

# AIN FOR THICK PIEZOELECTRIC FILMS AND THERMAL CONDUCTIVITY

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## Aluminum Nitride (AIN)

- Piezoelectricity
  - Wurtzite crystal with inherent piezoelectricity
  - Very high temperature operation (no Curie temperature)
    Stable up to 1300 C in air
  - High Q material
- Very high thermal conductivity
  - 70-285 W/m/K











#### **MEMS Scale Vibration Energy Harvesting**







Vibration Energy Harvesting Piezo Structure

AlN Based Vibration Energy Harvester MicroGen Inc.

- Microscale vibration energy harvesting has typically not been very successful partly due to thin and low quality piezo materials
- The most common material, PZT, is less compatible than AlN for fab processes and cannot operation at extreme temperatures



### **Ultrasonic Power Transfer for Implants**



- At very small sizes (~ mm<sup>2</sup>) and large implant depths (> 1 cm) acoustics can be much more efficient than inductive coupling or RF power transfer
- PZT presents biocompatibility issues



#### **Power for Energy Harvesting**



Material Figures of Merit (C<sup>2</sup>/m<sup>4</sup>)



 $\omega$  = frequency

 $k^2$  = material coupling coefficient

- $c^{E}$  = material stiffness at zero electric field
- V = volume of material
- S = maximum strain in material
- $\mathcal{E}^{T}$  = dielectric constant at zero stress



### Resonators / Resonant sensors





Agilent Film Bulk Acoustic Resonator (FBAR) SAW Gas Sensors Tohoku University

- AlN can be used for Bulk Acoustic Wave (BAW) and Surface Acoustic Wave (SAW) devices
- Applications
  - Oscillators and filters for communication systems
  - Untethered chemical, strain, pressure, acceleration sensors



#### Harsh Environment Applications



High temperature Energy Harvesters Lai et. al. Transducers 2013 High temperature GHz Resonator Li et. al., Adv. Mater. 2012, 24, 2722-2727

- Material is non-ferroelectric
- Maintains piezoelectric properties up to at least several hundred degrees C



### Endeavor AT AIN Tool from OEM Group



# OENGROUP tegal

- Up to 6 um thick AIN
- 100 200 mm wafers
- •~\$695k

