

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Brussels, September 29, 2003

Upturn in Progress -

European Semiconductor Market in August 2003

The August data show a significant improvement in the semiconductor market, reflecting a healthy end demand from mass markets such as PC and wireless handsets as well as in automotive electronics. The current trends are above the normal seasonality, in Europe like worldwide, confirming the ongoing recovery of the global semiconductor industry:

European Semiconductor sales in August 2003 amounted to US\$ 2.559 billion according to WSTS, up +3.8% versus previous month. This corresponds to a +15.6% increase compared to the same month last year. Year-to-date, semiconductor sales increased by +13.9% versus the same period last year.

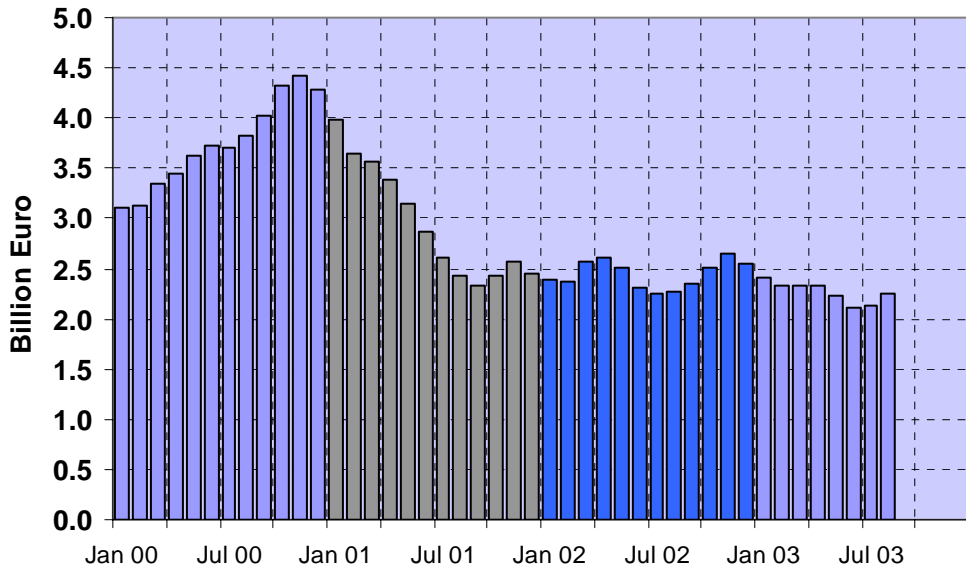
The exchange rate of the Euro compared to the US\$ has a very significant impact on the growth data at this time. Measured in Euro, semiconductor sales in June were EURO 2.244 billion, an increase of +5.0% versus previous month and a decline of -1.1% versus the same month a year ago. On a year-to-date basis, semiconductor sales decreased by -5.7% versus the same period last year.

On a Worldwide basis, semiconductor sales in August were US\$ 13.419 billion, up +4.0% versus previous month. This results to an increase of +12.5% versus the same month in 2002 and on a year-to-date basis to a growth of +12.4%.

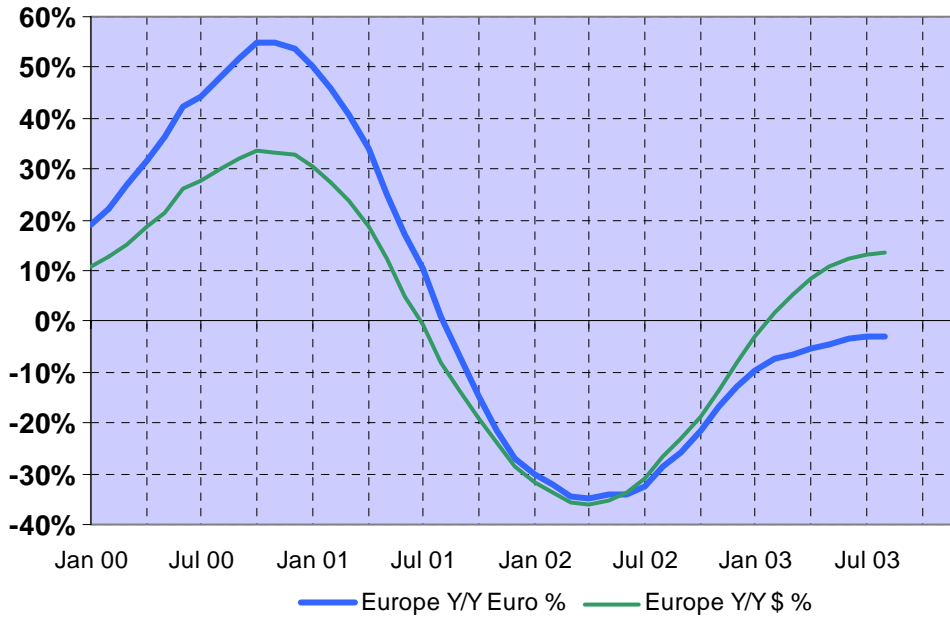
Market data for the 3 month moving average ending:								
Region	sales (in billions)		Month on Month growth		Year on Year growth		YTD growth	
	Jul 03	Aug 03	Jul 03	Aug 03	Jul 03	Aug 03	Jul 03	Aug 03
in \$:								
Europe	2.466	2.559	2.3%	3.8%	14.4%	15.6%	13.0%	13.9%
Americas	2.506	2.568	1.0%	2.5%	-3.5%	-0.5%	-5.7%	-4.2%
Japan	3.119	3.168	4.8%	1.6%	17.2%	15.0%	24.5%	23.1%
Asia Pacific	4.814	5.123	2.9%	6.4%	12.9%	17.0%	14.4%	15.7%
World	12.905	13.419	2.9%	4.0%	10.5%	12.5%	11.6%	12.4%
In EURO:								
Europe	2.136	2.244	0.9%	5.0%	-5.1%	-1.1%	-7.1%	-5.7%
Rate (\$/Euro)	1.139	1.113	14.3%	13.8%	< Euro against \$ versus prev. Year			

(Unless otherwise indicated, all figures are 3-month-average data.)

Europe (Euro)



Monthly European Semiconductor sales in billion Euro
(3-month-average data)



European Semiconductor sales growth in %
Annualized growth trend (Y/Y) in Euro and Dollar
(12-month-average data)

WSTS monthly data in full product detail are available via subscription. For more information please contact the EECA-ESIA office under secretariat@eeca.be

About EECA and ESIA

The European Electronic Component Manufacturers Association (EECA) is an association grouping of four autonomous industry associations with members coming from the manufacturing and related industries as well as from national associations. Their goal is to promote and defend the vital interests of the European Electronic Components Industry and to support its competitive position in the global marketplace. The four associations are European Semiconductor Industry Association (ESIA), European Display Industry Association (EDIA), European Passive Components Industry Association (EPCIA), European Packaging and Interconnection Industry Association (EPIA). EECA is a chartered member of the World Semiconductor Council. More information can be found at <http://www.eeca.org>.

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