



**Silicon Carbide Devices and Applications:  
Gate Turn-Off Devices  
Hybrid Si/SiC Inverter  
Power Systems Applications**

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**A. William Clock Dick Herbs Eric Jacobson**

**GE Corporate R&D, Niskayuna, NY**

**DARPA/EPRI Megawatt Review**

**October 17-18, 2000**

**Alexandria, VA**





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## Outline

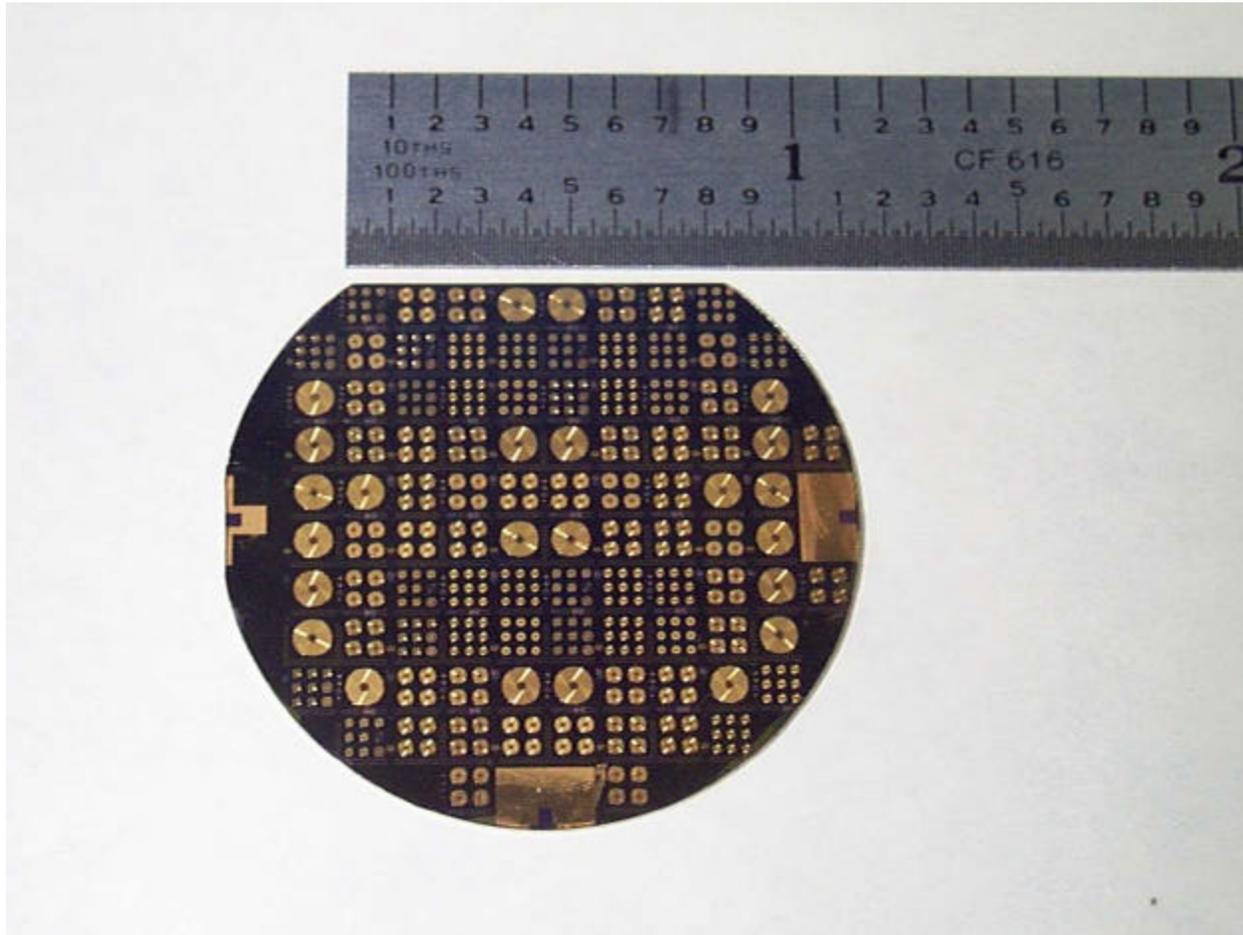
- **SiC GTOs: Dynamic Testing**
- **Hybrid Si/SiC PWM Inverter:**
  - **Experimental Results**
  - **Comparison with an All Si Inverter**
- **Power Systems Applications for SiC**
- **Next Steps**
- **Summary**





# Silicon Carbide GTO Wafer

GE Corporate R&D



**SiC GTO Wafer: 50mm Epi**

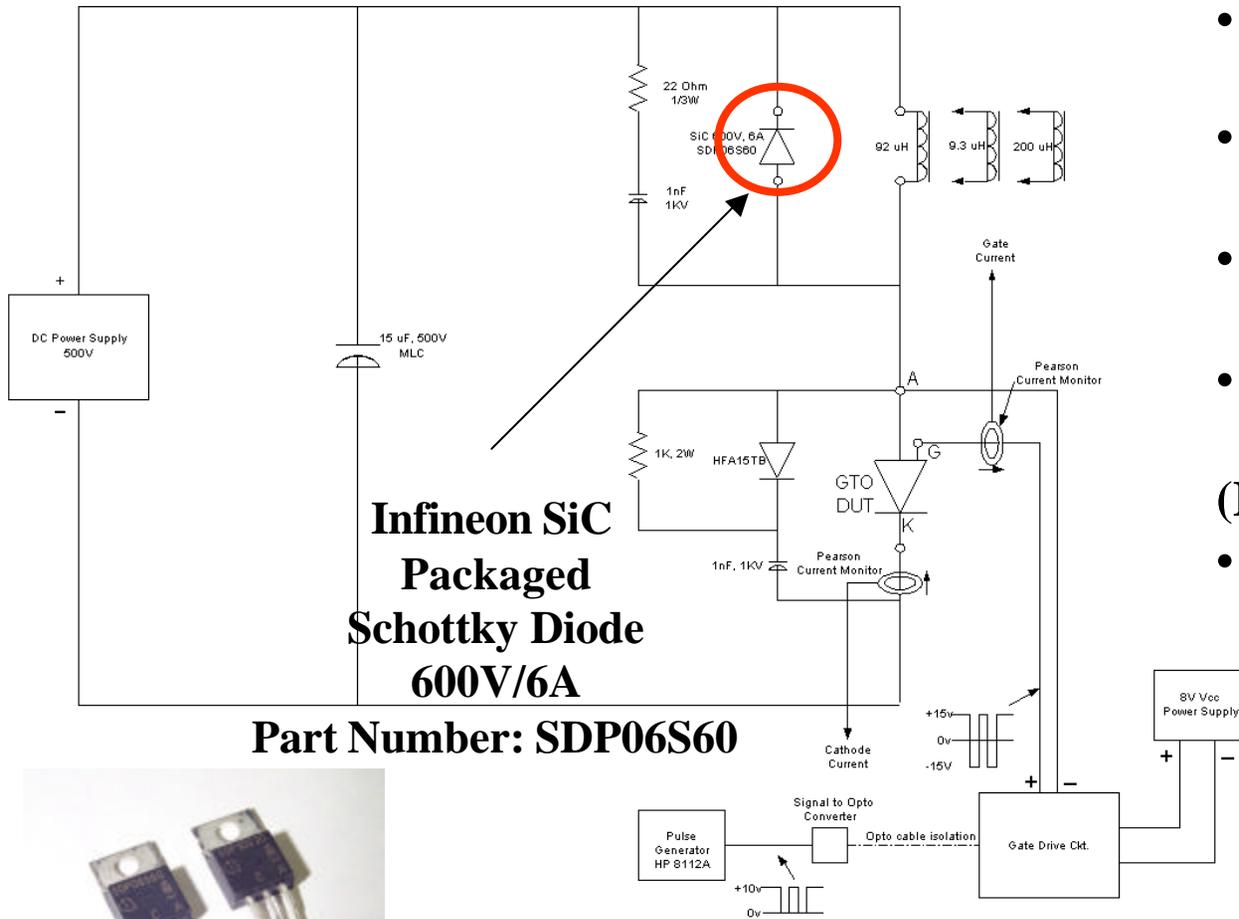


October 17, 2000

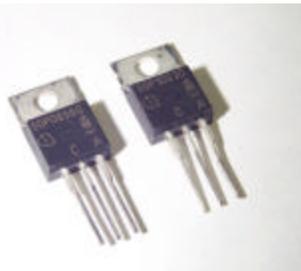
DARPA/GE SiC Megawatt



SiC GTO Switching Test Ckt.



