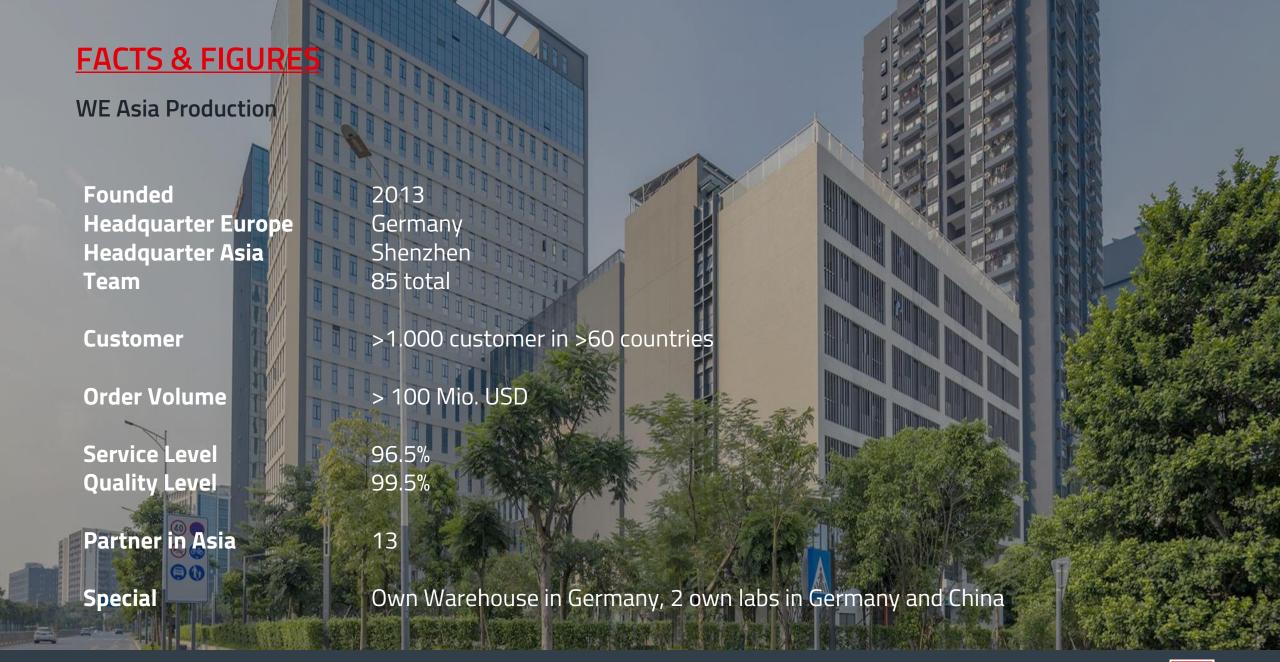


# WÜRTH ELEKTRONIK ASIA PRODUCTION – YOUR ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGY, VOLUME AND COMPETITIVENESS FROM ASIA

Alexander Görz and Manuel Mairhofer

WURTH ELEKTRONIK MORE THAN YOU EXPECT





# HOW DO MANUFACTURING COSTS DEVELOP IN ASIA?

01

**Production Costs** 

Development of raw materials, commodity and labor 02

Logistics

Development of sea and airfreight

03

**Capacity and Lead Time** 

Capacity in China Outlook for South-East-Asia (China+1) 04

Recommendation

What to do and how to react?



#### **Base Material Cost**

#### **Price:**

Laminate price dropped a little bit after the 2024 peak in May/June and then remained on a stable level.

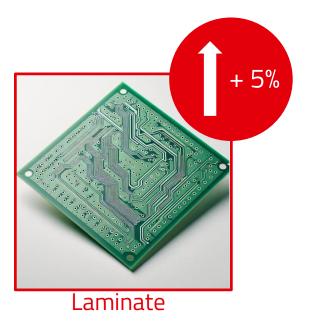
In 2025 Laminate already increased 8% and it's expected to increase further by 5-10%. First Laminate manufacturers announced their price increase and it's only a question of time when the PCB producers will forward this price increase to the customers.

#### Lead Time:

The high loading of PCB plants in China, especially for Al Infrastructure, increased the demand dramatically.

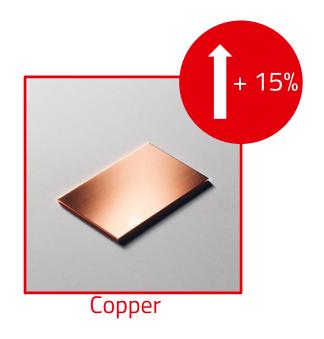
Some Laminate manufacturers has extended their lead times for standard material up to 5 weeks.

