



Applied Materials Sets Milestone: 500 Vantage RTP Systems Shipped to Customers Worldwide

November 29, 2010

TOKYO, Japan, November 30, 2010 - Applied Materials, Inc. announced today that it has shipped its 500th **Applied Vantage®** rapid thermal processing (RTP) system, which is used by chipmakers worldwide for fabricating advanced memory and logic chips. The Vantage system's robust, compact design and best-in-class anneal performance were quickly recognized by customers at its launch in 2002, propelling the platform to market leadership within two years - where it remains today.

According to market researcher Gartner Dataquest, Applied is the market leader in RTP technology, with the majority share in 2009 for lamp-based RTP applications¹. In addition to its Vantage RTP systems, Applied has more than 500 Centura® RTP systems installed at customers worldwide - making Applied's RTP technology the industry's choice for manufacturing virtually every microchip in the last decade.

"The Vantage system demonstrates Applied's leadership in providing customers with the thermal processing technology that delivers the performance, productivity and reliability needed for successful chip manufacturing," said Sundar Ramamurthy, vice president and general manager of Applied's Front End Products division. "We also continue to develop new RTP solutions for the Vantage platform, such as the groundbreaking [Vantage Astra](#)(TM) millisecond anneal technology that addresses critical transistor scaling challenges."

The Vantage architecture links two [RadiancePlus](#)(TM), [RadOx](#)(TM) or Astra process chambers directly to an Applied factory interface to maximize productivity in minimal cleanroom space. The system's unique flexibility allows customers to perform all lamp and laser-based thermal processing steps - millisecond, spike and soak anneals, plus multiple nitridation and oxidation applications - on the same production-proven platform. The entire system ships as one integrated unit, reducing installation time to less than 10 days.

For more information on Applied's full line of RTP systems, visit <http://www.appliedmaterials.com/semiconductor-technologies#thermal>.

Applied Materials, Inc. (Nasdaq:AMAT) is the global leader in providing innovative equipment, services and software to enable the manufacture of advanced semiconductor, flat panel display and solar photovoltaic products. Our technologies help make innovations like smartphones, flat screen TVs and solar panels more affordable and accessible to consumers and businesses around the world. At Applied Materials, we turn today's innovations into the industries of tomorrow. Learn more at www.appliedmaterials.com.

¹ "Market Share: Semiconductor Equipment, Worldwide, 2009" Gartner, Inc., pub. April 2010

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