



**Spartan-3 Generation FPGAs**  
**All the Choice You Need**



[View Webcast >](#)

**NEWS BY TOPIC**

- [Automotive](#)
- [Communications](#)
- [Consumer](#)
- [Design & IP](#)
- [Embedded](#)
- [Environment](#)
- [Industrial](#)
- [Power](#)
- [Production](#)
- [Research](#)
- [Semiconductor](#)
- [Test & Measurement](#)
- [Wireless](#)

**Scots optical entrepreneurs return with next ventures**

Valerie Thompson  
[EE Times Europe](#)  
12/14/2006 9:18 PM

EDINBURGH, Scotland — Brendan Hyland and Richard Laming, two of the three co-founders of Scottish photonics startup Kymata Ltd., are involved in their next ventures — Wireless Fibre Ltd. and Oligon Ltd.

Kymata, spun out of research into passive optical components at Southampton University in 1998, was established to make optical components using semiconductor manufacturing on silica-on-silicon wafers. It raised more than \$160 million in venture capital before it was acquired in 2001 for about \$117 million. Kymata changed hands twice and its line of optical semiconductor components are now being manufactured by Gemfire Corp. (Fremont, Calif.).

Hyland and Laming have returned to the market with different types of electronics companies. Hyland is chairman of Wireless Fibre Ltd. (Livingston, Scotland), a company developing underwater RF modems, while Laming has co-founded a fabless MEMS sensor startup Oligon Ltd. (Edinburgh, Scotland).

**RELATED ARTICLES**

- [Mobile TV is key topic at 3GSM, says poll](#)
- [Alcatel-Lucent supprime 12 500 postes](#)
- [Two-Megapixel camera modules for mobile phones offer fixed, autofocus and macro facility](#)
- [Vector signal generator evaluates mobile WiMAX MIMO RX](#)
- [Stepper motor driver has seven selectable resolutions](#)

**Around EE Times Europe**



**Polymer Vision, TIM to launch roll-out display e-reader**  
Philips spinoff Polymer Vision Ltd. is working with Telecom Italia Mobile to launch the mobile device with cellular connectivity and a roll-out screen.



**European chip distribution challenged**

The European semiconductor distribution market rose 1 percent to €5.4 billion (about \$7.0 billion) in 2006. But it looks set to be more challenging, according to the DMASS industry association.



**The "Going global" blog**

India is hot...and the VCs know it, according to Richard Wallace. The money may be scarce for Silicon Valley but "there's a tsunami of VC money rolling into the Pacific," said an Intel Capital executive.



**Blog: Samsung goes EUV (with ASML?)**

ASML has won an order for "pre-production" extreme ultraviolet lithography tools from a major Korean semiconductor maker, reportedly Samsung, writes Mark LaPedus.

**Build BOLD**  
designs with the Blackfin® Processor

**PRODUCTS**

POWERED BY **EEXPRESS**

- [Boards/Buses](#)
- [DSP](#)
- [Displays](#)
- [Electromechanical](#)
- [Embedded Tools](#)
- [Interconnect](#)
- [Logic & Interface](#)
- [Memory](#)
- [MPUs/MCUs](#)
- [Passives/Sensors](#)
- [PLDs/FPGAs](#)

[Power Components](#)

[Power Sources](#)

[RF/Microwave](#)

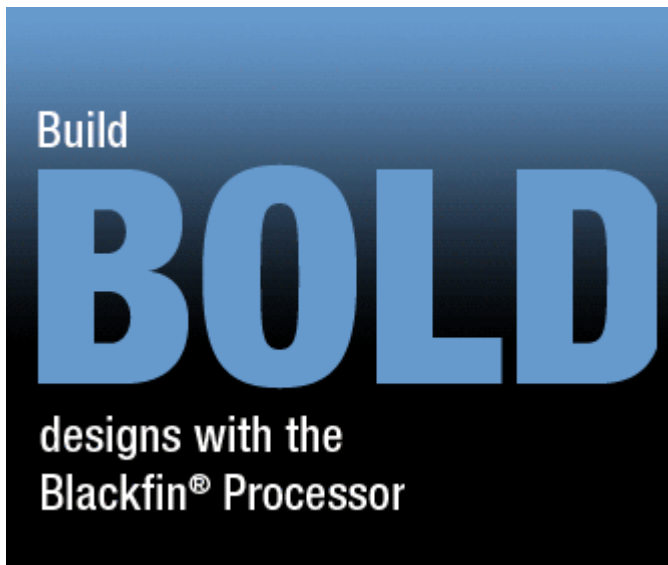
[Test/Measurement](#)

#### POLL

Which of three following topics will be the biggest challenge in embedded systems engineering?

