

Resilient supply of Ge substrates for US space market



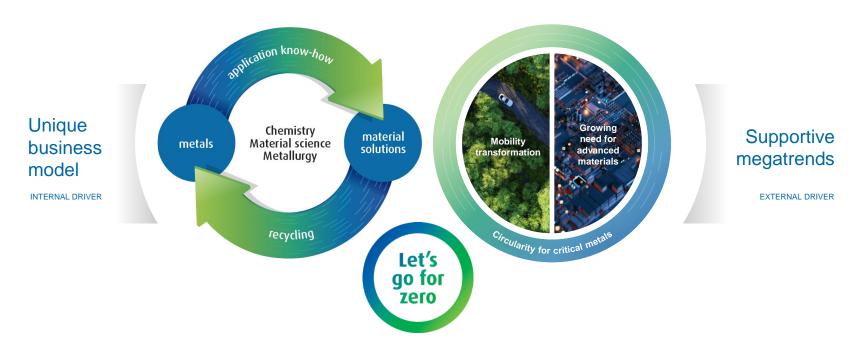
Kristof Dessein

Innovation Director

Umicore – Electro-Optic Materials

Umicore – A global materials technology company





Industry **leader** in sustainability

Umicore – A global materials technology company







AS SB BI Ш Antimony Arsenic Bismuth Lithium CU GA GE CO Cobalt Germanlum PD PT NI MN Platinum Manganese W PR RH RU Tungsten Rhodtum Ruthenium TA Tantalum

Umicore Electro-Optic Materials focuses on germanium products and infra-red optics

17 out of 34 critical raw materials part of Umicore's portfolio

Umicore's position in the Ge value chain





Decades of experience in germanium refining & recycling



Largest germanium producer & recycler outside of China



Extensive customer base in Europe and US



Recognised as one of the most sustainable companies in the world

Geographic presence Umicore's Ge operations



Umicore's Germanium Flow Sheet





Serving strategic applications today and tomorrow





Tomorrow

Germanium Substrates



Space solar cells



Photonics Non-space solar Space exploration Constellations



Germanium Tetrachloride



Optical Fiber Cable



Precursor for microelectronics



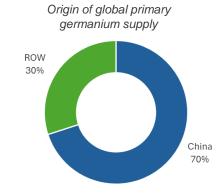
Global Germanium Value Chain

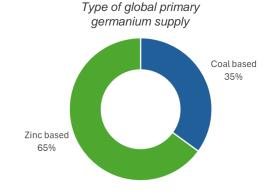


- Small minor metals market (130-150 tons/yr) with 70% of total primary output from China
- Export control measures introduced August '23 by China in view of geo-political tensions
- Export licenses exclude US companies and military end use
- Umicore has ensured continued supply for its customer base since the introduction of the export control



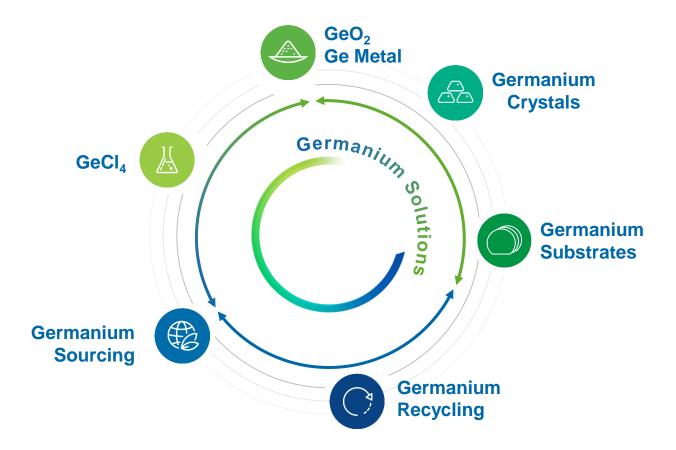
Creating a resilient supply base has been part of Umicore's strategy for two decades