- Tested 12mm, 30mm, 50mm Epi GTOs
- Single and double Pulse Test
- Tested at RT and up to 150°C
- Tested Various Configurations (Involute, Concentric,..)
- Tested Various Sizes (800mm, 1200mm, 2400mm) Diameters



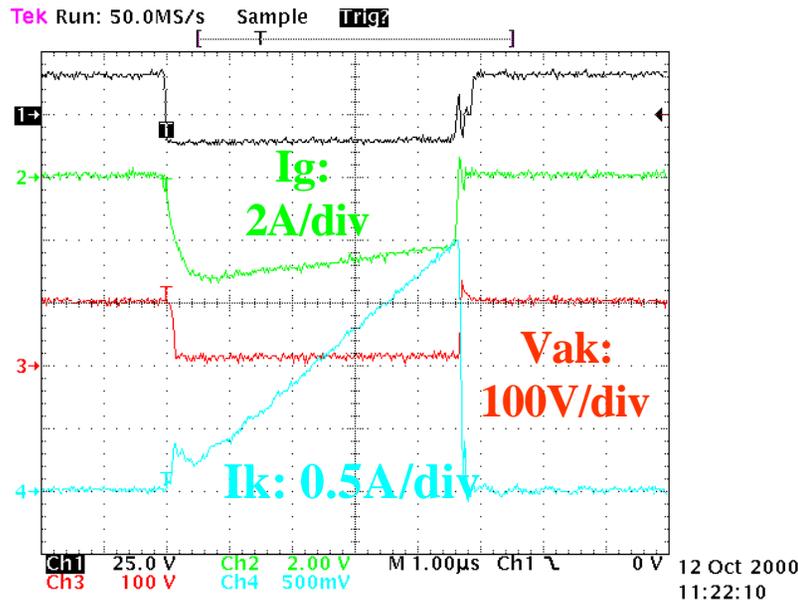
October 17, 2000

**SiC GTOs Pulse Tester** Bill Clock 3/8/00  
Update 8/1/00  
file: GTO Switch Test

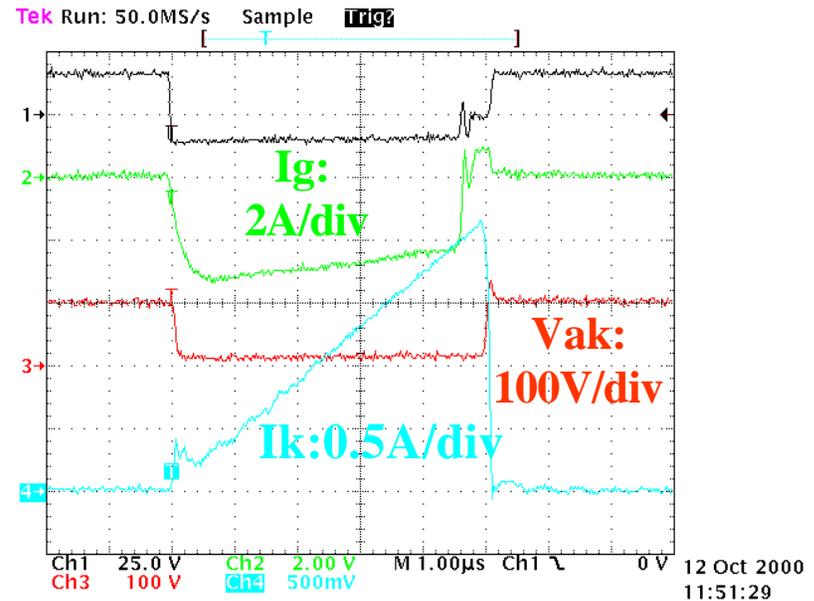




# SiC GTO Inductive Switching Tests Medium Involute Gate, 1200mm Diameter, 30mm Epi



**RT**



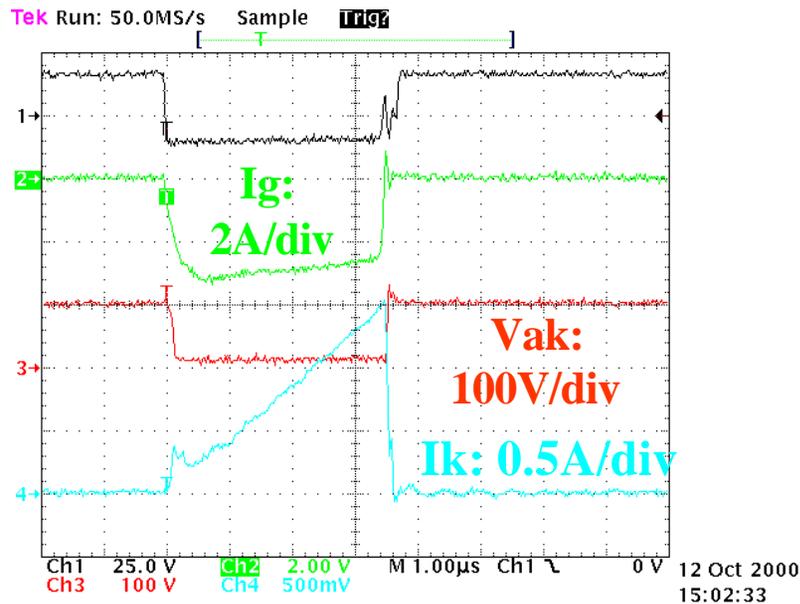
**T=100°C**

**Toff=600ns, Igoff=680mA    Toff=720ns, Igoff=920mA**

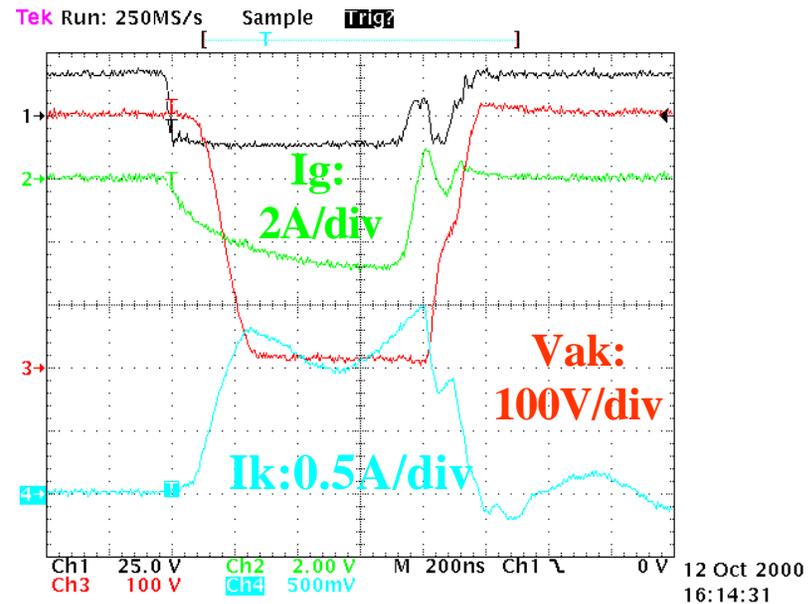