Additionally, the Laminate vendors set up purchasing quotas to the PCB manufacturers: As soon as the PCB manufacturers reach their monthly max. volume, the lead time for additional material will be increased.



#### **Copper Foil Cost**





Similar to Laminate, copper foil reached its peak in May 2024. The price dropped afterwards and was stable in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the year. From the beginning of 2025 the copper foil price increased **15%** and costs now between 9.400 and 9.800 USD/T

It's expected that copper will reach the "record height" of 12.000USD/T.

Source: https://www.finanzen.net/rohstoffe

#### **Commodity Cost**



Gold, silver and tin increased more than 30% since 2024 (~17% in 2025).

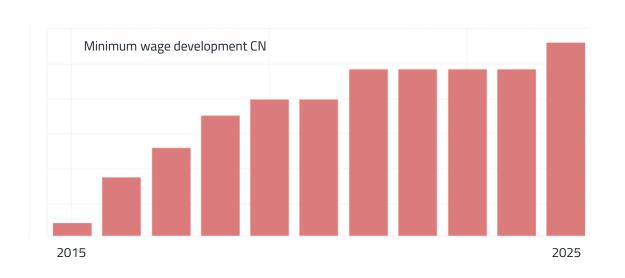
This has a direct impact on the surface treatment.

As a result, the price for the major surface finishing increases 10 - 15%.



Source: https://www.finanzen.net/rohstoffe

#### **Labor Cost**





**Labor Costs** 

Minimum wages in China increases 4% in 2025. Anyway, due to the high competition it's hard to find qualified workers with moderate wages/salary.

China's minimum wages are 50-90% higher than South-East-Asia's minimum wages in 2025.

Source: Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security, China

# WHAT'S THE DEVELOPMENT OF SEA & AIR FREIGTHT?

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### **LOGISTICS**

#### Sea Freight

- Global container trade increased 7.5% in 2024 and is expected to grow ~4% on average per year from 2025 to 2028.
   (add. ~6.5 mio USD annually, led by Asia Pacific)
- No signs of immediate return to the Suez canal.
   Potential return of diverted Suez ships could free up to 7% of global capacity.
- Rates dropped across all trades in 2025 and are expected to be stable.



Sea Freight



## **LOGISTICS**

#### Air Freight

 Demand of air freight volume grows continuously. WE also transports nearly 80% of our goods by airplane

 Estimation: The planned increase of air capacity worldwide should help to keep the air cargo rates stable in Q2 – Q3/2025.



Air Freight

# **HOW ARE DELIVERY AND LEAD TIMES DEVELOPING?**

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## **CAPACITY AND LEAD TIME**

#### China + South East Asia

- Major PCB manufacturers in China are loaded 95 130%.
- Hence, production lead times increase 20 40%.
- Due to the high demand, base material lead times need
  - additional **2 3 weeks** for standard FR4 material (HOZ, 1OZ, 2OZ)
  - additional 4 7 weeks for special materials (heavy copper, High CTI, High TG, etc.)
- Würth Elektronik has reserved more warehouse space to increase inventory for our customers.



Warehousing



## CHINA + 1

#### Southeast Asia as an Option?

- Large capacities have been built up in Southeast Asia (primarily in Thailand)
- The factories are now online and in operation
- The capacity utilisation is <50%, mainly because the price is still higher than in China (= free capacity)
- Würth Elektronik has 3 approved factories (Thailand, Malaysia).
- Additionally, 2 more WE partner are opening their fabs in Q3/2025 in Thailand.



# **HOW CAN CUSTOMERS PREPARE BEST?**

02 04 **Production Costs Capacity and Lead Time** Logistics Recommendation Development Capacity in China Development of What to do and of sea and raw materials, Outlook for how to react? commodity and airfreight South-East-Asia (China+1) labor



# **HOW CAN CUSTOMERS BEST PREPARE**

At the moment, it's difficult for everybody to plan orders with an accurate forecast

We recommend you to place orders as early as possible

Please only compare current offers - even offers from a few weeks ago can vary significantly in price and/or delivery time

Würth Elektronik has reserved additional space for you in our warehouse in Niedernhall, Germany. Increase your inventory in our warehouse: This will improve your market availability and reduce your own storage costs at the same time! This unique service is free of charge for you!





### **CONTACT**



We offer you a customized solution!

Contact your known sales representative or the Asia Production management team.

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