



Dr. Vladimir V. Voronkov

A star has fallen, the GlobalWafers family have lost a longtime colleague/friend while the worldwide silicon crystal industry, scientific community have lost a giant (on 16th FEB 2025).

Dr. Voronkov, was born in Saint Petersburg, Russian Federation, on September 30, 1936, and had been a resident of Merano (BZ), Italy. He has been an intricate part of our GlobalWafers family since June 19, 1998.

Dr. Voronkov has made exceptionally significant contributions to the development of new products, through extraordinary understanding of the physicochemical mechanisms of monocrystalline silicon crystallization and defect formation. He has directly or indirectly contributed towards every crystal product we have invented/developed.

Dr. Voronkov's innate ability to develop theoretical concepts refined into mathematical models has been recognized across the entire international scientific community and was awarded the prestigious Frank prize by the International Organization of Crystal Growth in 2007. He had numerous patents and publications (over 250+) and scientific conference presentations and was promoted to Senior Fellow, the highest technical distinction position (being only one of the six in the company, out of a total of 7000 employees (as of the end of 2024)).

A defining characteristic, which persists even in his later years, is his creativity, to conceive entirely novel ideas and to think outside the box. Despite being a great physicist with such a widespread impact on the field he was extremely humble and down to earth serving as a role model for many generations to come.

Dr. Voronkov was one of the most consequential scientists in the modern field of semiconductor material behavior, making a real impact on the integrated circuit industry and on our MEMC-GlobalWafers family.