# SiC GTO Inductive Switching Tests Medium Involute Gate, 1200mm Diameter, 30mm Epi



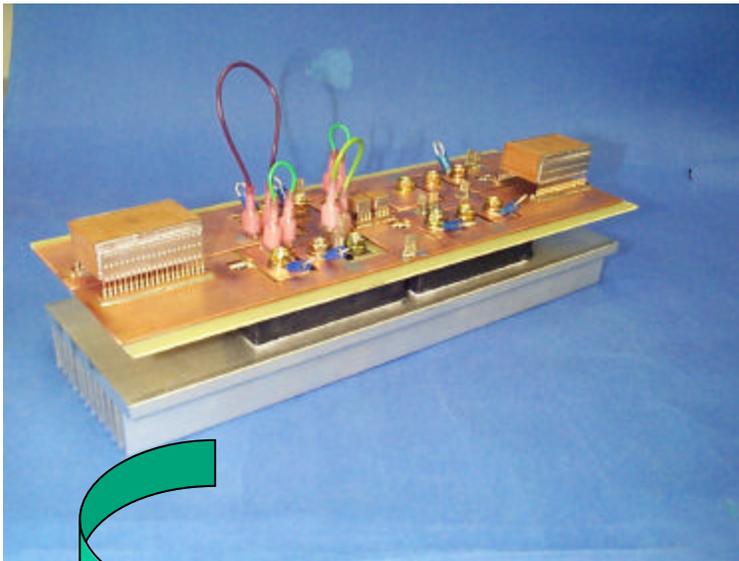
RT,  $V_{dc}=100V$



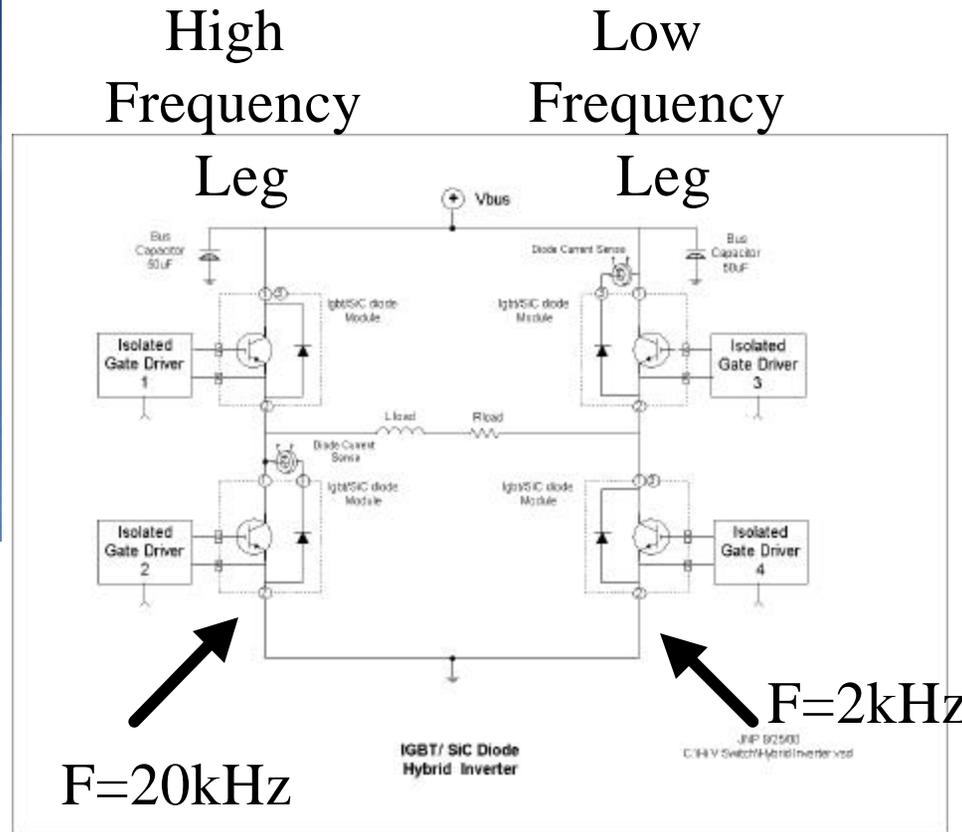
RT,  $V_{dc}=400V$

$T_{off}=640ns, I_{goff}=800mA$   $T_{off}=400ns, I_{goff}=880mA$





- Four Single IGBT Modules (Si IGBT/SiC Diode)
- Laminated Low Inductance Bus



Full Bridge Si IGBT/SiC Diodes  
Hard Switched Pulse Width  
Modulated Inverter



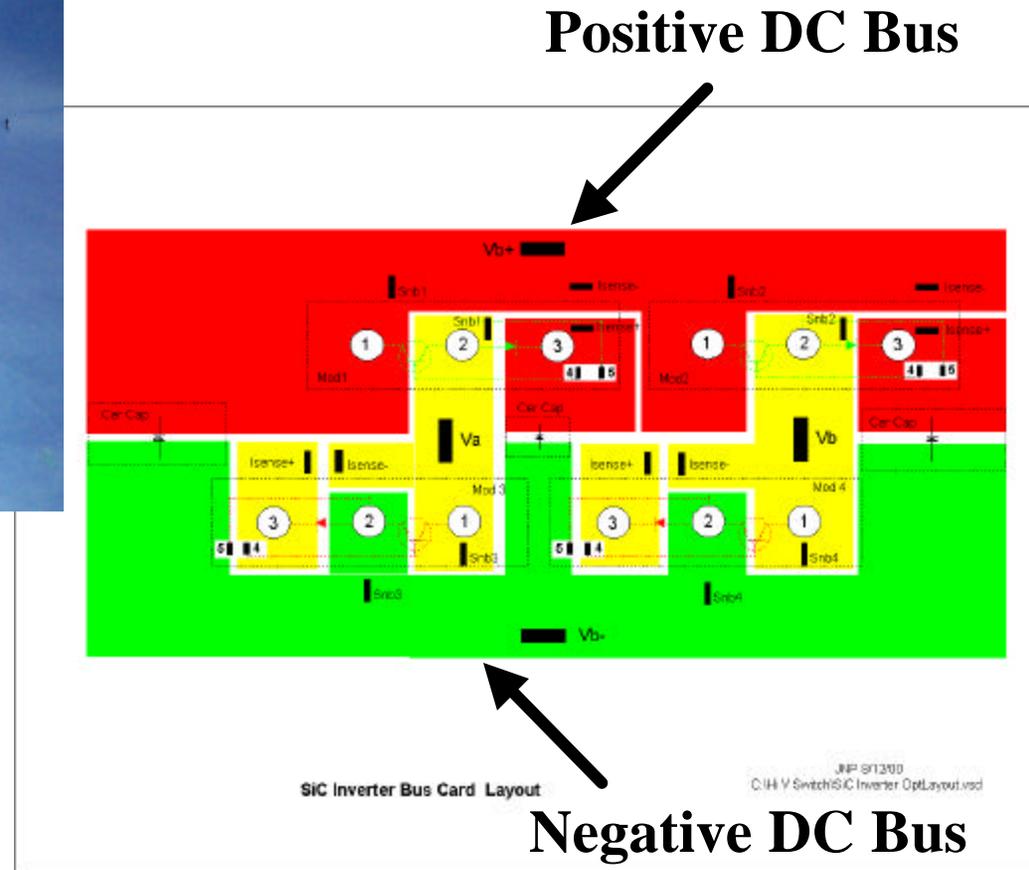


# Hybrid Inverter: Optimal Layout

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Optimal Layout for the PWM Inverter: Ensures very low inductance, hence reduces overall stress caused by  $di/dt$ s





