



## Press Release

### **THE BEST Chip Making Equipment Suppliers for 2009**

**Santa Clara, CA – May 20, 2009:** VLSI Research Inc is pleased to announce its new Customer Satisfaction Awards: THE BEST Chip Making Equipment Suppliers by Market Segment for 2009. This includes Assembly, Test, Material Handling, Process Diagnostics, and Wafer Processing Equipment. Chip makers such as Intel, Samsung, Qualcomm, Texas Instruments, TSMC, and ASE were surveyed to offer feedback to equipment suppliers on thirteen rating categories covering equipment performance and customer service. In addition to public recognition, the survey provides detailed ratings by equipment type, platform, and area of the world. The survey also provides insight into customer loyalty and user preferences.

#### **THE BEST Assembly Equipment Suppliers: Disco ranked highest**

DISCO, the largest dicing equipment supplier, rose to the top and received the highest rating of the 2009 Assembly Equipment Suppliers for the first time, with an overall rating of 8.04. F & K Delvotec, the highest rated wire bonder maker, retained the number two spot for the second straight year. ACCRETECH – Tokyo Seimitsu, a dicing equipment supplier, secured the third spot for the third successive year, showing a very tight competition among dicing equipment suppliers.

#### **THE BEST Test Equipment Suppliers: Verigy ranked highest**

The test equipment market went through a drastic change when the recent consolidation left this segment with four qualifying suppliers. Verigy excelled in customer satisfaction and came away with the highest overall rating of 7.62, leaping from the tenth to the first spot. They also garnered the highest rating of all test suppliers in eleven categories. Verigy's strongest attribute is *product performance*. Teradyne soared to the number two spot this year from number six. Respondents rated *quality of results* as their strongest trait. Of all the suppliers in this segment, respondents gave Teradyne the highest score in *software*. Advantest slipped one spot and ended the year as the second runner up in the survey. *Average uptime* was their peak rating out of the thirteen categories.



## **THE BEST Material Handling Equipment Suppliers: SUSS MicroTec ranked highest**

SUSS MicroTec is once again the highest rated Material Handling Equipment Supplier. With the top score of 8.26, SUSS captured the first spot for the fourth consecutive year. Tokyo Electron continued to move up the ladder as respondents voted them as a runner up winner in this year's competition. They received the top rating among their peers in *field engineering support* and *technical leadership*. Ismecca received the award for the first time with an overall rating of 7.39. They outscored their peers in *software*.

## **THE BEST Large Suppliers of Wafer Processing Equipment: Varian ranked highest**

This year's winner of THE BEST 2009 Large Suppliers of Wafer Processing Equipment is no stranger to the top spot. Varian once again captured the highest rank with a score of 8.20 and remained the number one supplier since 2003, an astonishing seven-year run. The second and third rankings remain unchanged. Novellus captured the second position with a score of 8.09 and ASML ranked third with a score of 7.96. This is the highest-ever rating for Novellus and the highest rating for ASML since 2001.

## **THE BEST Small Suppliers of Wafer Processing Equipment: NISSIN Electric ranked highest**

NISSIN Electric received the highest overall rating in the 2009 Small Suppliers of Wafer Processing Equipment. This came after the company slid from third place in 2007 to twelfth place in 2008. Rite Track's consistent performance placed them at second place for the third consecutive year. Oerlikon showed its Swiss quality with the highest customer ratings in *software*, *build quality*, *product performance* and *technical leadership*, putting them in the third spot for the second straight year.

## **THE BEST 2009 Process Diagnostics Equipment Suppliers: Keithley ranked highest**

Keithley Instruments was awarded the highest rating among all equipment suppliers across THE BEST categories for the second year in a row. They performed exceptionally well in *cost of ownership*, uptime, *software*, *build quality*, and *technical leadership*. Nikon acquired the number two spot with the top performance in six of thirteen categories. Their overall rating of 8.20 is a notable improvement, compared to 8.06 in 2007. Agilent moved down to third place from second place last year. Among their peers, Agilent received the highest rating in *quality of results* and *product performance*.



