FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Brussels, July 2, 2004

European Semiconductor Market accelerates further in May

The May market data confirms the prospect of a robust growth for the worldwide semiconductor market in Q2. The worldwide year-on-year growth on a three-month moving average is now approaching 37%. On a regional basis, this growth continues to be lead by the Asia Pacific region; the May data showing a further acceleration in both Asia Pacific and Europe.
The market in May continued to be strong for DRAM (the memory chips primarily used in computers), display drivers, application specific ICs for use in communications, consumer applications and Smart Card ICs, as well as image sensors (used in digital still cameras and mobile phones).

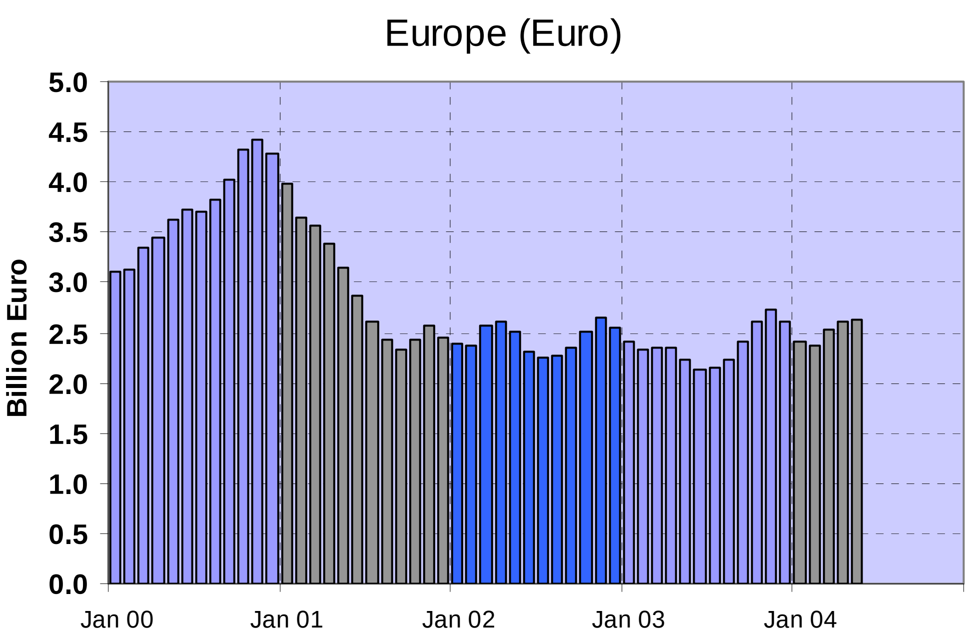
European Semiconductor sales in May 2004 amounted to US$ 3.184 billion according to WSTS, down -1.2% versus previous month. This corresponds to a +29.1% increase compared to the same month last year. On a year-to-date basis semiconductor sales increased by +26.7% versus the same period in 2003.
The exchange rate of the Euro compared to the US$ has still a significant impact on the growth data at this time. Measured in Euro, semiconductor sales in May were EURO 2.626 billion, an increase of +0.3% versus previous month and an increase of +17.3% versus the same month a year ago. On a year-to-date basis semiconductor sales increased by +12.3% versus the same period in 2003.
On a worldwide basis, semiconductor sales in May were US$ 17.318 billion, up +2.1% versus previous month. This results to an increase of +36.9% versus the same month in 2003 and on a year-to-date basis to a growth of +35.4%.

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

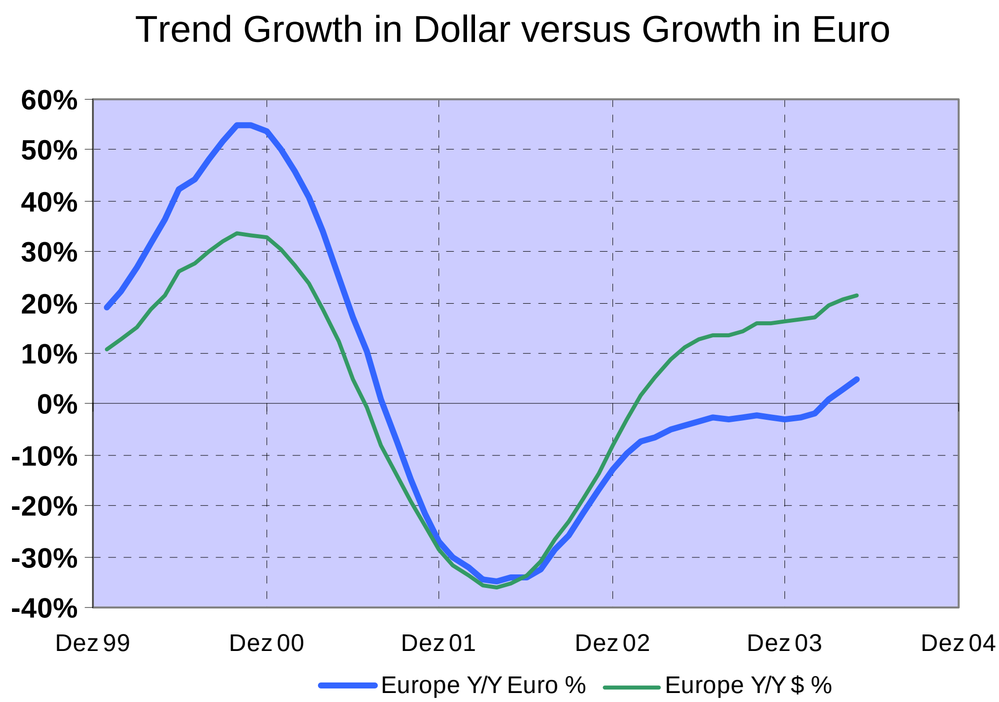
Data Table:

Market data for the 3 month moving average ending:								
Region	sales (in billions)		Month on Month growth		Year on Year growth		YTD growth	
	Apr 04	Mai 04	Apr 04	Mai 04	Apr 04	Mai 04	Apr 04	Mai 04
in $: **Europe**	3.222	3.184	2.5%	-1.2%	26.7%	29.1%	25.6%	26.7%
Americas	3.190	3.196	3.7%	0.2%	30.4%	26.5%	26.4%	25.4%
Japan	3.656	3.729	1.8%	2.0%	27.1%	25.1%	26.7%	25.6%
Asia Pacific	6.901	7.209	6.8%	4.5%	52.2%	54.2%	48.7%	52.1%
World	**16.969**	**17.318**	**4.3%**	**2.1%**	**36.8%**	**36.9%**	**34.4%**	**35.4%**
In EURO: Europe	2.617	2.626	3.8%	0.3%	11.2%	17.3%	9.3%	12.3%
Rate ($/Euro)	1.206	1.202	11.0%	4.2%	< Euro against $ versus prev. Year			

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



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 details are available via subscription. For more information please contact the EECA-ESIA office under secretariat.gen@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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