# Hybrid Modules: Si IGBT/SiC Diodes

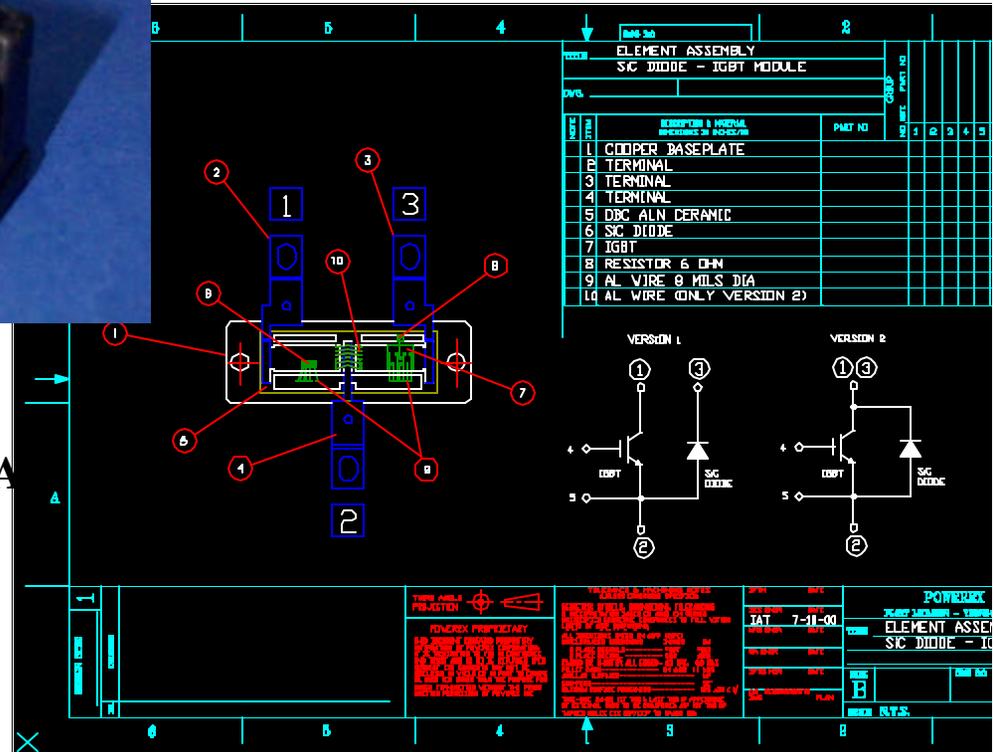
GE Corporate R&D



This module allows monitoring of:

- Si IGBT Current
- SiC Diode Current

**GE/Powerex Si IGBT/SiC Diodes:**  
**Si Powerex PT IGBT: 600V/1200V, 75A**  
**Single Chip**  
**SiC GE Diode: 600V, 20A, 6 Dies in ||**  
**Each Die is a 5mm Epi, Medium Size**  
**800mmx800mm**





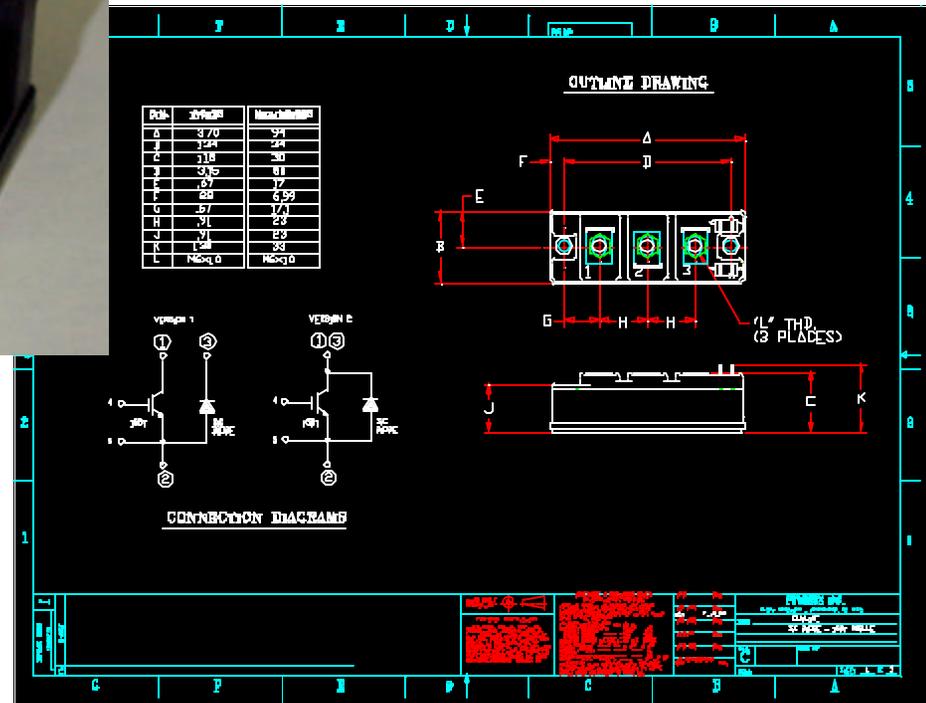
# Hybrid Modules: Si IGBT/SiC Diodes

GE Corporate R&D



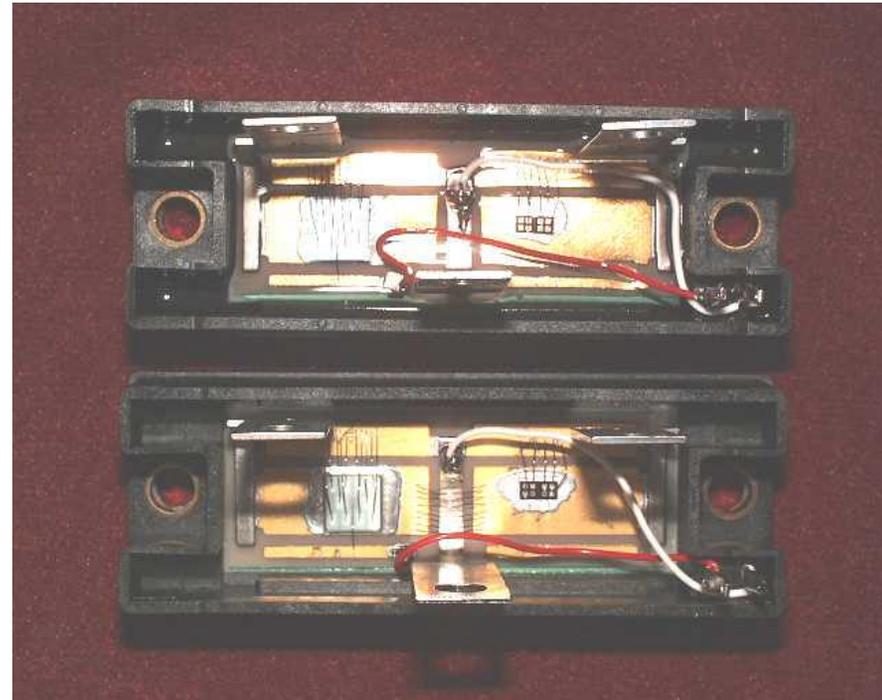
Module with minimum inductance between Si IGBT and SiC Diode

**GE/Powerex Si IGBT/SiC Diodes:**  
**Si Powerex PT IGBT: 600V/1200V, 75A**  
**Single Chip**  
**SiC GE Diode: 600V, 20A, 6 Dies in ||**  
**Each Die is a 5mm Epi, Medium Size**  
**800mmx800mm**





