ICAMR exploring partnership with nano-tech organization

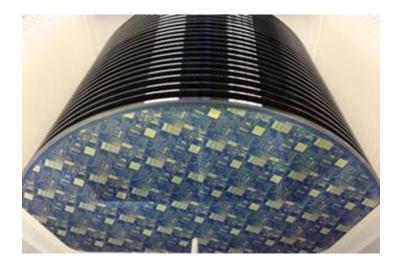
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Matthew Richardson, Reporter Orlando Business Journal

The International Consortium for Advanced Manufacturing

Research is steadily making strides to build up its Florida Advanced Manufacturing Research Center in Osceola County. This time, the organization is eyeing a partnership with a nano-technology firm.

Dan Holladay, executive director with ICAMR, confirmed the organization is exploring a partnership with Belgium's Inter-University MicroElectronics Center. Holladay told Orlando Business



Central Florida has a front-row seat to see how smart sensors will impact certain industries, thanks to the new Florida Advanced Manufacturing Research Center in Osceola County.

Journal that discussions are in the very early stages, and he could not say if it would result in an actual partnership.

Holladay also said that ICAMR is currently in talks with several other tech organizations. The partnership will build the strength of the 100,000-square-foot smart sensor facility that is currently under construction in Osceola County.

IMEC, which had 2,200 employees and revenue of \$396 million in 2014, specializes in nanotechnology — the study of engineering systems on a molecular level. This type of technology could expand the use of smart sensors of various objects.

ICAMR already is headed in the direction of working with small objects, thanks to its recent partnership with **Argonne National Lab**. While Argonne will focus on using clean energy in the manufacturing process for smart sensors, the lab specializes on thin-film technology that helps break down the amount of space smart sensors will take up on the device.

ICAMR expects to land enough partnership to create a tech campus, similar to Netherland's Brainport. The Florida Advanced Manufacturing Research Center is scheduled for completion in early 2017.