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Press release

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techUK calls for government to release semiconductor strategy to compete internationally

- The technology industry body has released a UK Plan for Chips with reccomendations to support the UK semiconductor industry
 - The Plan can contribute to the UK having a stake in the \$1 trillion semiconductor industry

LONDON, 25 January 2023: Technology trade association techUK has published a position paper today calling on the UK Government to release its semiconductor strategy to build on the UK's strengths in create opportunities for UK chips companies in an increasingly competitive world.

To ensure the UK can have a stake in the semiconductor market, likely to be valued at over \$1 trillion globally by 2030, we need to be strategic, has said the industry body. The Government's Semiconductor Strategy is long awaited by the industry, which has voiced concerns in late 2022 due to the cuts to R&D tax credits. techUK's position paper sets out a five-point plan which it wants to see the Government follow.

The paper, 'A UK Plan for Chips', includes recommendations to:

- Retain the UK's position as a global leader in chip intellectual property and design;
- Incentivise investment in advanced designs, new materials and new fabrication plants;
- Partner with global allies on supply and monitor the UK's access to chips;
- Nurture the digital skills we need for the chips industry;
- Ensure access to markets and private capital.

These recommendations aim to address current issues around government support and access to funding, markets, and talent, as well as future issues that will allow UK semiconductors to scale and grow in a more globally competitive semiconductor industry.

Access to advanced semiconductors is vital for the future of the UK tech sector and beyond. A strong semiconductor industry would also bolster other aspects of the Government's



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agenda, ranging from Levelling Up, to making the UK a science and tech super power and Net Zero ambitions.

Neil Ross, Associate Director for Policy, techUK said:

"Semiconductors will be essential to almost all future technology. The US, China and the EU are already acting now to invest in their chips industries the UK must do the same or be left behind.

"We have consulted with our members to develop this UK Plan for Chips which contains recommendations to not only build on the UK's strengths but also foster new opportunities for British chips.

"To do this the UK needs to be strategic and invest where we already lead such as in design and IP. However, we also must target support where the UK can capture parts of the future semiconductor market, such as in compound semiconductors, other non-silicon-based chips and advanced manufacturing techniques."

-ENDS-

Notes to Editors

techUK represents over 900 tech companies including semiconductor designers and manufacturers.

For more information on techUK's plans to support the UK semiconductor industry please read our submission to the House of Commons Business, Environment and Industrial Strategy Select Committee's inquiry into the UK Semiconductor industry here.

The full report can be downloaded <u>here</u>.

About techUK

techUK is the technology trade association that brings together people, companies and organisations to realise the positive outcomes of what digital technology can achieve.

With around 940 members (the majority of which are SMEs) across the UK, techUK creates a network for innovation and collaboration across business, government and stakeholders to provide a better future for people, society, the economy and the planet.

By providing expertise and insight, we support members, partners and stakeholders as they prepare the UK for what comes next in a constantly changing world.