Umicore's strategy in creating a resilient supply





Umicore's strategy in creating a resilient supply





Upstream Development

Recycling

Innovation

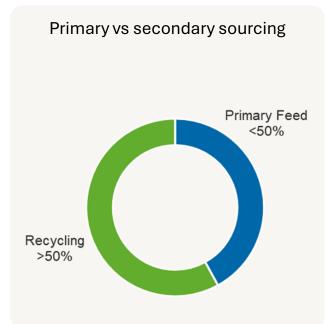
Upstream Development

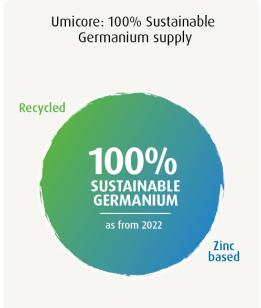
Umicore's Ge sourcing portfolio











Umicore is the only Germanium producer with 100% sustainable germanium,

and can additionally offer 100% recycled germanium

100% Sustainable Germanium GUARANTEED

100% Recycled Germanium AVAILABLE *

* Limited availability

Upstream Development

Long term deal with STL in DRC

- Umicore has been recovering Ge from Big Hill indirectly for 20 years
- Last year, a new partnership has been signed to further support extraction of Ge from these old Zn tailings







Your partner in Ge recycling

Continuous research to enlarge portfolio







Pyro and hydro metallurgy for complex streams



We partner with customers to recover Ge directly from their waste streams

Innovation: Re-usable Ge substrate



growth template (< 1μm)
bottom cell (< 10 μm)
radiation shielding (> 20 μm)
mechanical support (> 200 μm)

COING FOR...

LIGHTER

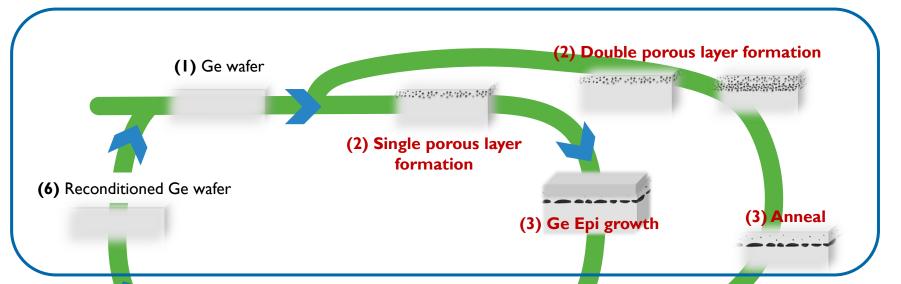
FLEXIBLE

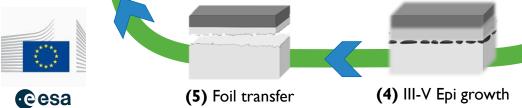
COST EFFECTIVE

Innovation: Re-usable Ge substrate

Two routes being explored in parallel











Re-usable Ge substrate: towards pilot scale



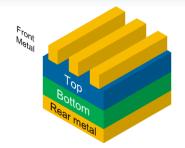
Proof-of-concept & Scalable Process Dvt







2J Flexible Solar Cell Demonstration



Substrates Flexible blanket demonstration



Flexible Solar Array

Re-usable Ge substrate project – way forward

Upscaling to 6" and pilot fab @ Umicore Belgium



Germanium Substrates



Until 2024

Proof of concept (v1)

10/yr, 4"



2024-2026

Technical insourcing (v2)

10²/yr, 4"



2026-2028

Construction phase,
Scale up

10³/yr, 6"



Beyond 2028

Full production, Capacity expansion

>10⁴/yr, 6"

Strategic stock

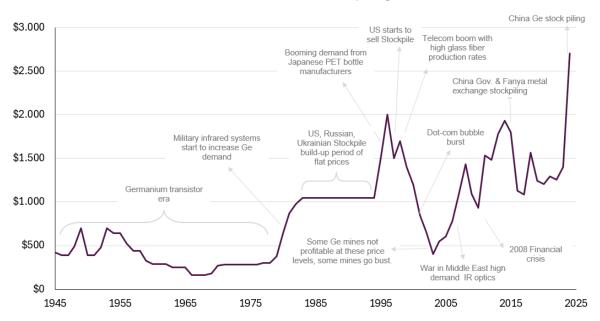


Umicore holds strategic

stock in various forms

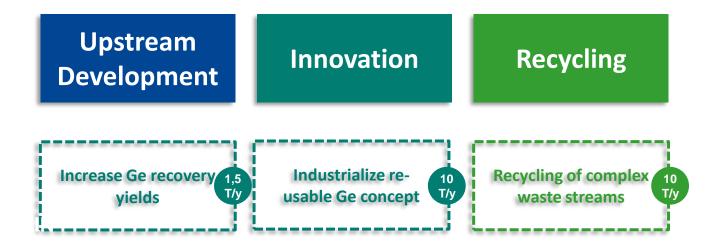
 Umicore manages customer stocks via tolling schemes

Historical Germanium reference pricing (USD/Kg)



Conclusion





Diversification is key towards a more resilient Ge supply chain