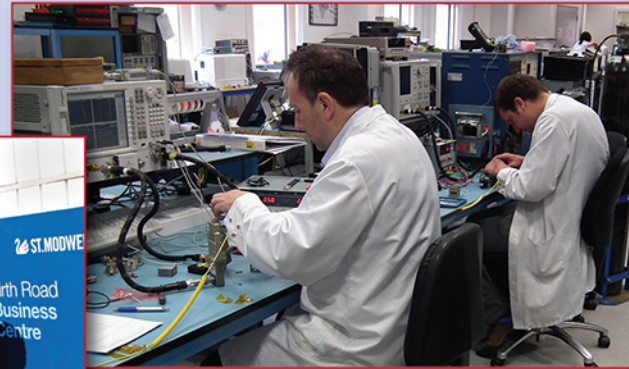


FAB S and LAB S

e2v's Microwave Division Lays New Foundations to Take the Business Forward



e2v is a leading global provider of innovative technology that employs approximately 1,750 people across 10 countries in Europe, America and Asia and has annual sales of

£220 million. A vital cornerstone of the company, with a rich history of innovation and technological advancement is the microwave division, which has now laid down strong foundations for the future with the move to a new facility on Firth Road, Lincoln, UK in December 2015.

The move is part of a general company strategy to simplify and consolidate each core activity into focused businesses that are, by and large, stand-alone. The company still sells thousands of magnetrons a year and will continue to serve its traditional market, but it is also perfectly placed to participate in and benefit from the development of technology at higher frequencies, particularly millimetre wave components and systems.

Prior to taking up residence in the new facility, e2v's microwave business had been disparate with the existing complex on Sadler Road, Lincoln housing the design office, along with development and testing, while manufacturing was at e2v's main site in Chelmsford. The new 1,400 m² Firth Road facility will bring design and manufacturing under one roof and will enable e2v to deliver its growth plans, support market demand for new products, provide more efficient delivery to customers and create new employment in the region. The same can be said for the Electronic Safety & Initiation business, which will remain at Sadler Road, and will utilise the new-found space for its own business development.

There is a large office section, substantial manufacturing area plus store and machine shop. Along with the design and development department, which will focus on project management and business development, Firth Road is home to manufacturing and manufacturing engineering, equip-

ment support, purchasing, quality, materials management and logistics. The 45-member staff includes 10 newly created positions, 17 design engineers covering microwaves, electronics, mechanical, ATE and PCB design, plus 15 manufacturing engineers and technicians.

The Firth Road site was also chosen due to its close proximity to the University of Lincoln Campus. The aim is to further strengthen the company's long-standing links with the university's School of Engineering and School of Mathematics and Physics with course specific scholarships and funding for an e2v Technology Research Associate within the School of Engineering.

e2v also has strong links with the University of Nottingham, which materialised when the company's facility on Carholme Road, Lincoln was closed. The large semiconductor Fab processing plant was taken out of the business but e2v needed to keep the core technology. The company made the decision to spin into the University of Nottingham, where it has three employees in the e2v Semiconductor Technology Centre, a state-of-the-art semiconductor 100 m² clean room in the University's School of Physics and Astronomy (SPA).

In its five-year collaboration the partnership has made ground-breaking achievements in research and development and device manufacture, including cutting-edge e2v Gunn and Schottky diodes. This joint effort has also spearheaded a wealth of research and development in: Superlattice electron devices (SLED) for millimetre wave components and the manufacture and use of semiconductor PIN diodes for receiver protection. e2v has also been awarded a major, long-term contract to supply semiconductor devices into a key millimetre wave system.

With technology to the fore, consolidated on a dedicated site, the e2v microwave business is set to start 2016 on the right road.

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