MICROELECTRONICS IN ARMENIA

Fact Sheet

At a Glance

Armenia has been designing chips for more than 25 years. Today the country has a complete talent pipeline, from university programs and an international olympiad to the engineering teams of global companies.

- Chip design has been practiced in Armenia for more than 25 years.
- Synopsys Armenia, the sector's leading company, was established in 2004. According to a publication marking its 20th anniversary, its headcount has grown from 128 to 1,270, with offices in Yerevan and Gyumri.
- Each year, around 100–150 specialists graduate from the university programs.
- The International Microelectronics Olympiad has been held in Armenia since 2006. The 2026 final will take place in Yerevan.

25 Years of Experience

Synopsys Armenia was formed in 2004, when the American company Synopsys acquired two firms, Monterey Arset and Leda Design; HPLA joined in 2005. Leda Design's collaboration with the Polytechnic University began as early as 2001, as a way to close the shortage of specialists. The company specializes in electronic design automation (EDA), design of integrated circuits for manufacturing, and semiconductor intellectual property (IP).

Other major companies are also present in the sector. Cadence Design Systems has acquired Ausdia, whose unit, Ausdia Design Automation LLC, is based in Yerevan; on 16 April 2026, Cadence added Ausdia's TimeVision solution to its portfolio. The Microelectronics Forum at Silicon Mountains will also feature speakers from Siemens, Microchip and SEMI Europe.

Education and Talent

Synopsys Armenia's Educational Department offers bachelor's and master's programs in IC Design and EDA, and doctoral programs in Automated Systems and Micro- and

Nanoelectronics. Universities work with Synopsys's Education Design Kit, a package of technology data and libraries that companies typically keep confidential. Five universities take part: the Polytechnic University, Yerevan State University, the Russian-Armenian University, the European University and the French University in Armenia.

About 150 graduates complete these programs every year. In 2025, 77% of graduates went on to work at Synopsys Armenia and 23% at other IT companies. Applicants outnumber admitted students several times over, a sign of how strong the interest in the field is.

The education model has also drawn attention in the European Union. On 5 May 2026, at the first EU–Armenia Summit, the EU handed letters of intent to six Armenian companies and foundations. One of them went to Synopsys Armenia, for work on strengthening semiconductor skills and links between education and industry. According to Yervand Zorian of Synopsys Armenia, the EU is interested in the Armenian program as a model for training centers that would prepare new specialists in several European countries (courses of four to six months for people who already hold a higher education degree).

International Olympiad and Forum

The International Microelectronics Olympiad was founded in 2006 on Synopsys's initiative, under the patronage of Armenia's Prime Minister, and is open to specialists under 30. It is organized by Synopsys Armenia in cooperation with the IEEE Test Technology Technical Council (IEEE TTTC).

In 2025, 1,088 students took part in the first round of the 20th Olympiad. Thirty-four advanced to the final, 14 of them from Armenia, and the overall winner was Ali Ramezani of the UAE.

The qualifying round of the 21st Olympiad in 2026 is being held in more than thirty countries across five continents. The final will take place in Yerevan on 3 November.

The International Microelectronics Forum (MIF 26) will take place on 4 November, with presentations by representatives of leading global companies.