



European Semiconductor Industry Association

Latest Semiconductor sales data, for immediate release

Brussels, March 3, 2005

Slow start to the new year for semiconductor sales

Reflecting the traditional post-quarter slowdown, January has seen all regions start the new year with a negative sign compared to the December 2004 figures. Europe shows a -1.7% drop (on a 3 months average), with negative signs in a similar range or little growth also being recorded for the other regions.

Application specific (-4,9%), MOS Memory (-1,8%) and Flash are the segments which have particularly influenced this month's results. Better performance was instead recorded for MCU.

European Semiconductor sales in January 2005 amounted to US\$ 3.467 billion according to the World Semiconductor Trade Statistics (WSTS), down -1.7% versus the previous month. This corresponds to a +17.9% increase compared to the same month last year. On a year-to-date basis, semiconductor sales increased by +19.7% versus the same period in 2004.

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 January were EURO 2.633 billion, a decrease of -3.1% versus previous month and an increase of +9.0% versus the same month a year ago. On a year-to-date basis, semiconductor sales increased by +15.2% versus the same period in 2004.

On a worldwide basis, semiconductor sales in January were US\$ 18.270 billion, down - 0.5% versus the previous month. This results in an increase of +17.5% versus the same month in 2004 and on a year-to-date basis results in a growth rate of +22.8%.

(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 valued at around € 31.7 bn in 2004.

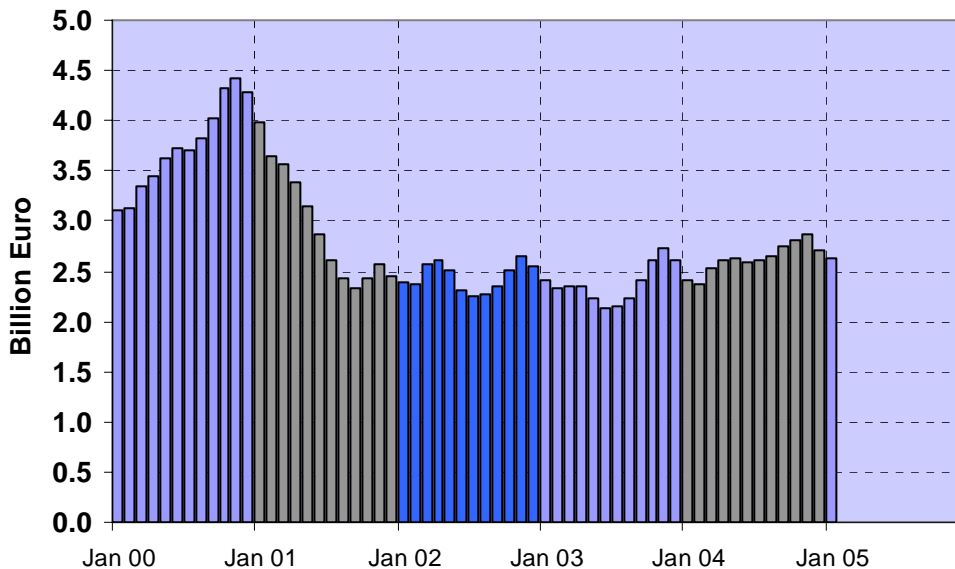
About WSTS: Established in 1986, the World Semiconductor Trade Statistics is a non-profit corporation whose mission is to provide timely, accurate and authentic semiconductor market data on industry product shipments in a product line format serving the broad marketing and executive needs. In 2004 WSTS members are 72 semiconductor companies from all over the world representing around 85% of the world's semiconductor market.

Market data by region¹

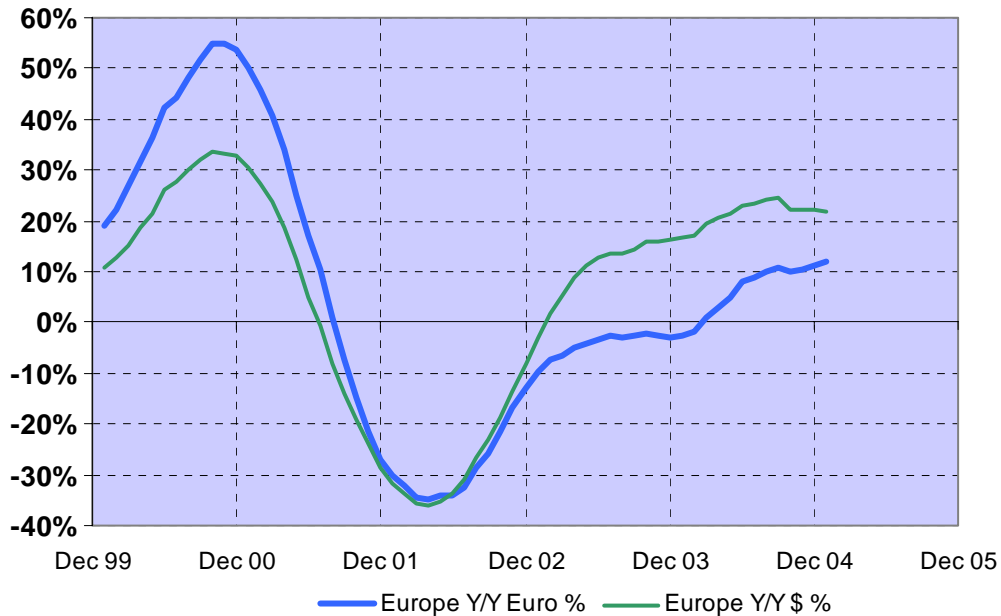
Market data for the 3 month moving average ending:								
Region	sales (in billions)		Month on Month growth		Year on Year growth		YTD growth	
	Dec 04	Jan 05	Dec 04	Jan 05	Dec 04	Jan 05	Dec 04	Jan 05
in \$:								
Europe	3.525	3.467	-2.1%	-1.7%	13.5%	17.9%	22.0%	19.7%
Americas	3.237	3.180	-6.2%	-1.8%	6.7%	8.3%	20.8%	18.4%
Japan	3.857	3.866	-2.2%	0.2%	3.8%	7.0%	17.5%	9.0%
Asia Pacific	7.748	7.758	-3.6%	0.1%	25.4%	27.9%	41.3%	35.1%
World	18.368	18.270	-3.5%	-0.5%	14.6%	17.5%	28.0%	22.8%
In EURO:								
Europe	2.718	2.633	-5.4%	-3.1%	4.2%	9.0%	11.2%	15.2%
Rate (\$/Euro)	1.339	1.310	9.0%	4.0%	< 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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