**PRESS RELEASE**

**Swissbit Expands Berlin Manufacturing Capability with New System-In-Package Components Production Line**

Multi-million-dollar investment establishes manufacturing capability for solderable electronic components that is unmatched in Europe

Bronschhofen, Switzerland; Berlin, Germany. September 29, 2022 – Swissbit is continuing with its strategic expansion plans at its established production facility in Berlin, Germany by adding a new semiconductor packaging line to its electronics production. The assembly line offers a significant performance boost and operates on average up to 50 percent more efficiently than existing lines. It is used for the fully automated production of highly integrated memory solutions, including ultra-compact e.MMCs. The new equipment also positions Swissbit as one of the only businesses in Europe able to produce solderable components such as BGAs (ball grid arrays) from small batches to high volumes, with a capacity of up to three million pieces per month. This type of component is used, among others, in automation, automotive and network technology. By acquiring equipment from the Advanced Semiconductor Packaging and Test divisions, Swissbit is bolstering the growth of its production capabilities. Around five million euros have been invested overall. Since 2008, Swissbit has exclusively manufactured in Berlin, and at the end of 2019, the company opened a new facility on more than 20,000 m2 of land. There are currently 250 employees there, and the number is growing.

A total of 15 machines makes up the new production line for system-in-package components, together with various conveyor systems, buffers, and loading and unloading stations. Swissbit produces a variety of memory products on the highly automated line, particularly the e.MMC series EM-30. It is a 153-ball BGA module with industrial-grade 3D NAND with memory capacities of up to 256 GB. The necessary balling, which involves the application of solder balls only 0.25 millimeters in diameter, is also carried out fully automatically by the production system. The highest traceability standards are met by the line that ensure fully traceable parts and components across the Trusted Supply Chain.

Swissbit has invested 1.5 million euros alone in the installation of the state-of-the-art production line. Following extensive testing and qualification rounds, the line is now fully operational.

Strong signal for customers, the Berlin site and the semiconductor industry

"The new line is a further building block in our strategic plan to ensure the highest quality for our products by fully controlling the production process. We are able to perfectly optimize the design from chip to package to module, firmware and manufacturing technology, allowing us to offer a range of services that are unmatched in Europe," says Lars Lust, General Manager APATS (Advanced Packaging, Assembly & Test Solutions) and Berlin Site Manager at Swissbit. "The ability to produce highly complex BGAs such as e.MMCs or NVMe BGAs completely independently and without the support of third-party manufacturers is becoming increasingly important for our customers globally. We provide everything from a single source and can guarantee requirements such as a Trusted Supply Chain, total traceability, or compliance with strict safety specifications. The investment further underlines the importance of our Berlin location and our ambition to specifically strengthen the European semiconductor industry in the wake of geopolitical challenges and crises."

**Available images**

The following images are available for download in printable format at: <https://kk.htcm.de/press-releases/swissbit/>

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| Image source: Swissbit  **New semiconductor packaging line at Swissbit's electronics manufacturing facility in Berlin, Germany.** | Image source: Swissbit  **Lars Lust, General Manager APATS and Berlin Site Manager at Swissbit** |

**About Swissbit**

Swissbit AG is the leading European manufacturer of storage, security and embedded IoT solutions for demanding applications. Swissbit combines its unique competences in storage and embedded IoT technology with its advanced packaging know how. This expertise allows our customers to reliably store and protect data in industrial, NetCom, automotive, medical and fiscal applications as well as across the Internet of Things (IoT).

Swissbit develops and manufactures industrial-grade storage and security products “Made in Germany” with high reliability, long-term availability, and custom optimization.

Swissbit’s storage range includes SSDs with PCIe and SATA interface such as mSATA, Slim SATA, CFast™, M.2 and 2.5” as well as CompactFlash, USB flash drives, SD Memory Cards, micro SD Memory Cards and managed NAND BGAs like e.MMC. Security products are available in various application specific editions as USB flash drives, SD Memory Cards, and micro SD Memory Cards.

Swissbit was founded in 2001 and has offices in Switzerland, Germany, USA, Japan and Taiwan. Swissbit owns the registered trademarks Swissbit® and Hyperstone®. Since 2020, the independent investment firm Ardian is holding a majority stake in the company to support its growth.

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