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VLSI RESEARCH INC

Five Star Semiconductor Equipment Suppliers

Santa Clara, CA – November 27, 2007 – VLSI Research Inc awarded its five star rating to fourteen semiconductor equipment manufacturers this year. These fourteen manufacturers have achieved five out of five stars with exceptional customer satisfaction across measured categories including cost of ownership, quality of results, product performance, customer service, technical leadership, and commitment.

Manufacturer	Equipment Segment
Advantest Corporation ***	Test, Material Handling
ASML ***	Wafer Fabrication
BTU International, Inc.	Assembly
Carl Zeiss SMT	Process Diagnostics
HANMI Semiconductor ***	Assembly
ICOS Vision Systems	Assembly
Inovys Corporation	Test
Kulicke & Soffa Industries, Inc.	Assembly
Nextest Systems Corporation **	Test
Nissin Ion Equipment Co., Ltd. **	Wafer Fabrication
Orthodyne Electronics ***	Assembly
PVA TePla AG	Process Diagnostics, Wafer Fabrication, and Assembly
Rite Track	Wafer Fabrication
Varian Semiconductor ***	Wafer Fabrication

** Companies designated with 2 asterisks have achieved a five star rating two years in a row.

*** Companies designated with 3 asterisks have achieved a five star rating three years in a row.

Of particular note are the equipment companies that have been rated five out of five stars for 3 consecutive years since VLSI Research began the star rating system. These stellar companies are: Advantest, ASML, HANMI Semiconductor, Orthodyne Electronics, and Varian Semiconductor.

The star rating system reflects equipment performance and customer service evaluations from equipment users based on the 2007 VLSI Research Inc Customer Satisfaction Report on Chip Making Equipment. Please visit our website for further details and additional star ratings for other companies and categories by clicking [here](#).

Five star ratings are derived exclusively from VLSI Research Inc's 2007 Customer Satisfaction Report on Chip Making Equipment. VLSI Research is the world's leader in providing independent customer evaluations of semiconductor equipment suppliers.

These ratings are given by chip equipment users representing 95% of the world's semiconductor market. VLSI Research normalized the data from the 2007 Customer Satisfaction Report to fit a five star rating methodology. The overall rating is based on all thirteen categories covered by the annual report. The 15 largest chip equipment manufacturers were grouped together and the cutoff point for a five star rating for these larger companies was the 20th percentile. All equipment companies smaller than the largest 15 were grouped together and the cutoff point for a five star rating was the 12th percentile. Please note that high ratings do not mean that every customer has had a positive experience with a particular company. High ratings simply indicate that, on average, the supplier stands out when compared with other companies in the industry.

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