

- Semiconductor counterfeit alert -

Brussels, March 29, 2011

The global semiconductor industry already saw an increase of counterfeit semiconductors available on the open market following the upturn of the semiconductor market in 2010. This coincided with the appearance of momentary supply bottlenecks and lower inventory levels.

The European Semiconductor Industry Association (ESIA) sees the same pattern emerging at worldwide level as a consequence of the possible momentary rupture in some areas of the semiconductor supply chain following the March 11th sequence of incidents which happened in Japan.

As is unfortunately always the case, an increase in the proliferation of counterfeit semiconductors also raises the risks to health, safety and security for consumers and citizens, should fake chips lead to the malfunctioning of end devices. As industry association, we therefore highly recommend increased supply chain vigilance in the procurement process of semiconductors and an intensification of anti-counterfeiting activities within companies, as well as increased cooperation with the respective authorities.

About ESIA:

The Mission of the European Semiconductor Industry Association (EECA-ESIA) is to *represent, promote and defend the vital interests of the European-based semiconductor industry and to ensure its competitiveness in the global market*. The semiconductor industry provides the key enabling technologies at the forefront of the development of the Information Society. The sector supports over 110,000 direct jobs and up to 500,000 induced jobs in Europe, operating in a worldwide market valued at \$298bn (Europe \$38bn) in 2010. With membership covering companies, national sector associations and research institutes, ESIA is the voice of the semiconductor industry in Europe.

Industry Association of:

EECA : European Electronic Component manufacturers' Association

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