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STMicroelectronics and the Politecnico di Milano expand the R&D facilities for semiconductors at the PoliFab micro and nanotechnology centre

Milan, 14 December 2021 – STMicroelectronics is a global leader in semiconductors with customers in all sectors requiring electronic applications. The company and the Politecnico di Milano have today formally opened the expanded semiconductor production facilities at PoliFab, the university's R&D centre for micro and nanotechnology.

The two organisations have enjoyed a longstanding collaboration, and now STMicroelectronics has provided state-of-the-art equipment for PoliFab's clean room (the area where silicon slices are turned into semiconductor chips). This will help boost joint R&D activities in the field of MEMS (Micro Electro-Mechanical Systems), motion control, power electronics, and galvanic isolation.

The expansion of the clean room facilities will make the Politecnico di Milano even more attractive to talented researchers and students. It will also help ST to develop its roadmap in relation to semiconductor technologies, and especially to MEMS, where the Company is now a world leader with over 15 billion devices sold to date. ST's main base for R&D into MEMS is located near Milan, so the collaboration with PoliFab is designed to create a regional centre of excellence for research into advanced materials for MEMS.

The collaboration also involves investments in personnel and programmes with scholarships funded by ST, as well as the recruitment of professors and researchers and the financing of joint research projects.

Including the new rooms opened today, the total official area of PoliFab now covers 610 square metres, to which can be added the annexes housing laboratories, making the whole facility comparable to similar structures of the top European research institutes.

As Riccardo Bertacco, director of PoliFab, explained: *"We are trying out a new model of 'rapid technology transfer', based on the creation of a joint research and innovation facility that provides researchers and students with top-class equipment for developing semiconductors - just like that used in production plants. "PoliFab 2.0 is a physical site that facilitates the interchange between brilliant scientific ideas and cutting-edge technologies for semiconductors, thus accelerating both the basic research and the associated transfer of technology."*

Anton Hofmeister, Group Vice President and General Director of R&D and Strategy activities for the Analog and MEMS subgroups of STMicroelectronics, added the following: *"Today's event marks an important milestone in establishing here in Italy a world-class innovation centre in the field of semiconductors, a place that can help forward ST's R&D initiatives in areas such as MEMS and sensors, one of the most promising technologies behind digital transformation and the Internet of Things".* This fruitful collaboration with the

Politecnico is part of a global innovation strategy aimed at attracting high-calibre talent and enabling joint research programmes between industry and academia, which are basic to success in the global semiconductor market."

Some information about the Politecnico di Milano

The Politecnico di Milano is one of the most prestigious technological universities in the world, according to the QS World University Ranking 2022, which ranks it 142nd in the world's top 150, and number one in Italy. The Politecnico was founded in 1863 and is the largest school of architecture, design and engineering in Italy, with three main sites in Milan and five regional campuses in different parts of Lombardy.

The university's strategic research is mainly related to the following sectors: space, digital, H.P.C. & Quantum, Fintech, society, life sciences, Agri-tech, the green deal and mobility.

Because of its determined policy of internationalisation, many courses are held entirely in English. This attracts an ever growing number of international students, coming from more than 100 different countries: in the 2020/2021 academic year 28% of all students registered for Laurea Magistrale [Master of Science] courses were of international origin. www.polimi.it

Some information about Polifab

PoliFab is the centre for micro and nanotechnology at the Politecnico di Milano, established to provide advanced technological standards for a wide range of applications and processes associated with the five Key Enabling Technologies: photonics, micro and nanoelectronics, biotechnologies, advanced materials and nanotechnology.

Some information about STMicroelectronics

ST employs 46,000 creators and builders of semiconductor technologies, supplying semiconductors to industry from its state-of-the-art manufacturing sites. We are an independent manufacturer of devices, working with more than 100,000 customers and thousands of partners to design and build products, solutions and ecosystems that respond to their challenges and opportunities, and help promote a more sustainable world. Our technologies enable smarter mobility, more efficient power and energy management, and large-scale deployment of the Internet of Things and 5G technology. ST is committed to becoming carbon neutral by 2027. For further information please visit www.st.com.

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