

Discera Overview

Discera is a fabless system semiconductor company that designs, develops, and markets the world smallest, most integrated, multi-frequency components for advanced RF, Clock, and Timing applications. Discera recently introduces its award winning proprietary PureSilicon Resonator™ technology to provide an effective replacement solution to Quartz crystal, Ceramic, and other SAW-based frequency control and timing products.

Products

Discera's initial products are miniaturized clock, PLL, and other frequency synthesizer products for form factor challenged applications.

Markets and Applications

Discera products uniquely address the miniaturization requirements of RF, clock, and timing applications used in digital consumer and mobile products such as multi-band cellular radios, camera, MP3 players, GPS, Mini disk drive, TV player, etc...In addition emerging medical and other applications with tough environment requirements can benefit from using our very small and robust products.

Technology

Discera's CMOS compatible PureSilicon Resonator™ technology is different in the way that it uses silicon material for its mechanical properties instead of its electrical properties. This results in resonator devices being orders of magnitude smaller, more stable, and power effective compared with current technology while benefiting from the worldwide installed base of low-cost CMOS manufacturing facilities.

Discera heavily patented PureSilicon Resonator™ technology is the culmination of several years of major developments conducted by, world renowned, founder Dr Clark Nguyen and Discera employees. The fabrication of Discera PureSilicon Resonator™ based products relies on using well established CMOS manufacturing techniques. Discera's IP (50+ licenses) covers a wide range of innovative resonator devices structure; manufacturing and packaging techniques; and revolutionary RF architectures.

Discera components are fabricated using a CMOS compatible manufacturing process combined with a proprietary packaging and chip finishing technology to deliver the world smallest packaged resonator-based silicon components on the market. Discera has also developed proprietary circuit design techniques that revolutionize the way frequency control devices are designed and enable the fabrication of pure silicon electronic products that eliminate the need for non-silicon devices such as Quartz crystals, Ceramic, SAW and FBAR devices.

Business model

Discera is a fabless system semiconductor company that currently offers miniaturized hardware components to uniquely address the challenges of the most demanding RF, Clock, and Timing applications with the smallest form factor requirements. Discera is currently developing micro-oscillators for evaluation. These products are fabricated using the same semiconductor manufacturing techniques that are used in high-volume IC

fabrication. Discera has forged co-development, manufacturing, and distribution partnerships with market leaders.

Customers

Discera's targeted customers include component and system companies developing highly integrated products for digital consumer and mobile applications.

Financing

Discera was founded in 2001 by Dr. Clark Nguyen and Rick Snyder. The company closed a Series B round in February 2004. Current investors include Ardesta, 3i, Partech, and Qualcomm Ventures.

Offices

Discera is headquartered in San Jose, California and has an R&D office in Ann Arbor, Michigan.