

**VLSI RESEARCH INC**

**2006 Top Ten Suppliers of Critical Subsystems**

Bedford, England, May 16, 2007: VLSI Research Inc has released the Top Ten merchant suppliers of critical subsystems to the semiconductor, flat panel display, and data storage manufacturing industries in 2006. There's no change in the first six places on the Top Ten supplier list, as the Critical Subsystems industry completes another year of profitable growth. Carl Zeiss SMT retained the top spot in the ranking of merchant suppliers of Critical Subsystems. The sales of high-value lenses for immersion and dry 193nm lithography tools drove the German company's subsystems revenues up to \$687M. BOC Edwards remained in second place with revenues of \$601M. MKS Instruments gained some ground with growth in excess of 40% and revenues of \$575M. As predicted, Brooks Automation benefited from the contribution of a full year's revenues from their acquisition of Helix Technology, but they were unable to close the gap with MKS Instruments. Advanced Energy and Cymer put in solid performances to hold on to the fifth and sixth positions, respectively. Celerity makes its first appearance in the Top Ten in seventh place, as its acquisition of Mykrolis's pressure and flow business pushed its revenues above those of Alcatel, Ebara, and Horiba in eight, ninth, and tenth places.

The top ten suppliers now account for over half of the total revenues of the Critical Subsystems industry. This compares to the combined market share of 41% that the Top Ten Suppliers held in 2000, and is a sign of the continued consolidation within the industry.

Critical Subsystems are products that have been designed to address specific applications within the semiconductor and related manufacturing industries, and actively affect the processing and handling of substrates.

See chart below:

**2006 Top Ten Critical Subsystem Suppliers  
For Semiconductor, FPD & Data Storage Manufacturing Equipment**

<b>2006 Rank</b>	<b>Company</b>	<b>2006 \$M</b>	<b>2005 Rank</b>
1	Carl Zeiss SMT AG	687	1
2	BOC Edwards	601	2
3	MKS Instruments	575	3
4	Brooks Automation, Inc.	391	4
5	Advanced Energy	294	5
6	Cymer Inc.	283	6
7	Celerity	154	12
8	Alcatel Vacuum Technology	131	11
9	Ebara Corporation	125	9
10	Horiba	124	10

Source: VLSI Research Inc  
Doc: 490075, 05/07

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