



## ***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

Brussels, March 1, 2004

### **Start into a boom year -**

### **European Semiconductor Market in January 2004**

In January the WSTS data started into 2004 with the typical seasonal pattern - slightly below December - yet significantly above the level a year ago. Despite the usual weak start into the first quarter the trend for total year 2004 directs to a higher growth than anticipated still in fall 2003 and will reach well above plus 20%.

With production capacity close to full utilization already and combined with the anticipated double digit growth the market may even see shortness in a number of areas soon. In the year 2004 the semiconductor market will be back in the upper phase of the cycle.

European Semiconductor sales in January 2004 amounted to US\$ 2.952 billion according to WSTS, down -4.9% versus previous month. This corresponds to a +19.5% increase compared to the same month last year. On a year-to-date basis semiconductor sales increased by +23.4% versus the same period in 2003.

The exchange rate of the Euro compared to the US\$ continues to have a very significant impact on the growth data at this time. Measured in Euro, semiconductor sales in January were EURO 2.423 billion, a decrease of -7.1% versus previous month and an increase of +0.5% versus the same month a year ago. On a year-to-date basis semiconductor sales increased by +3.8% versus the same period in 2003.

On a Worldwide basis, semiconductor sales in January were US\$ 15.533 billion, down -3.0% versus previous month. This results to an increase of +26.6% versus the same month in 2003 and on a year-to-date basis to a growth of +26.3%.

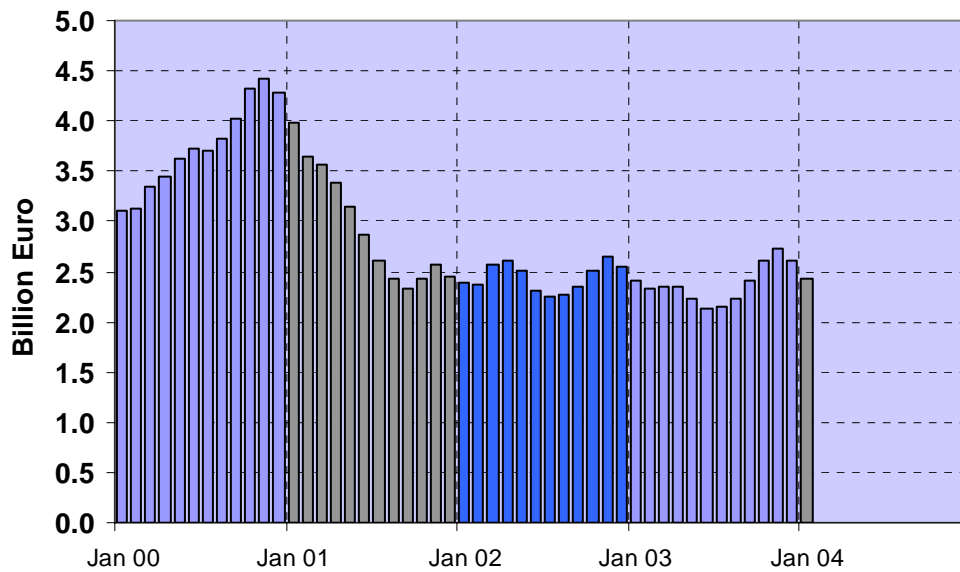
(for more data please see the tables and graphs on following pages)

Data Table:

Market data for the 3 month moving average ending:								
Region	sales (in billions)		Month on Month growth		Year on Year growth		YTD growth	
	Dez 03	Jan 04	Dez 03	Jan 04	Dez 03	Jan 04	Dez 03	Jan 04
<b>in \$:</b>								
<b>Europe</b>	3.105	2.952	-1.4%	-4.9%	22.1%	19.5%	16.3%	23.4%
<b>Americas</b>	3.032	2.936	-0.7%	-3.2%	16.8%	14.8%	3.4%	13.4%
<b>Japan</b>	3.715	3.598	-0.1%	-3.2%	33.9%	32.0%	27.7%	24.1%
<b>Asia Pacific</b>	6.180	6.067	-0.2%	-1.8%	34.0%	34.0%	22.8%	36.6%
<b>World</b>	<b>16.033</b>	<b>15.553</b>	<b>-0.5%</b>	<b>-3.0%</b>	<b>28.0%</b>	<b>26.6%</b>	<b>18.3%</b>	<b>26.3%</b>
<b>In EURO:</b>								
<b>Europe</b>	2.608	2.423	-4.5%	-7.1%	2.7%	0.5%	-2.8%	3.8%
Rate (\$/Euro)	1.229	1.260	20.4%	18.8%	< Euro against \$ versus prev. Year			

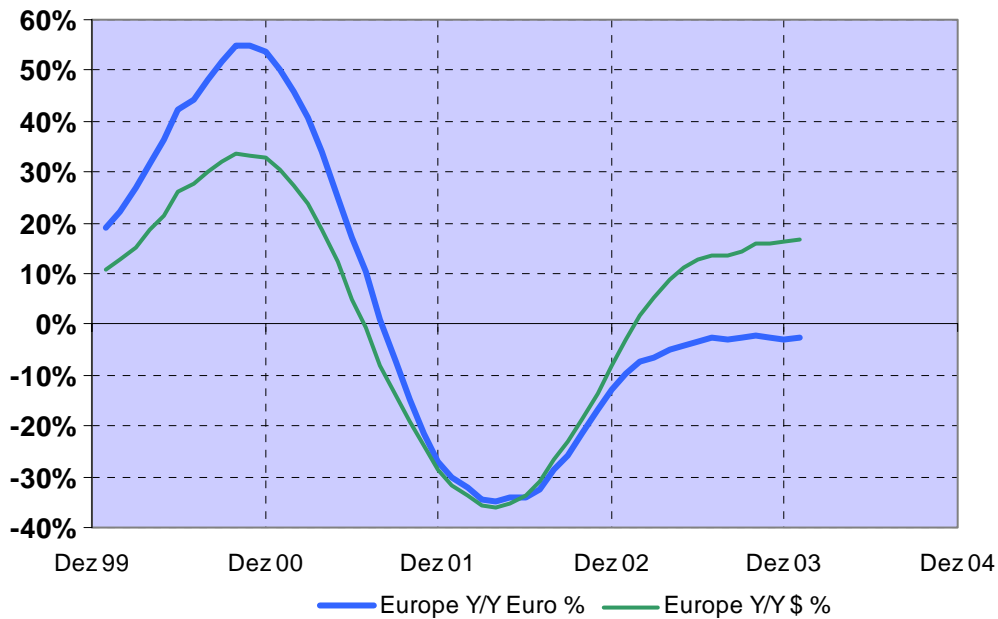
(Unless otherwise indicated, except YTD growth all figures are 3-month-average data.)

### Europe (Euro)



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

## Trend Growth in Dollar versus Growth in Euro



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@eeeca.be](mailto:secretariat@eeeca.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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