



“Having operated in Thailand for more than 30 years, Sony Device Technology (Thailand) is proud to be one of the world’s leading semiconductor manufacturers. With the support of the BOI, we have been able to create a company that is synonymous with quality and customer satisfaction.”

Mr. Hirofumi Nagata
Managing Director

A Global Supplier of Semiconductor Parts and Accessories

Sony Device Technology (Thailand) Co., Ltd.

Beginning operations in 1988, Sony Device Technology (Thailand) Co., Ltd. (SDT) was the company's first integrated circuit (IC) semiconductor plant to be built outside of Japan. As a member of the Sony Semiconductor Solutions Group, the company has played a significant role in supplying top quality semiconductors for a wide range of electronic products on the world market. Located in Tambol Bangkadi in Pathumthani, the company engages over 700 employees who are responsible for producing a wide range of electronic components. Originally focused on television and radio components, SDT has now shifted its focus to meet the global demand for image sensors and display technology. To meet this need, operations have gradually expanded from its original facility with the opening of two additional buildings, one in 2004 and another in 2007. Currently SDT's clean room - the environmentally controlled environment that is required to achieve the exacting quality standards customers have come to expect - is an impressive 8,200 square meters.

Prior to the outbreak of COVID-19, the global semiconductor sector’s total revenue was projected to reach US\$ 730.29 billion by

2026. While this figure may need to be scaled-back to some extent due to the current global economic uncertainty, overall demand for semiconductor parts remains strong. As such, SDT is continuing to position its Thai operations to meet the ongoing worldwide demand, particularly in relation to image sensor devices and high temperature polysilicon (HTPS) LCD Panels for projectors.



Vision for the Future

SDT is now beginning mass production Sony's new M-OLED device. Designed to create digital displays in devices such as electronic viewfinders for digital cameras, medical equipment, and professional cinematography, as well as for use in applications such as AR/VR/MR glasses and digital binoculars, this cutting-edge technology offers ultra-low power

consumption, high definition and contrast, and fast response time with precise color reproduction. These very thin displays bring greater visual impact by providing the advantages of a larger aperture and higher luminance, a wider color spectrum and a higher dynamic range while operating at high speed without any motion blur. Quite literally providing a vision for the future of technology.

Supporting Policies from the Government

The government of Thailand has long supported the growth and development of the electronics industry. Recognizing the special importance of this sector, tax incentives are granted to approved projects in numerous activities, including electronics design such as microelectronics and embedded system design; electronic products and parts using advanced technology, for example telecommunication equipment; electronic parts for medical devices, automotive use and industrial works, hard disk and solid state drives, materials for microelectronics such as wafers and materials based on thin-film technology; and electrical appliances featuring advanced technology. In addition, the government's cluster policy has encouraged companies with related activities to physically locate together by providing them additional tax incentives and other support, thus facilitating joint R&D activities, improving supply chain logistics, and creating opportunities for other cooperative ventures.



SDT currently has five active projects with Board of Investment promotion privileges, and two more that are progressing through the approval processes. These BOI incentives have significantly contributed to SDT's operations in Thailand, including the ability to construct new company buildings, reduce costs as a result of import duty and tax exemptions, and facilitated the smooth issuance of visas and work permits for Japanese engineers. As SDT's future growth in Thailand continues, it is anticipated that it will further engage with other incentives, particularly support for foreign talent and expedited customs clearances. Mr. Hirofumi Nagata, Managing Director of SDT, notes that: *"We are incredibly appreciative and thankful to the BOI for their support over many years, including during trying times such as the 2011 Bangkok floods. This support has meant that we've been able to operate our business efficiently, meeting the needs of our customers within Thailand and across the Asia Pacific region."*

Attractive BOI Incentives

The Thailand Board of Investment (BOI) offers a wide range of tax and non-tax incentives for projects that meet national development objectives. Tax-based incentives include an exemption or reduction of import duties on machinery and raw materials, as well as corporate income tax exemptions of up to eight years. Non-tax incentives include permission to bring in expatriates, own land and take or remit foreign currency abroad.

Additional information about specific activities relating to the electronics industry can be found by clicking [here](#) or contacting the BOI's Investment Promotion Bureau 2.

Source: Sony Device Technology (SDT): A Global Supplier of Semiconductor Parts and Accessories. *Thailand Investment Review*, 30, 8-9
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