



Latest Semiconductor sales data, for immediate release

Brussels, October 31, 2004

The Semiconductor market meets expectations in September

The performance of the European and the world Semiconductor market meets industry's expectations with a year to date growth of 33.2% , slightly down from August. On a 12 month average the European market has further increased (see graph on page 2). Besides a strong Data Processing segment, the Automotive and Communication segments show some seasonal weakening. The driving products in the third quarter have been MPU (19,6% against 2nd quarter) and application specific Logic (15,7% against 2nd quarter).

European Semiconductor sales in September 2004 amounted to US\$ 3.348 billion according to the World Semiconductor Trade Statistics (WSTS), up +4.1% versus the previous month. This corresponds to a +23.4% increase compared to the same month last year. On a year-to-date basis, semiconductor sales increased by +25.5% 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 September were EURO 2.742 billion, an increase of +3.8% versus previous month and an increase of +13.6% versus the same month a year ago. On a year-to-date basis, semiconductor sales increased by +13.8% versus the same period in 2003.

On a worldwide basis, semiconductor sales in September were US\$ 18.410 billion, up +1.0% versus the previous month. This results in an increase of +27.4% versus the same month in 2003 and on a year-to-date basis results in a growth rate of +33.2%.

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

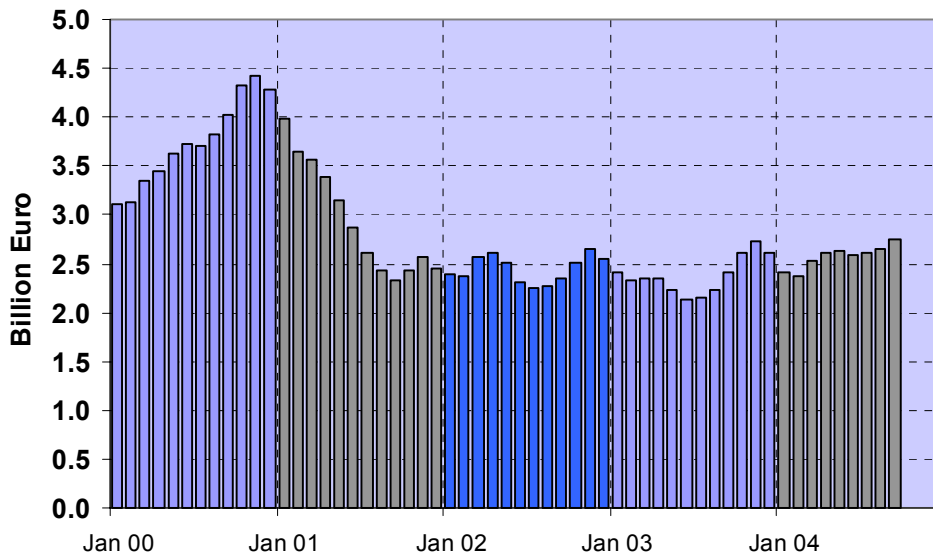
About ESIA: The European Semiconductor Industry Association (ESIA), part of the European Electronic Component manufacturers' Association (EECA), represents the European-based manufacturers of semiconductor devices. The semiconductor industry provides the enabling technology, which is at the forefront of the development of the digital economy. The sector supports over 86,000 jobs in a market currently valued at around €28.5 bn.

Market data by region¹

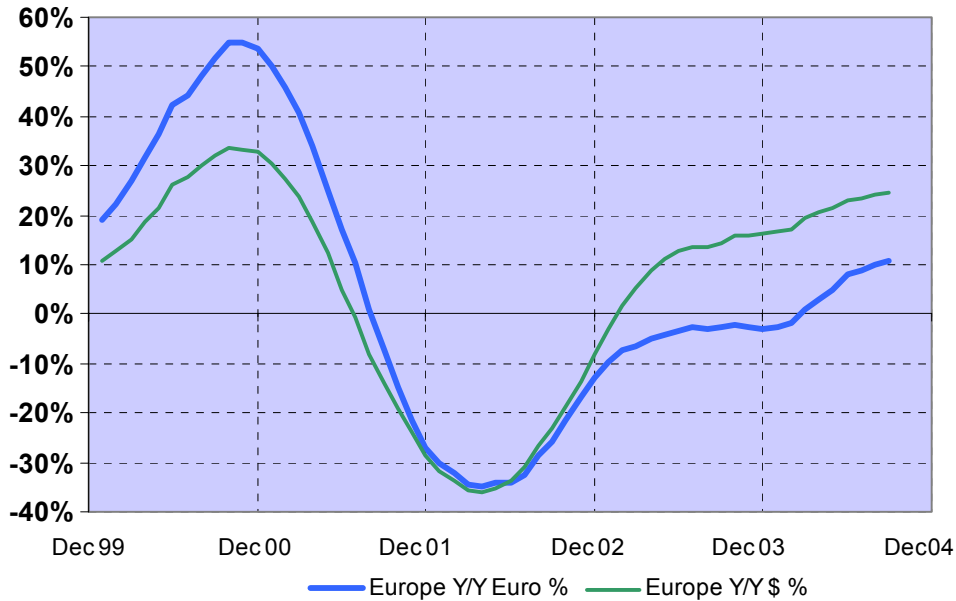
Market data for the 3 month moving average ending:								
Region	sales (in billions)		Month on Month growth		Year on Year growth		YTD growth	
	Aug 04	Sep 04	Aug 04	Sep 04	Aug 04	Sep 04	Aug 04	Sep 04
in \$:								
Europe	3.218	3.348	1.7%	4.1%	26.5%	23.4%	26.7%	25.5%
Americas	3.375	3.317	2.4%	-1.7%	29.3%	20.6%	26.9%	25.0%
Japan	3.973	3.955	1.6%	-0.5%	23.7%	17.7%	24.9%	23.0%
Asia Pacific	7.668	7.790	0.3%	1.6%	47.5%	38.6%	50.4%	47.9%
World	18.235	18.410	1.2%	1.0%	34.4%	27.4%	35.1%	33.2%
In EURO:								
Europe	2.641	2.742	1.3%	3.8%	18.5%	13.6%	14.7%	13.8%
Rate (\$/Euro)	1.220	1.220	9.6%	8.8%	< Euro against \$ versus prev. Year			

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

EUROPE - 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 is available via subscription. For more information please contact the EECA-ESIA office under secretariat.gen@eeca.be or visit our website at <http://www.eeca.org/esia.htm>.

EECA-ESIA is a chartered member of the World Semiconductor Council (<http://www.semiconductorcouncil.org/>) and licensee of WSTS data for Europe, Middle East and Africa.

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