**SiC IGBT Module:  
No Wire Bonds**



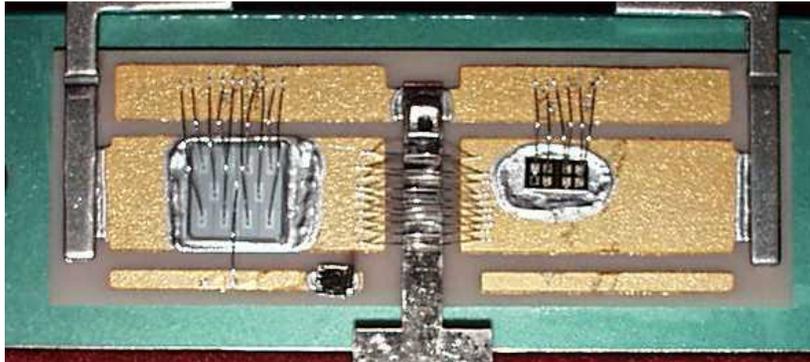
**Gelled Modules**



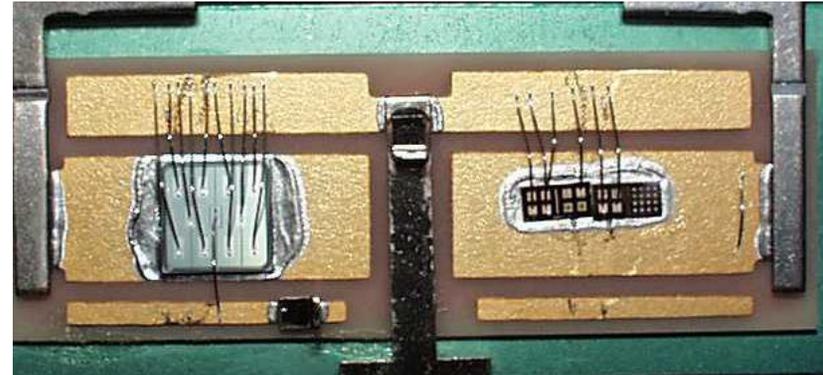


# Si/SiC Module Internals

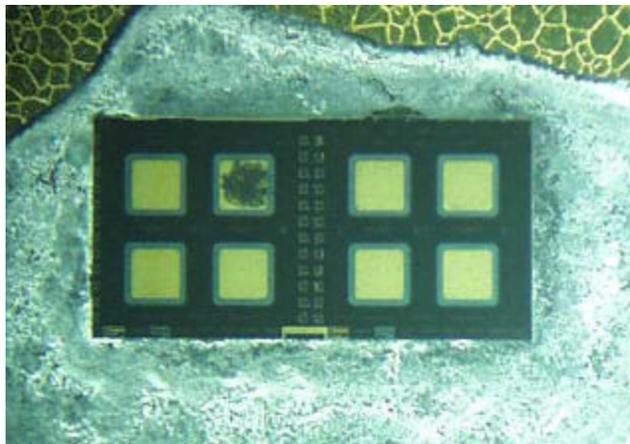
GE Corporate R&D



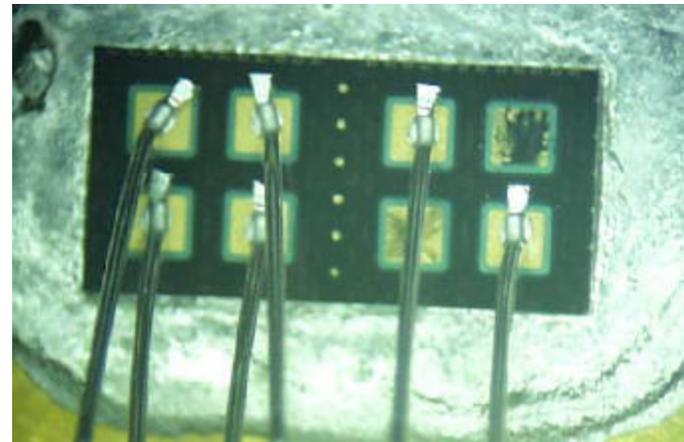
Wirebonded Module (Version 1)



Wirebonded Module (Version 2)



SiC Diode (Soldered)



SiC Diode (wirebonded)

