



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Brussels, April 2, 2004

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

### **European Semiconductor Market in February 2004**

*The market has improved further in February. On a month to month base America showed highest growth followed by Europe. It's too early to say this is already a sign for an economic upturn in both of the regions.*

*From the application point PC related products are directing the pace followed by wireless applications like mobile phones, Bluetooth and Wireless LAN. Normally other areas are following. No question about the expected overall growth rate well above 20% discussed in January.*

*From the production point of view more and more voices are speaking about tight capacities. The last SICAS report showed already utilization rates well above 90% with Foundry capacities topping it on the level of 99%.*

*Summarizing the upturn has won some further speed in February.*

European Semiconductor sales in February 2004 amounted to US\$ 2.962 billion according to WSTS, up +0.7% on previous month. This corresponds to a +20.8% increase compared to the same month last year. On a year-to-date basis semiconductor sales increased by +22.9% 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 February were EURO 2.371 billion, a decrease of -1.8% versus previous month and an increase of +1.7% versus the same month a year ago. On a year-to-date basis semiconductor sales increased by +4.4% versus the same period in 2003.

On a Worldwide basis, semiconductor sales in February were US\$ 15.582 billion, up +0.2% versus previous month. This results to an increase of +30.8% versus the same month in 2003 and on a year-to-date basis to a growth of +32.8%.

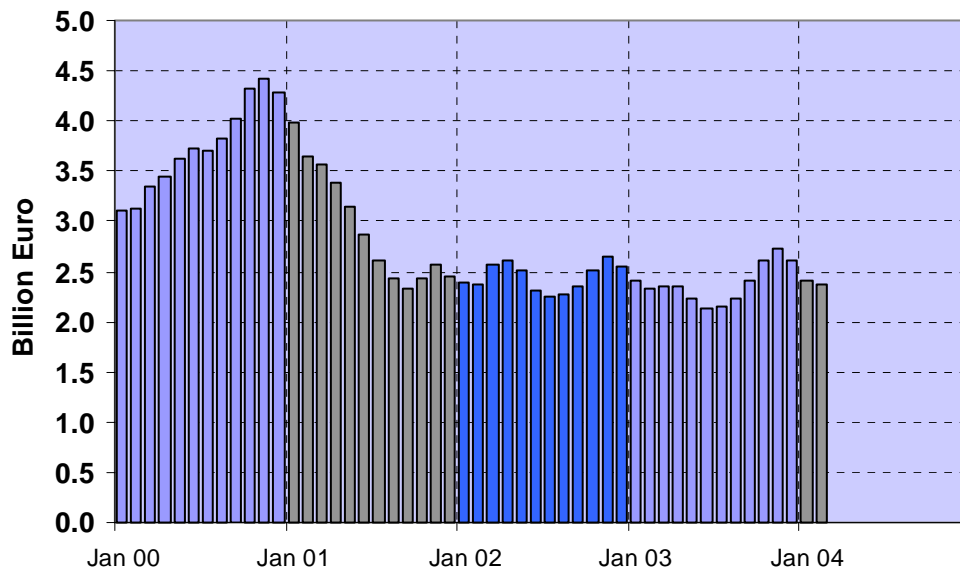
(for more data please see the tables and graphs on following pages)

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	
	Jan 04	Feb 04	Jan 04	Feb 04	Jan 04	Feb 04	Jan 04	Feb 04
<b>in \$:</b>								
<b>Europe</b>	2.942	2.962	-5.3%	0.7%	19.0%	20.8%	21.9%	22.9%
<b>Americas</b>	2.935	2.931	-3.2%	-0.1%	14.7%	20.1%	13.2%	23.5%
<b>Japan</b>	3.609	3.543	-2.9%	-1.8%	32.4%	30.2%	25.3%	26.4%
<b>Asia Pacific</b>	6.066	6.146	-1.9%	1.3%	34.0%	42.8%	36.5%	48.3%
<b>World</b>	<b>15.551</b>	<b>15.582</b>	<b>-3.0%</b>	<b>0.2%</b>	<b>26.6%</b>	<b>30.8%</b>	<b>26.3%</b>	<b>32.8%</b>
<b>In EURO:</b>								
<b>Europe</b>	2.415	2.371	-7.4%	-1.8%	0.1%	1.7%	2.6%	4.4%
Rate (\$/Euro)	1.260	1.262	18.8%	16.7%	< Euro against \$ versus prev. Year			

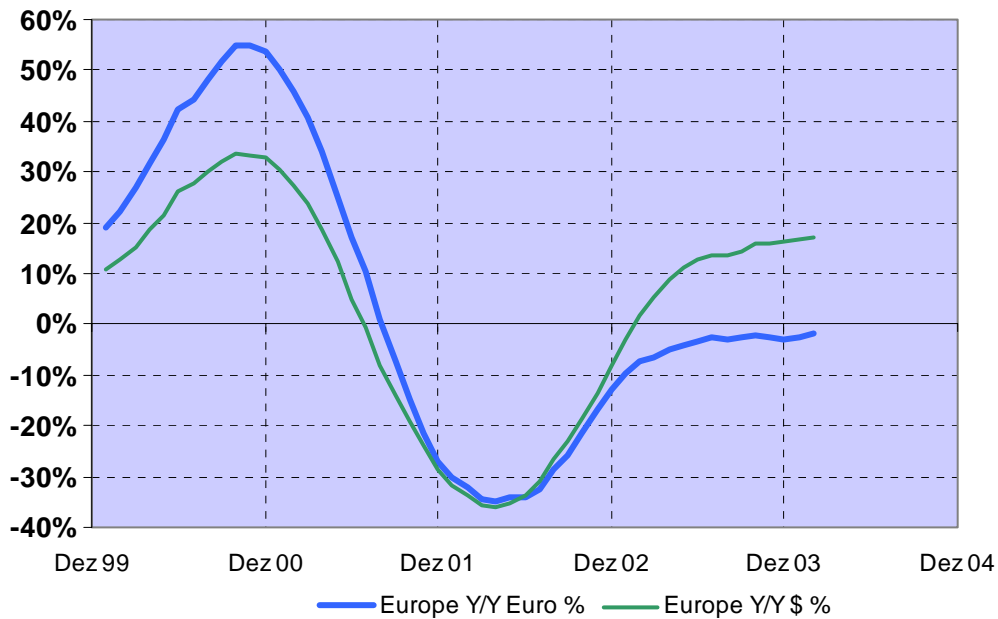
(Unless otherwise indicated, except YTD growth all figures are 3-month-average data.)

### 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 details 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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