. In 1999, he joined IBM's manufacturing organization in Essex Junction, VT, where he worked on copper interconnect processes for CMOS logic technology.

Since 2015 Dr. Gambino has held a position as Senior Process Integration Engineer at ON Semiconductor in Oregon, USA.

He has published over 90 technical papers and holds over 100 patents.

Dr. Gambino has been a member of the Continuing Education Institute-Europe faculty since 2007.