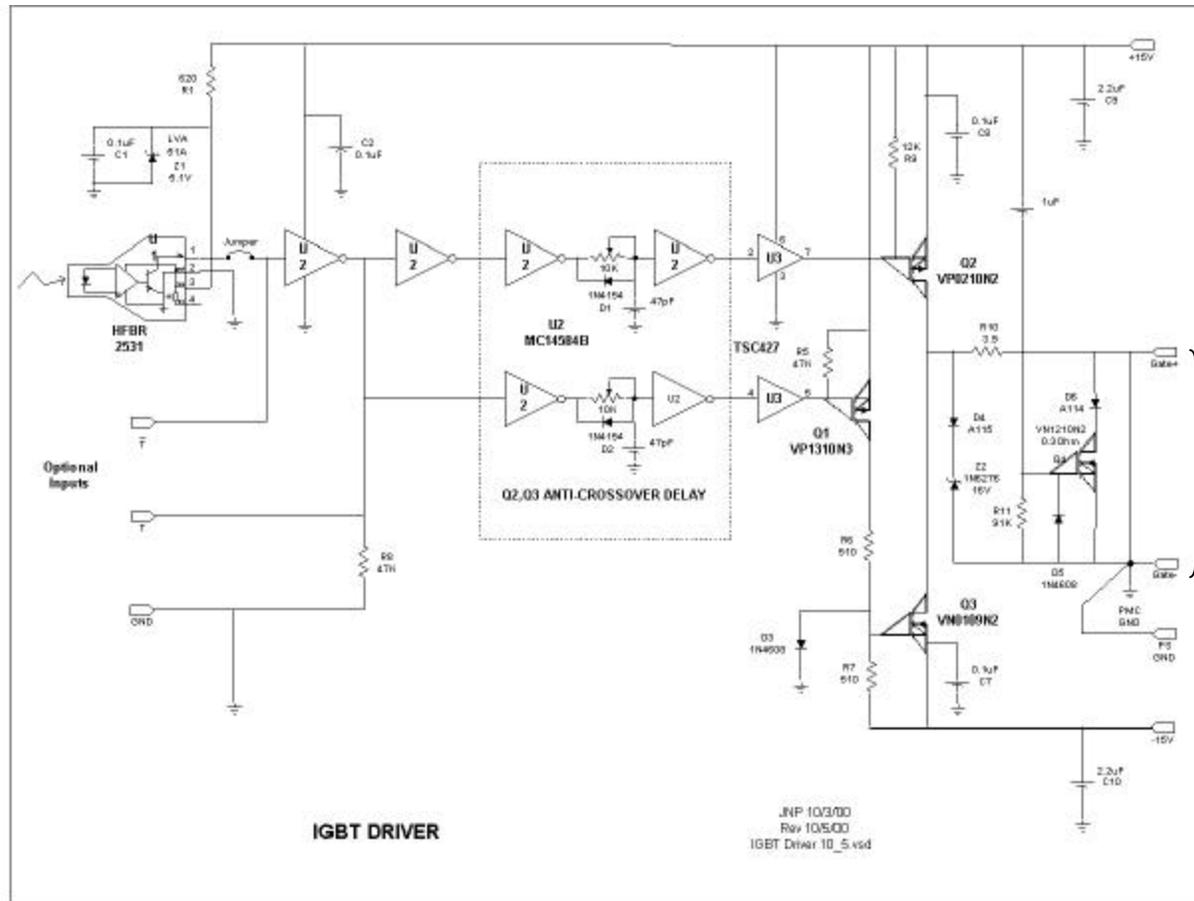






## IGBT Driver Circuit

Control Input



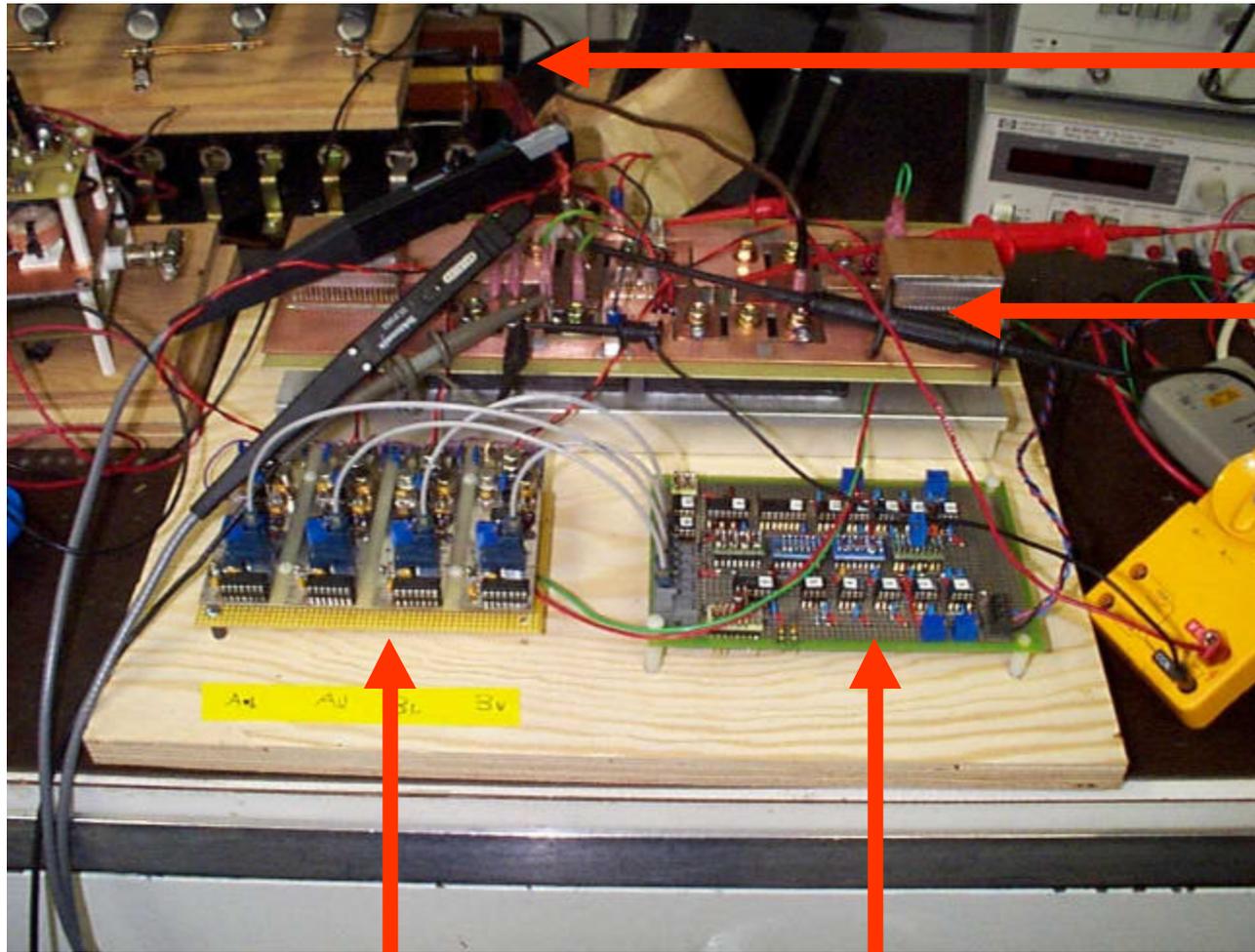
To IGBT Gate Emitter





# Hybrid Si/SiC Inverter: Hardware

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Load

Inverter

Drivers

Control Circuit



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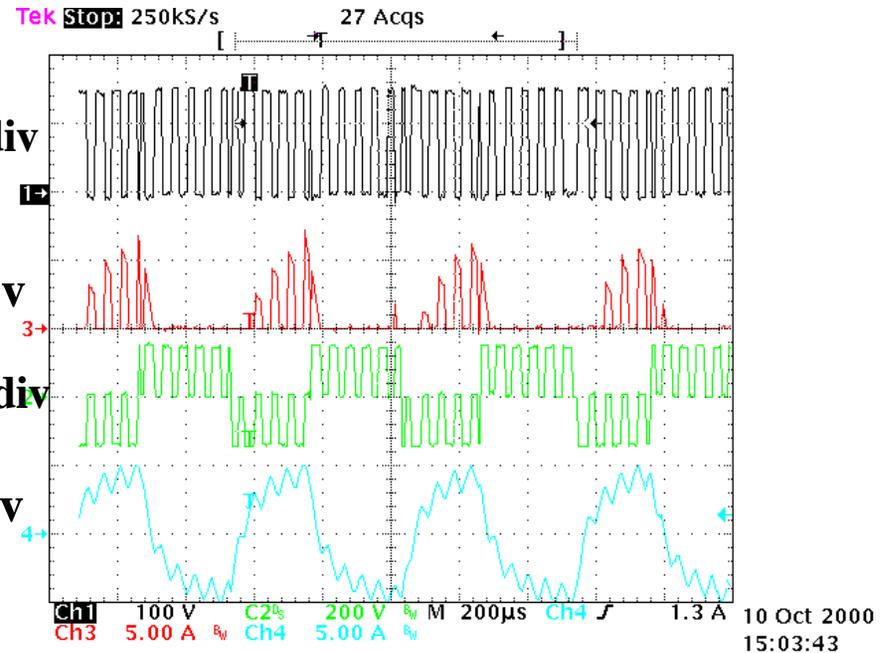
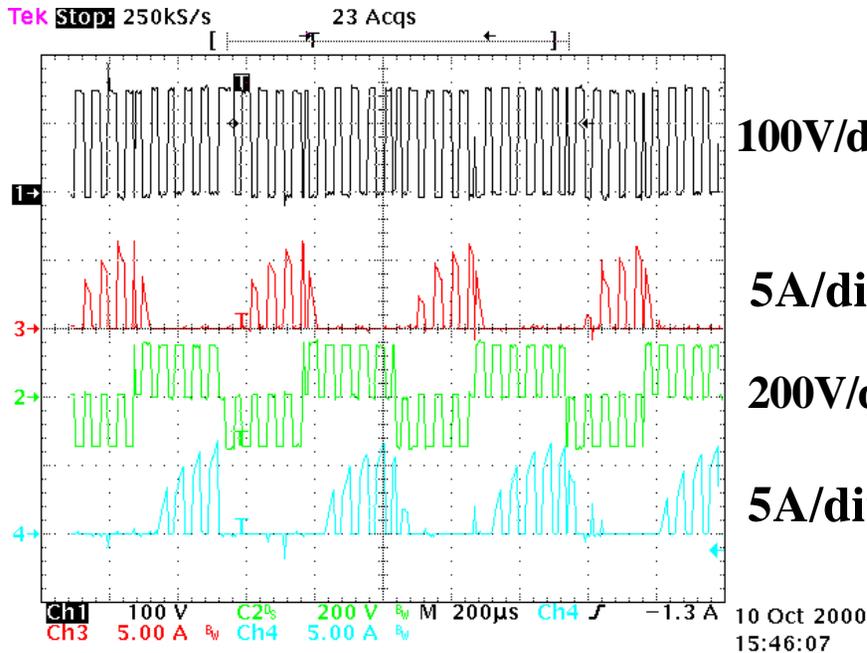


# Hybrid Si/SiC Inverter Waveforms

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$V_{bus}=150Vdc$ ,  $F_s=20kHz$ ,  $F_{load}=2kHz$ ,  $R_{load}=12.5W$ ,  $L=1mH$

