

Flexible Biometric Sensor and Low-cost MEMS Devices Cihan Yilmaz, PhD

Flex Boston Innovation Center

Who Is Flex

\$26B revenue

100+ sites in over

30 countries

200,000 2,500+

employees

design engineers **52M**

sq. ft. of manufacturing & services space



Global Design & Innovation Presence

5 Innovation Centers | 9 Product Introduction Centers | 25+ Design Centers | 2900 Design Engineers



Insight across industries



Collective Innovation

Access to new & tested technology building blocks

Development partner ecosystem Improved product reliability

Accelerate time to market

Early stage engagement

Entry into new & adjacent markets

Experienced design & engineering teams

Flex Boston Innovation Center

Overview

A concepting, design & short run production facility to support the regional innovation economy from large multinational customers to startups.

Focus areas include

Health, Robotics, Textile & Apparel

Equipment includes

3D printers & modeling, CNC machining (metal, plastic, foam) High precision injection molding Laser metal cutter Textile Engineering

Space

17,000 sq ft to support product & system design, prototyping, assembly and testing



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Microfluidics

Microfluidics: Precise control and manipulation of fluids that are geometrically constrained to a small, typically sub-millimeter scale.

Advantages of Microfluidics:

- Use of miniscule amounts of samples and reagents in the lab
- Cost reduction due to lesser use of expensive reagents
- > High resolution and sensitivity in the detection
- Reduced footprint of analytical and diagnostic systems
- Shorter analysis times and faster results
- Greater flow control





Microfluidics Market Volume & Value



The global microfluidic-based products market will more than triple by 2022 to reach

\$23B



Flex play in the market?

- High volume manufacturing
- Low-cost
- Innovative designs
- Design for manufacturing

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Flex Microfluidics Prototyping and Manufacturing Capabilities

3-D Printing



- Flexible and rigid substrates
- Digital ABS and Simulated Polypropylene
- 14 microns resolution
- Very fast, inexpensive

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- Flexible and rigid substrates
- Wide range of materials including biocompatible (PC, COP, COC etc.)
- 125 microns minimum feature size
- Robustness, suitable for low-volume prototyping

Precision Injection molding



- Flexible and rigid substrates
- TPU, PC, PET, others
- 125 microns minimum feature size
- High-volume manufacturing



• ANSYS Enterprise – Mechanics and Fluidics Simulations



Microfluidics Applications

- Molecular Diagnostics (DNA, RNA, protein analysis)
- Point-of-care Diagnostics (Biomarkers, electrolytes, glucose, cell sorting)
- Advanced Wound Healing (Bandages)
- Digital Microfluidics (Nano-fluidics)











Sweat Sensing



Why sweat?

- Noninvasive
- Rich with biometric information
- Glucose, lactate and electrolytes
- Drug Monitoring

Sweat Patches for Biomarker Detection

- Biometric measurement (glucose, lactate and etc.)
- Noninvasive
- Instant results
- Multiple biomarker detection
- CNT and graphene integration



2.7 mm thick 1.85 x 1.85 inch



Microfluidics chip





Opportunity for Innovation in Ultrasonic Transducer Development

Global Market Growth

Application Areas & Markets



Low-cost Ultrasonic Transducer

- Made up of a base electrode whose position is fixed, a vacuum sealed cavity, an elastic membrane, and an upper electrode
- Signals are transmitted when the device is connected to an AC power source
 - The AC produces changing electrostatic forces between the two electrodes, and results in the upper electrode moving at a high frequency, which produces ultrasonic waves.
- Currently made using typical semiconductor-based fabrication techniques
- The goal is to create a polymer-membrane based CMUT that is ultimately much cheaper than semiconductor- based CMUTs
- We designed the gap height, membrane thickness, membrane radius, & materials to design a CMUT



Ansys Simulation of High Freq. Design



Material Processes

- Membrane cavity cut with M-Solv laser
 - Combines 2 lasers to provide a 266 nanometer UV beam
- Pyralux Ac (composite of polyimide with copper foil) to be cut with M-Solv









Thank You



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