

COSIVU - Compact, Smart and Reliable Drive Unit for Commercial Electric Vehicles

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Outline

- Introduction
- COSIVU System Architecture
- Inverter Packaging Concept
- Power Module Cooling Concept ²COOL
- Conclusions



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Introduction

- The EU-funded FP7 project COSIVU aims at a new system architecture for drive-trains by development of a smart, compact and durable single-wheel drive unit with:
 - integrated electric motor,
 - compact transmission,
 - full silicon carbide (SiC) power electronics,
 - and an advanced ultra-compact cooling solution.
- Project Started 2012-10-01, and ends 2015-09-30



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Project partners and their main roles

swerea	Project coordination. Novel heat removal solutions – technology and material development,
VOLVO	Definition of Requirements, providing of In-Wheel motor, functional testing of developed demonstrator
Transic Fairchild	1200 V SiC bipolar junction transistors and SiC-based Power modules
	Health monitoring (solid-borne sound sensor, oil condition sensor), µController programming
SENS	Current sensors (anisotropic magnetoresistive - AMR effect)
elaphe	Overall system integration & optimization (design, prototyping, testing), transfer of COSIVU architecture to an alternative direct drive electric motor version for other vehicle platforms
Serliner Nanotest und Design GmbH	Material characterization (for FE-Simulations), thermal characterization, failure analyses
🗾 Fraunhofer	ENAS: Electrical & thermo-mechanical reliability assessment, in co- operation with Chemnitz University (e.g. power cycling) <u>IISB</u> : Power module system integration, development of gate driver stage
TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITÄT CHEMNITZ	Functional & health monitoring based on thermal impedance spectroscopy and current sensing

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AMAA

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- The picture on the next slide shows the overall COSIVU system architecture consisting of the
 - ICM (Inverter Controller Module),
 - BDS (Base Driver Supply),
 - IBBs (Inverter Building Blocks).
- For clarity the EM (Electrical machine), Gear and brake together with auxiliary systems (water cooling and oil cooling) is showed in order to give the complete system overview.



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- The strategy for the system architecture was to create a decentralized modular design that was
 - compact,
 - easy to repair,
 - and cost effective.



- This resulted in a compact inverter unit integrating power electronics and control electronics.
- For ease of service and repair the whole unit is a fully pluggable solution including all electric and leakage-free fluid connections.

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- On a 4WD vehicle there will be four COSIVU systems, one in each wheel, all systems are identical allowing less different parts and higher volumes and thus lower production and storage cost.
- Each COSIVU system can be controlled independently via a CAN bus by a master ECU that uses complex drive schemes such as torque vectoring, at local level each COSIVU system will control the electric machine with a local and fast control loop for highest performance and accuracy.



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Inverter Packaging Concept

- Modular Inverter Powerstage with "Inverter Building Blocks" (IBB)
- Easy servicing due to reduced spare parts and new mechatronic interfaces
- Possible adaption to different designspaces using identical system architecture



Inverter Building Block

- Complete half-bridge to drive one phase leg of the electric machine
- Mechanically self-supporting structure
- Reduced cable harness direct board-to-board connection between drivers & Inverter Controller Module
- Piggy-back-board solution for extended driver functionalities e.g. Thermal Impedance Spectroscopy (TIS)
- Complete pre-assembling and testing possible



VOTVO





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COSIDU

Single sided cooling IBB version

• Three paralleled SiC Power Modules

- Max. 300 A_{RMS} phase current
- Modular approach from the power modules over the IBB to the pluggable inverter
- Direct cooled IBB baseplate
 - Low thermal resistance from chip to fluid
 - High mechanical stability
 - FEM-optimized waves structure





Power Module Cooling Concept ²COOL

- Smaller devices \rightarrow Improved current density and thermal conductivity \rightarrow SiC based power devices
- Lower thermal resistance \rightarrow increased current carrying capability/chip area \rightarrow **double** sided cooling
- Removal of wire bonds significantly reduces switching cell inductance \rightarrow high speed switching \rightarrow lower switching losses.





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3D Manufactured Heat Exchangers

- Heat exchanger design based on novel 3D printing technology
- Process developed in FP7 project MORGaN.
- Thermal conductivity < bulk material.
- Large freedom in available geometries and an opportunity to try different new cooling concepts.
- No added material interfaces.





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10 mm

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MORGA



Modified Pin Fin Cooling Structure

- Staggered pins.
- Decreasing pin diameter towards cooler side resembling cone shape (improved conduction heat transfer from hot side).
- 3 holes/pin enabling better pin cooling and improved pressure drop.

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Graded Sponge Cooling Structure

- Sponge structure to maximize interface surfaces.
- Sponge has increased wall thickness towards hot side of chassis.
- Improved conduction heat transfer into cooler fluid domain.
- Thinner walls improve pressure drop.



Simulated 5 x 30 W heat source

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Design of cooler verified in stainless steel

Complex design verified using established process conditions



Next step - realisation in copper



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Conclusions

- We have presented a Compact, Smart and Reliable Drive Unit for Commercial Electric Vehicles within the frame of the currently running project COSIVU.
- Furthermore the strategy for the system architecture was outlined and the Inverter Packaging Concept with its high integration level combined with high modularization was described in detail.
- Finally, a new package cooling concept, which integrates the cooling system with the substrate, was discussed and simulations on different cooling structures was presented.



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compact, smart and reliable drive unit for fully electric vehicles

Thank you!



