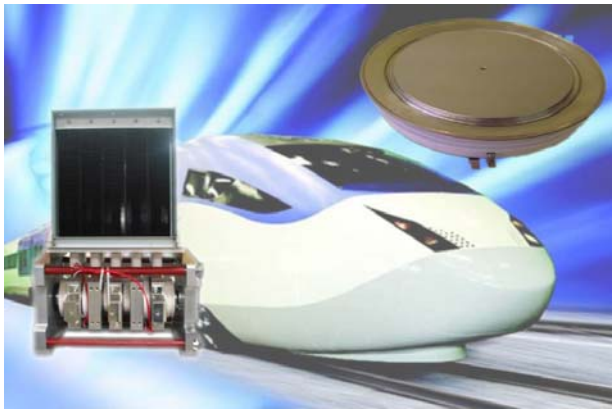
P R E S S R E L E A S E

Date: 10th Aug 2007

WESTCODE JOINS “TRACTION ELITE”



Westcode Semiconductors Ltd, UK (An IXYS company), in co-operation with Hyundai Heavy Industries Co. Ltd., of South Korea is pleased to announce the successful completion of type testing of a new advanced technology press-pack IGBT and diode for the Korean KTX-II high-speed train propulsion system.

This milestone represents the culmination of 3 years of co-development, between Westcode and Hyundai, of the key power electronics components for the AC propulsion system of the Korean, KTX-II, high-speed passenger train. Westcode has developed a new state of the art 125mm (5”) press-pack IGBT and associated freewheeling diode based on our class leading proprietary HPSonic-FRD™ technology platform. The type test performed at Westcode’s headquarters in the UK, involved validation of the Hyundai developed inverter module (containing 2 IGBTs and 2 Diodes) under a range of load conditions – including a full load short circuit test where and individual IGBT must momentarily control 25MW of power.

The KTX-II has a maximum speed of 350km/h (220mph), and puts both Westcode and Hyundai in the exclusive “350 Club” – one of only four such commercial trains in the world.

The first production phase of KTX-II is for 10 trains set each requiring 32 power modules.

Frank Wakeman, Marketing Manager at Westcode commented, “This project success underlines our strategy of developing and applying the latest technologies with our partners in the rail industry. It also further demonstrates the class leading performance our press-pack IGBT technology in one of the most challenging and demanding applications to date”.

For further information contact us at wsl.sales@westcode.com or by telephone: +44 (0)1249 444525.

Author: A Golland, Applications Manager
Company: Westcode Semiconductors Ltd, Langley Park Way, Langley Park, Chippenham, Wiltshire SN15 1GE England UK
Contact Details: Tel: +44 (0)1249 455536
Fax: +44 (0)1249 403771

Email: ashley.golland@westcode.com