

FREIBERG TO PRODUCE WORLD'S MOST MODERN 300 MM WAFERS



 Siltronic AG has invested €430 million in a new production plant in Freiberg for the manufacture of 300 mm wafers. The facility will be supplying AMD and Infineon with silicon wafers for chip production. By 2006, 400 people will be working at the plant and another 200 people are likely to be employed over the next few years.

Siltronic considered Portland (Oregon) and Singapore as possible locations for the new plant and eventually decided on Freiberg. Reasons for the decision

included access to highly qualified staff, infrastructure, and the co-operation between the local and federal governments. Financial aid in the realm of €120 million also played a role in the company's choice. The facility is the world's most modern large-volume hyper-pure silicon wafer production location and will initially produce 60,000 wafers/month. By 2007, capacity should increase to 150,000.

Wafers, made from hyper-pure silicon, form the basis for the production of semiconductor elements and are there-

fore indispensable for practically all electronic components. Silicon wafers are characterized by their diameter, their crystal orientation, the doping additive and their surface finish.

Siltronic is a global leader in the market for ultra-pure silicon wafers and is present in Europe, Asia, Japan and the United States. Siltronic reported revenues of over €870 million in 2003.

For more information see www.siltronic.com

SAP OPENS BERLIN OFFICES

 SAP AG has opened its new head office in Berlin. The seven-story glass building in the heart of Berlin is to be a development, marketing, consulting, and education facility for the company. With a total space of more than 12,500m², the building is SAP's second largest location in Germany and will house around 300 employees.


SAP, the world's largest inter-enterprise software concern, and the third-largest independent software supplier, decided upon Berlin on account of its international standing, and the close access it offers to political decision makers and economic activity.

Located in over 50 countries SAP employs over 29,600 people worldwide and recorded a turnover of €7 billion in 2003.

For more information see www.sap.com



AMD STARTS 90 NM OPTERON MANUFACTURING IN DRESDEN

 Advanced Micro Devices Inc. (AMD) has begun using a 90 nanometer (nm) silicon-on-insulator (SOI) manufacturing process at its Fab30 in Dresden. The company expects commercial shipments of these products to begin by autumn 2004. 90 nm processing will enhance AMD's product line and will give the company greater flexibility to enhance processor performance and lower power usage. The move saves about 40 percent of the die area compared with the established 130

nm process, and should have a similar impact on AMD's costs until the company introduces 300 mm wafer processing, which is expected in early 2006.

AMD is the world's second largest microprocessor, supplying integrated circuits for the personal and networked computer, and employees around 2000 people at its Dresden plant.

For more information see www.amd.com

SAINT-GOBAIN PRODUCES INNOVATIVE INSULATION PRODUCTS IN EASTERN GERMANY



French conglomerate Saint-Gobain Isover has decided to concentrate the production of its innovative mineral wool insulation products in Lübz, in the eastern German state of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern where it currently employs 70 people. As a world leader in insulation, Saint-Gobain Isover creates, produces and sells mineral wool (glass and stone wool) insulation products in the form of rolls, panels, or shells, some of which are coated.

A company spokesperson said that one of the greatest advantages of the new range of products is its elasticity in packaging - products are packed to at least half of their original volume, which reduce the size of the transport fleet needed. In spite of compression, the elastic glass wool keeps its stated dimensions. It can be stored months without any changes of elasticity.

For more information please visit www.saint-gobain.com

PLASMA CHEM - AN IIC NANOTECH CLIENT - INVESTS IN BERLIN-ADLERSHOF



PlasmaChem GmbH, a nanotechnology firm involved in nanomaterials, plasma- and ultra-thin film technologies, and their biomedical and technical applications, has announced the moving of its headquarters to the science and technology park in Berlin-Adlershof. The Berlin-Adlershof location will be responsible mainly for research on cardiovascular stents, novel nanomaterials, contact lenses and analytical tools for nanotechnology. The company's general manager and principal owner, Dr. Alexey Kalachev, who founded the company in 1993, is the

author of more than 100 papers and patents and has spent over 15 years in the Russian Academy of Science working in these areas. In 2003 the company's revenue exceeded €2 million. PlasmaChem was assisted by the Berlin Business Development Corporation GmbH and the IIC GmbH in areas such as site selection, business planning and human resources. Deciding factors for the Berlin-Adlershof location included proximity to leading R&D facilities and universities, and the premier location in Germany's capital.

For more information see www.plasmachem.com



NICE-PAK OPENS NEW GERMAN FACILITY



Nice-Pak Deutschland GmbH, has officially opened its first German production facility in Osterweddingen, in the eastern German state of Saxony-Anhalt. The number of employees at Nice-Pak will increase to 95 by 2006 after a series of investments totalling €23 million. The Ministry for Economics, Saxony-Anhalt's Economic Development Agency, and the IIC, all assisted in making Nice-Pak's expansion into Germany as fast and uncomplicated as possible.

NICE-PAK Products, Inc. is the worldwide leader in providing wet wipe products to the consumer, healthcare, food service/institutional and contract packaging markets and employs a total of around 1,700 people.

For more information see www.nicepac.com



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