- Development on multicore processors
- System-level design
- Software test and debug

[Visit The Poll Archives](#)



Build  
**BOLD**  
designs with the  
Blackfin® Processor

Wireless Fibre's first customers include the United Kingdom Ministry of Defence and an unnamed environmental agency that is set to use its technology for monitoring water quality remotely.


The company's business model is based on providing components to acoustic underwater communication systems makers, developing its own products and also licensing its technology out. Hyland is trying to raise a first round of venture capital for [Wireless Fibre](#) and said the company has built up a "strong" patent portfolio comprising some 19 patents to-date.

Laming, who is CEO of [Oligon](#), is also raising venture capital. The startup's first product is a MEMS silicon microphone that it aims to sell into the mobile phone and laptop computer markets. Other sensor types beyond audio that Oligon is planning to address include pressure, thermal, and ultrasonic devices.

The company's products are designed to be manufactured in CMOS. Basically, its MEMS transducer devices include sensor and electronic circuitry on a single CMOS chip. Oligon therefore has some similarities to [Memsic Inc.](#), a company that was spun off from Analog Devices Inc. in 1999 and now makes CMOS accelerometers at a purpose-built wafer fab in Wuxi, China. Oligon's product can be delivered packaged or as a bare die. Laming said lead customers are already on board but he declined to name them. He did say that the firm expects to be shipping in 2007.

#### Related Links:

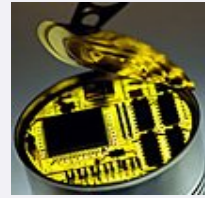
- [Memsic designed into IBM Thinkpad](#)
- [Theon Sensors readies MEMS-based system](#)
- [Miniature silicon microphone uses MEMS technology](#)

	PRINT THIS STORY
	SEND AS EMAIL
	REPRINTS



Europe's fledgling

[China set to launch GPS r](#)  
The recent launch by Chi of a navigation satellite, its first for four years, could signal the country's challenge to the American Global Positioning System and Europe's fledgling Galileo network.



fabs and as the basis for extensions.

[ST decides to import CMO change Crolles function](#)  
STMicroelectronics NV, told analysts that ST would ally with "industry leaders" to obtain a 32-nm CMOS process for use in its wafer



several reports released recently.

[Pay rises, but job-mood si say reports](#)

Technology professionals happily reported their wages rose last year, but their mood about jobs dipped last month according to findings of



market research analyst iSuppli Corp.

[Top 25 chip firms ranked](#)

Advanced Micro Devices and Hynix Semiconductor were set to break into the world's top 10 semiconductor suppliers in 2006, according to a preliminary ranking from

#### NETWORK WEBSITES

[CommsDesign](#) | [DeepChip.com](#) | [Design & Reuse](#) | [Embedded.com](#) | [Embedded Edge Magazine](#) | [Embedded Computing Solutions](#) | [Planet Analog](#)  
[eeProductCenter](#) | [Electronics Supply & Manufacturing](#) | [Inside \[DSP\]](#) | [Automotive DesignLine](#) | [Power Management DesignLine](#) | [Wireless Net DesignLine](#)  
[Video/Imaging DesignLine](#) | [Green SupplyLine](#) | [Industrial Control DesignLine](#) | [Network Systems DesignLine](#) | [Digital TV DesignLine](#) | [Programmable Logic DesignLine](#) | [Audio DesignLine](#) | [Mobile Handset DesignLine](#) | [TechOnLine](#) | [DSP DesignLine](#) | [EDA DesignLine](#) | [RF DesignLine](#)

#### INTERNATIONAL

[EE Times](#) | [EE Times JAPAN](#) | [EE Times Asia](#) | [EE Times CHINA](#) | [EE Times FRANCE](#) | [EE Times GERMANY](#) | [EE Times Korea](#) | [EE Times Taiwan](#) | [Times UK](#)

[Electronics Express](#) | [Elektronik i Norden](#) | [Electronics Supply & Manufacturing - China](#) | [Microwave Engineering Europe](#)

#### NETWORK FEATURES

[Career Center](#) | [Conference/Events](#) | [Custom Magazines](#) | [EE Times Info/Reader Service](#) | [GlobalSpec](#)  
[NetSeminar Services](#) | [Sponsor Products](#) | [Subscribe to Print](#) | [Global Supply Chain Summit](#) | [Product Shopper](#) | [ProductCasts](#) | [Reprints](#) | [EDA Tech Focus](#)

What if you could  
be born twice?



What if you could  
be born twice?



All material on this site [Copyright © 2006 CMP Media LLC](#) , [EETimes EU Copyright](#). All rights reserved.  
[Privacy Statement](#) | [Terms of Service](#)