

## SILICON WAFER SHIPMENTS DECLINE IN FIRST QUARTER 2009

**SAN JOSE, Calif. –May 20, 2009** – Worldwide silicon wafer area shipments declined sharply during the first quarter 2009 when compared to the fourth quarter 2008 area shipments according to the SEMI Silicon Manufacturers Group (SMG) in its quarterly analysis of the silicon wafer industry.

Total silicon wafer area shipments were 940 million square inches during the most recent quarter, a 34 percent decrease from the 1,428 million square inches shipped during the previous quarter. The new quarterly total area shipments are 57 percent below first quarter 2008 shipments and at the lowest levels since 2001.

"Clearly, difficult global economic conditions continued to have an impact on wafer shipments in the first quarter of the year," said Nobuo Katsuoka, chairman of SEMI SMG and director, SOI process Engineering Department for Shin-Etsu Handotai Co., Ltd. "However, market conditions recovered after the bottom observed in the January and February period."

**Quarterly Silicon Area Shipment Trends**  
**Semiconductor Silicon Shipments\* - Millions of Square Inches**

	<i>Million of Square Inches</i>		
	<i>Q1 2008</i>	<i>Q4 2008</i>	<i>Q1 2009</i>
<i>TOTAL</i>	2,163	1,428	940

\*Shipments are for semiconductor applications only and do not include solar applications

Silicon wafers are the fundamental building material for semiconductors, which in turn, are vital components of virtually all electronics goods, including computers, telecommunications products, and consumer electronics. The highly engineered thin round disks are produced in various diameters (from one inch to 12 inches) and serve as the substrate material on which most semiconductor devices or "chips" are fabricated.

All data cited in this release is inclusive of polished silicon wafers, including virgin test wafers, epitaxial silicon wafers, and non-polished silicon wafers shipped by the wafer manufacturers to the end-users.

The Silicon Manufacturers Group acts as an independent special interest group within the SEMI structure and is open to SEMI members involved in manufacturing polycrystalline silicon, monocrystalline silicon or silicon wafers (e.g., as cut, polished, epi, etc.). The purpose of the group is to facilitate collective efforts on issues related to the silicon industry including the development of market information and statistics about the silicon industry and the semiconductor market.

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**About SEMI**

SEMI is the global industry association serving the manufacturing supply chains for the microelectronic, display and photovoltaic industries. SEMI member companies are the engine of the future, enabling smarter, faster and more economical products that improve our lives. Since 1970, SEMI has been committed to helping members grow more profitably, create new markets and meet common industry challenges. SEMI maintains offices in Austin, Beijing, Brussels, Hsinchu, Moscow, San Jose, Seoul, Shanghai, Singapore, Tokyo, and Washington, D.C. For more information, visit [www.semi.org](http://www.semi.org).

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