



Applied Materials' Quantum LEAP System Wins Best Product Award; Semiconductor International Honors High-Current Implant System for Advanced Production Capabilities

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SANTA CLARA, Calif.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Oct. 12, 2000--Applied Materials, Inc. today announced that its Quantum LEAP(TM) ion implant system received Semiconductor International magazine Editors' Choice Best Product Award. Quantum has achieved distinction by enabling a full range of low-energy and high-current implant applications with high productivity, providing chipmakers with a flexible and cost-effective solution that is extendible to 0.1 micron geometries and 300mm wafers.

The annual Editors' Choice Best Product Award program involves a rigorous evaluation process that requires candidate products to be nominated by customers who use the product in production. "The award recognizes technologically innovative products that are proven and accepted by the semiconductor industry," noted Peter Singer, editor-in-chief of Semiconductor International. "Winning products must demonstrate advanced production capabilities, as well as the ability to contribute to chipmakers' success. We believe that the Quantum LEAP is exemplary in both these areas and are pleased to honor Applied Materials with this award."

Introduced in July 1999, Quantum LEAP features a small footprint platform that accommodates 200mm or 300mm wafers. The high-current system has advanced the state-of-the-art for low-energy ion implantation, providing a precise and flexible solution to perform all the conductive implant steps needed for forming transistors, including ultra-shallow junction source/drain implants and gate doping. Quantum LEAP's superior features and unmatched performance have proven essential for device designs requiring smaller and faster transistors.

Critical to the system's success is Quantum LEAP's unique capability to perform advanced ultra-low energy implantation at the productivity and reliability levels required for high-volume manufacturing. In just over a year since its introduction, Quantum LEAP systems have been installed in production lines at nearly every major logic manufacturer. Today, Applied Materials ranks as the world's leading supplier of high-current/low energy implant systems.

"We are extremely pleased that Semiconductor International has chosen the Quantum LEAP system for its prestigious Best Product Award," said Craig Lowrie, vice president and general manager of Applied Materials' Ion Implant Product Business Group. "This award represents tremendous customer recognition for our product, which addresses some of the most difficult technical challenges associated with conductive implants. We thank our customers, whose encouragement and guidance has played a critical role in this product's rapid acceptance into the industry's most advanced fabs."

Applied Materials (Nasdaq:AMAT) is a leader of the Information Age and the world's largest supplier of products and services to the global semiconductor industry. Applied Materials' web site is <http://www.appliedmaterials.com>.

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