200ms/div



Module (IGBT/Diode) Voltage  
SiC Diode Current  
Load Voltage  
IGBT Current

Module (IGBT/Diode) Voltage  
SiC Diode Current  
Load Voltage  
Load Current

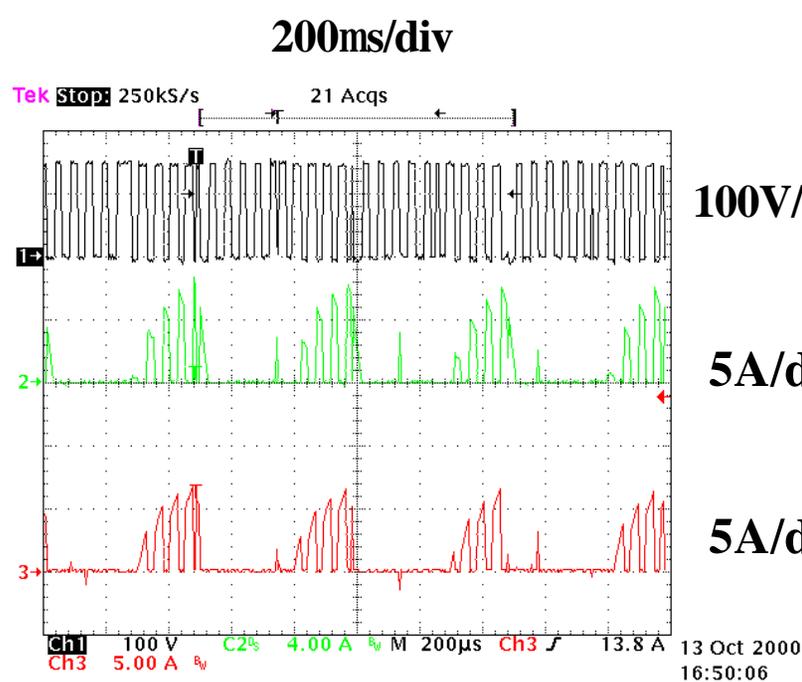




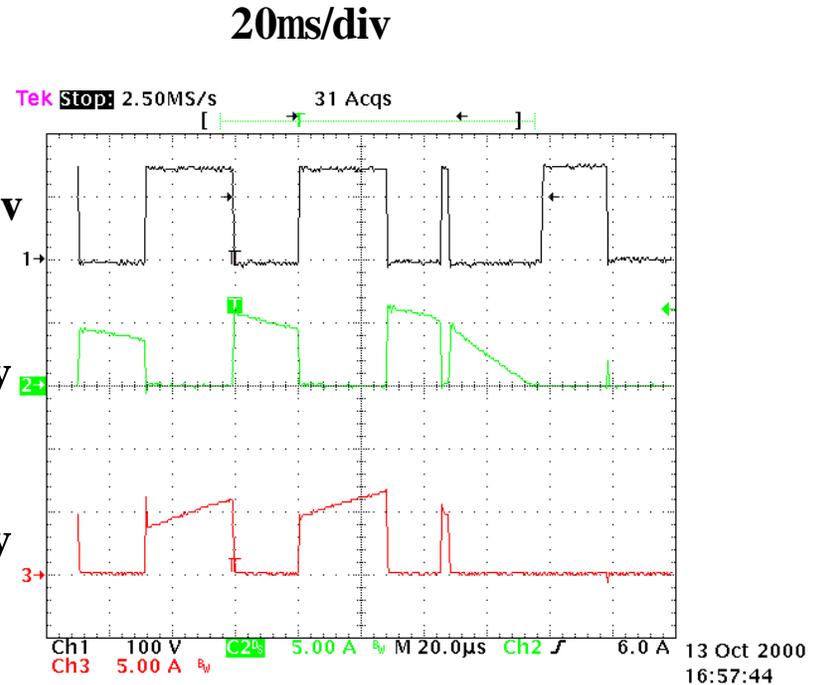
# Hybrid Si/SiC Inverter: Commutation Process

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$$V_{bus} = 150Vdc, F_s = 20kHz, F_{load} = 2kHz, R_{load} = 12.5W, L = 1mH$$



Module (IGBT/Diode) Voltage  
SiC Diode Current  
IGBT Current



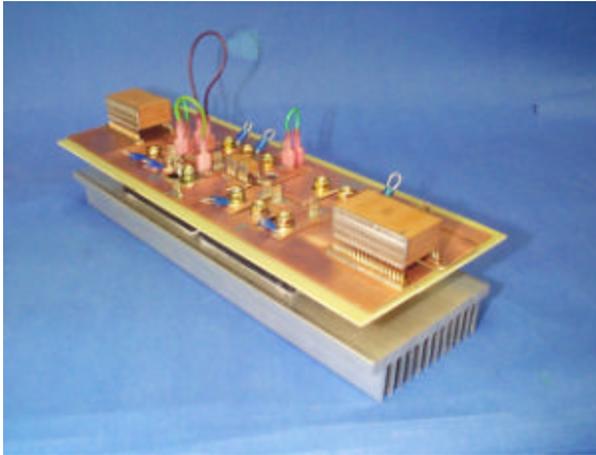
Module (IGBT/Diode) Voltage  
SiC Diode Current  
IGBT Current



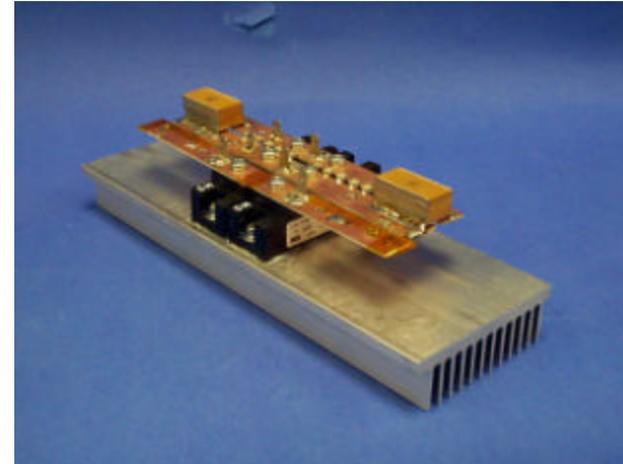


# Hybrid Si/SiC Inverter vs. All Si Inverter *GE Corporate R&D*

## Si/SiC Inverter



## All Si Inverter



DC Bus Voltage	100V	150V	200V	250V
Load Input Power	114W	250W	440W	690W
<b>Hybrid Si/SiC Efficiency</b>	<b>90.6%</b>	<b>96.3%</b>	<b>97.5%</b>	<b>97.8%</b>
<b>All Si Inverter Efficiency</b>	<b>92%</b>	<b>92.7%</b>	<b>95.5%</b>	<b>97.1%</b>





- For Power Systems Applications, High Voltage, High Current Diodes as well as High Current/High Voltage SCRs are needed for a number of applications:
  - Static Transfer Switches
  - Dynamic Voltage Restorers
  - Static Var Compensators
  - HVDC
  - FACTS





## Static Transfer Switches



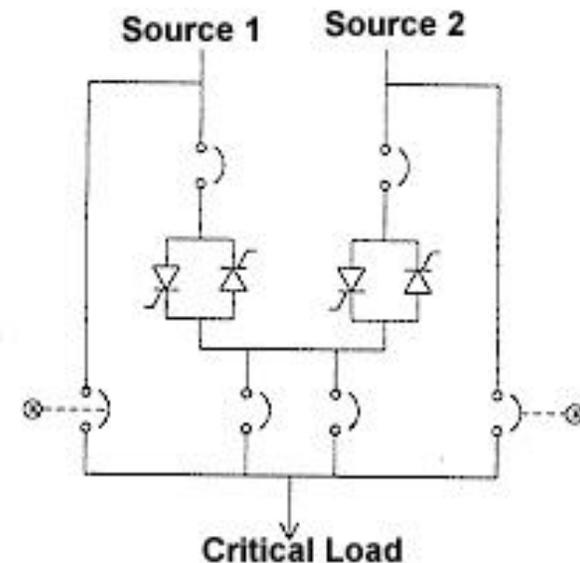
### Static Transfer Switch Operation for Two Source System

**Problem** Need High Voltage/High Current SCRs (up to 25kV, Up to 5000A)

**Silicon Solution:** Strings of 5kV SCRs in Series and in parallel to sustain Voltage

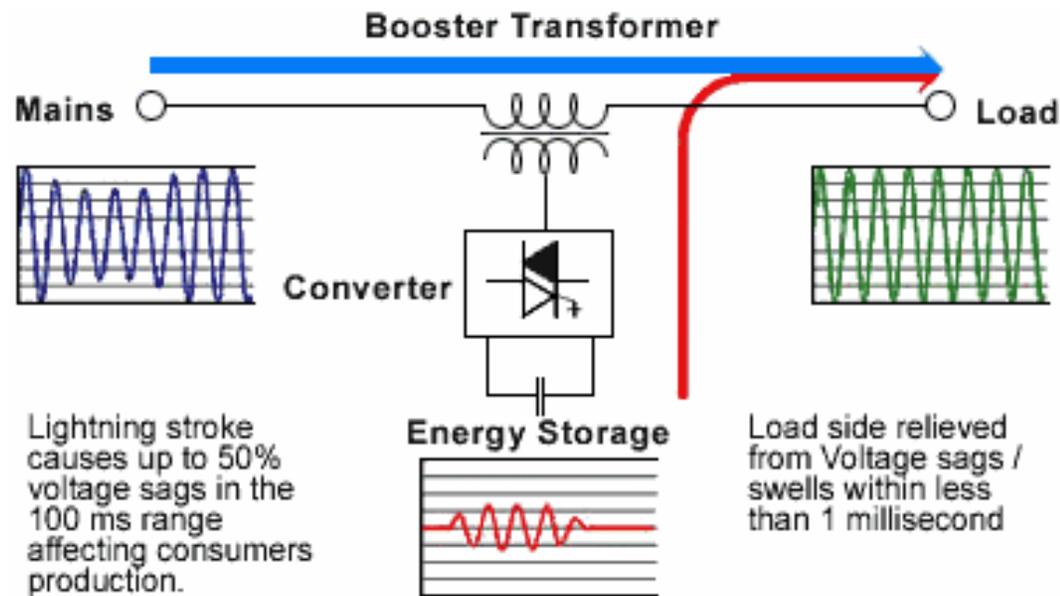
**Silicon Carbide Opportunity:** With High Voltage SCRs (4kV-10kV), the size of Transfer Switches can be reduced. Further the SiC High Temperature and High Current density can reduce the size of the cooling system

