

Dainippon Screen and Nanometrics Announce the agreement to install the metrology units of Nanometrics into DNS's Coater/Developer

Kyoto, Japan. February 12 - Dainippon Screen Manufacturing Company Ltd. , Kyoto, Japan, and Nanometrics Inc., a leading supplier of standalone and integrated advanced metrology systems, have recently concluded an agreement whereby Dainippon Screen (DNS) will be supplied with metrology units for integration from Nanometrics into DNS's newly released RF³ Coater/Developer. The Nanometrics unit, which will be installed in the DNS track in their demonstration lab, will enable in-line film thickness and optical critical dimension (OCD) measurement for advanced deep-UV lithography. DNS plans to offer the Nanometrics unit as one of the options on the new RF³ track. Nanometrics will work closely with DNS's field support organization to offer front line customer support for all such products supplied by DNS to its global customers.

DNS has an "open" concept for integrated metrology on the RF³, providing standardized installation locations and interface specifications for all metrology manufacturers. The standard interface allows device manufacturers to deal with metrology companies directly; select the units which best meet their requirements, and install them in the RF³. Kenji Kamei, manager of DNS's Taga track factory, stated that the decision to work with Nanometrics was based on their excellent performance and market presence. Integrated film thickness measurement allows closed loop control of the coater module to compensate for multiple factors which can negatively impact performance. In situ OCD measurement enables Advanced Process Control (APC) systems utilizing "real time" CD measurement to adjust vital parameters such as scanner exposure dose.

■ **About Dainippon Screen**

Dainippon Screen Mfg. Co., Ltd was established in 1943 and is a top 10 supplier of semiconductor fabrication equipment. The company specializes in track equipment, wafer cleaning systems, and next generation flash anneal tools. All of the company's production sites are certified for ISO9001 as well as for ISO14001 Environmental Management System. Dainippon Screen is a public company quoted on the Tokyo stock exchange.

Homepage: <http://www.screen.co.jp/>

■ **About Nanometrics**

Nanometrics, Inc. is a leading supplier of integrated and standalone metrology equipment used for advanced IC, flat panel display and magnetic head manufacturing. The Company's corporate office is located at 1550 Buckeye Drive, Milpitas CA 95035 with sales and service offices worldwide. Nanometrics is traded on NASDAQ under the symbol NANO.

Nanometrics website is www.nanometrics.com.