<b>THE BEST 2009 LARGE SUPPLIERS OF WAFER PROCESSING EQUIPMENT</b> (Based on Revenue)		
Rank	Company	Overall Rating
1	Varian Semiconductor	8.20
2	Novellus Systems, Inc.	8.09
3	ASML	7.96
4	Hitachi Kokusai Electric Inc.	7.69
5	Tokyo Electron Limited	7.30
6	Lam Research Corporation	7.23
7	Dainippon Screen Mfg. Co., Ltd.	7.11
8	Canon, Inc.	7.02
9	ASM International N.V.	7.01
10	Nikon Corporation	6.93

Source: VLSI Research Inc

<b>THE BEST 2009 SMALL SUPPLIERS OF WAFER PROCESSING EQUIPMENT</b> (Based on Revenue)		
Rank	Company	Overall Rating
1	Nissin Electric Co., Ltd.	7.63
2	Rite Track	7.57
3	Oerlikon	7.55
4	Tegal Corporation	7.40
5	EV Group	7.34
6	CHA Industries	7.28
7	Oxford Instruments	7.21
8	Aviza Technology	6.98
9	FSI International	6.97
10	Veeco Instruments, Inc.	6.88

Source: VLSI Research Inc

<b>THE BEST 2009 ASSEMBLY EQUIPMENT SUPPLIERS</b>		
Rank	Company	Overall Rating
1	DISCO Corporation	8.04
2	F & K Delvotec Bondtechnik GmbH	7.90
3	ACCRETECH-Tokyo Seimitsu	7.81
4	HANMI Semiconductor	7.63
5	Kulicke & Soffa	7.40
6	Shinkawa Ltd.	7.15
6	BE Semiconductor	7.01
8	Esec	6.96
9	TOWA Corporation	6.63
10	Rudolph Technologies	6.49

Source: VLSI Research Inc

<b>THE BEST 2009 PROCESS DIAGNOSTICS EQUIPMENT SUPPLIERS</b>		
Rank	Company	Overall Rating
1	Keithley Instruments, Inc.	8.28
2	Nikon Corporation	8.20
3	Agilent Technologies, Inc.	8.00
4	Hitachi High-Technologies	7.46
5	FEI Company	7.44
6	Applied Materials, Inc.	6.72
7	KLA-Tencor	6.25
8	Veeco Instruments, Inc.	5.71
9	Nanometrics Inc.	5.31

Source: VLSI Research Inc

<b>THE BEST 2009 AUTOMATED TEST EQUIPMENT SUPPLIERS</b>		
Rank	Company	Overall Rating
1	Verigy Inc.	7.62
2	Teradyne, Inc.	7.19
3	Advantest Corporation	7.10
4	LTX-Credence Corporation	7.06

Source: VLSI Research Inc

<b>THE BEST 2009 MATERIAL HANDLING EQUIPMENT SUPPLIERS</b>		
Rank	Company	Overall Rating
1	SUSS MicroTec	8.26
2	Tokyo Electron Limited	7.79
3	Ismeca SA	7.39
4	ACCRETECH-Tokyo Seimitsu	7.26
5	Multitest Elektronische Sys. GmbH	7.24
6	Cascade Microtech, Inc.	7.09
7	Electrogas, Inc.	7.01
8	Advantest Corporation	6.81
9	Delta Design	6.43

Source: VLSI Research Inc

2009 Customer Satisfaction Survey on Chip Making Equipment

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## About VLSI Research Inc

VLSI Research Inc is the leading provider of market research and economic analysis on the technical, business, and economic aspects within nanotechnology and related industries. The company is known for its unparalleled accuracy, innovation in market research, and its sharply focused insight into the rapidly changing landscape of the industries covered. Its databases on manufacturing are used throughout the industry, and by government. VLSI Research's primary databases and reports cover the semiconductor, flat panel display, PV cell and module manufacturing industries, and the market for critical subsystems and components within these and associated high technology industries.

VLSI Research was founded in 1976. The company's website is <https://www.vlsiresearch.com>.

## About the survey

The VLSI Research annual *Customer Satisfaction Survey on Chip Making Equipment* is the only publicly available opportunity for chip manufacturers to provide feedback on their suppliers. Equipment manufacturers need an accurate baseline of their performance. The factors determining which equipment manufacturers will be successful are no longer determined solely by technical prowess and market timing. Nor are companies measured solely by their market share position. Customer satisfaction has become a critical measure of a company's success. Companies need to know how they are perceived by the customer, so that they can consistently improve their market position. The 10 BEST and THE BEST by Market Segment rankings award special recognition to the suppliers that are rated highest by their customers. For more details on the survey, click [here](#).

<b>Percent of Chip Market Represented:</b>	<b>95%</b>
Surveys Distributed:	35,726
Equipment Models Rated:	3,755
From North America:	26.2%
From Europe:	22.1%
From China:	11.9%
From Korea:	10.7%
From Taiwan:	10.4%
From Japan:	7.0%
From Other:	11.7%

Source: VLSI Research Inc  
2009 Customer Satisfaction Survey on Chip Making Equipment

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