### Basic STS Unit (One Line)





## Dynamic Voltage Restorers



Source: ABB Power Electronic Systems

**Problem** Need High Voltage/High Current GTOs, SCRs or IGBTs for Inverter and Chopper

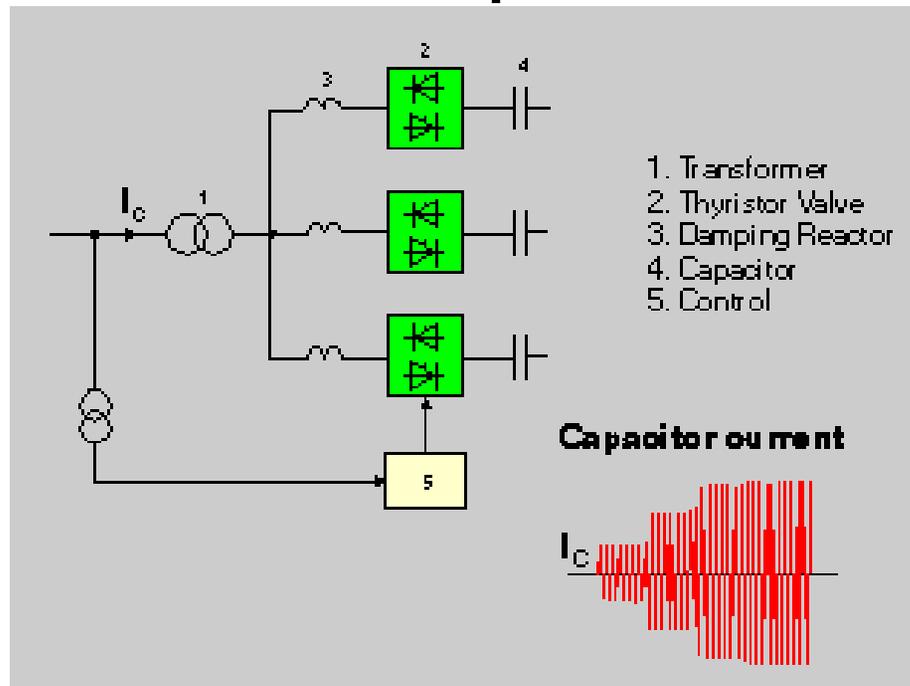
**Silicon Solution:** Strings of 5kV SCRs in Series and in parallel to sustain Voltage and Current

**Silicon Carbide Opportunity:** SiC can reduce the size of the converters by providing high voltage devices and in this case also reducing Inverter and Chopper Losses, hence increasing their efficiency





## Static Var Compensators



Source: ABB Power Transmission

**Problem** Need High Voltage/High Current SCRs, GTOs, IGCTs,... for the Series AC Switch

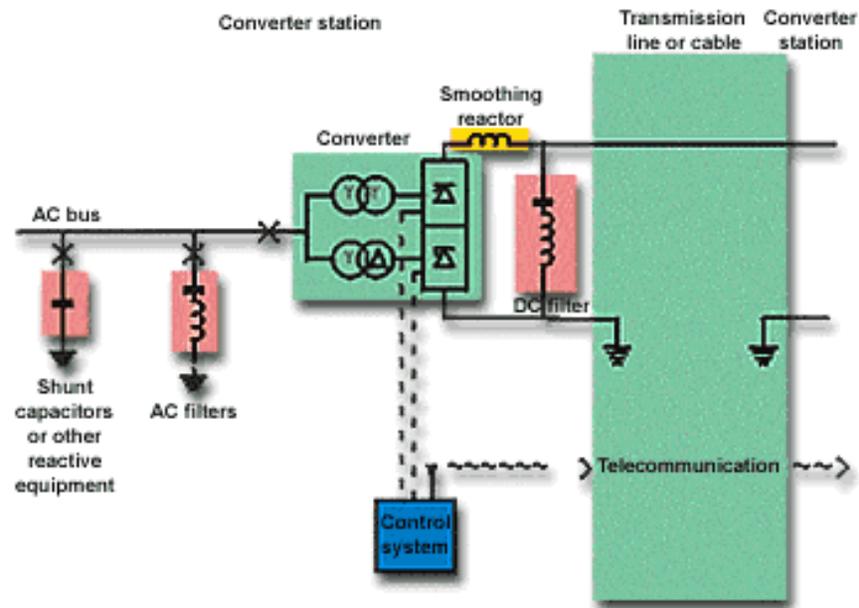
**Silicon Solution:** Strings of 5kV SCRs in Series and in parallel to sustain Voltage (Up to 25kV or more, Large currents (Thousands of Amps.)

**Silicon Carbide Opportunity:** Very High Voltage SCRs ( $\geq 10\text{kV}$ ), the size of the Valves can be reduced dramatically, hence reducing the overall size and Cost of these Systems





## High Voltage DC Transmission (HVDC)



Source: ABB Power Transmission

**Problem** Need High Voltage/High Current SCRs for Very High Voltage Rectification

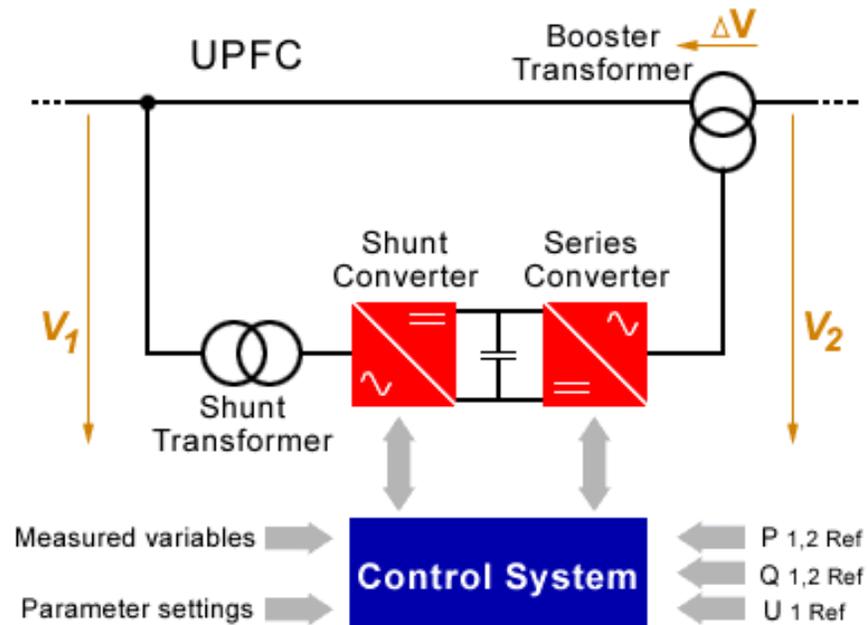
**Silicon Solution:** Strings of 5kV SCRs in Series and in parallel to sustain Voltage and Currents

**Silicon Carbide Opportunity:** Very High Voltage SCRs ( $\geq 10\text{kV}$ ) will reduce the size of the HVDC Converters, reducing in turn the cost by eliminating Snubbers, balancing Resistors and Capacitors,...





## Flexible AC Transmission System (FACTS)



Source: ABB Power Electronic Systems

**Problem** Need High Voltage/High Current GTOs and SCRs

**Silicon Solution:** Strings of 5kV SCRs in Series and in parallel to sustain Voltage and Current

**Silicon Carbide Opportunity:** With High Voltage SCRs ( $\geq 10\text{kV}$ ), the size of the Shunt and Series Converter can be reduced. Cost will be also reduced and Cooling will be optimized.





## Remaining Tasks

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- Further Tests on the Hybrid Si/SiC Inverter to confirm our Initial Results
- Increase Switching frequency (50-75kHz), Bus Voltage (400V)
- Build an All SiC PWM Inverter with:
  - Packaged SiC GTOs and Diodes
- Test it at High Temperature, High Voltage (at least 600V) and High Current (~25 to 50A Peak)





# Summary

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- Hybrid Modules with Si IGBTs or MOSFETs and SiC Diodes can play a major role in increasing the overall switching frequency of All Si Inverters while providing significant improvements in Efficiency
- SiC GTOs and SiC Diodes (Schottkys and PiNs) are a key to getting SiC within the application community. These device types have a mature technology. Many manufacturers are starting or planing to offer these devices in the near term.

