



European Semiconductor Industry Association

Latest Semiconductor sales data, for immediate release

Brussels, April 2, 2005

February data follow industry expectations

WSTS February market data show a slight negative result for all regions, more pronounced in Europe and Asia Pacific (respectively -2.4% and -2.3%), milder for Americas (- 0.8%). These results are in line with the expected seasonal trends and therefore are not regarded with particular concern by the industry at this point.

On the negative side, a generalised decrease in DRAM (-5.4% in Europe, -4.7% worldwide) and NOR Flash memories partially explains this month's result. But there are also some encouraging signs, such as the positive trends recorded for application specific logic devices, in particular automotive and wireless communication (for cellular phones).

European Semiconductor sales in February 2005 amounted to US\$ 3.403 billion according to the World Semiconductor Trade Statistics (WSTS), down -2.4% versus the previous month. This corresponds to a +14.9% increase compared to the same month last year. On a year-to-date basis, semiconductor sales increased by +14.3% versus the same period in 2004.

The exchange rate of the Euro compared to the US\$ still has an impact on the growth data at this time. Measured in Euro, semiconductor sales in February were EURO 2.581 billion, a decrease of -2.5% versus previous month and an increase of +8.8% versus the same month a year ago. On a year-to-date basis, semiconductor sales increased by +10.3% versus the same period in 2004.

On a worldwide basis, semiconductor sales in February were US\$ 18.051 billion, down 2.0% versus the previous month. This results in an increase of +15.8% versus the same month in 2004 and on a year-to-date basis results in a growth rate of +17.2%.

(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 valued at around €31.7 bn in 2004.

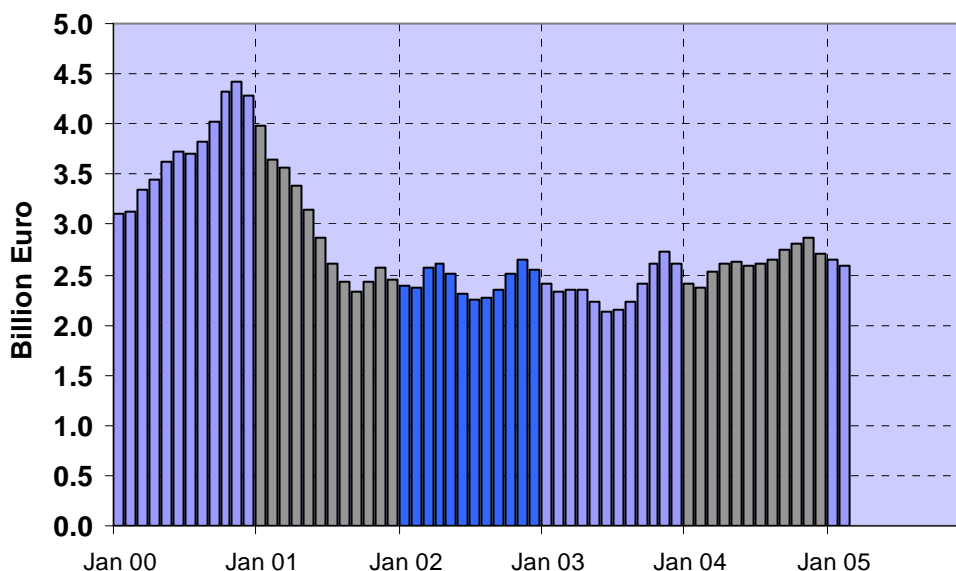
About WSTS: Established in 1986, the World Semiconductor Trade Statistics is a non-profit corporation whose mission is to provide timely, accurate and authentic semiconductor market data on industry product shipments in a product line format serving the broad marketing and executive needs. In 2004 WSTS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

Market data by region¹

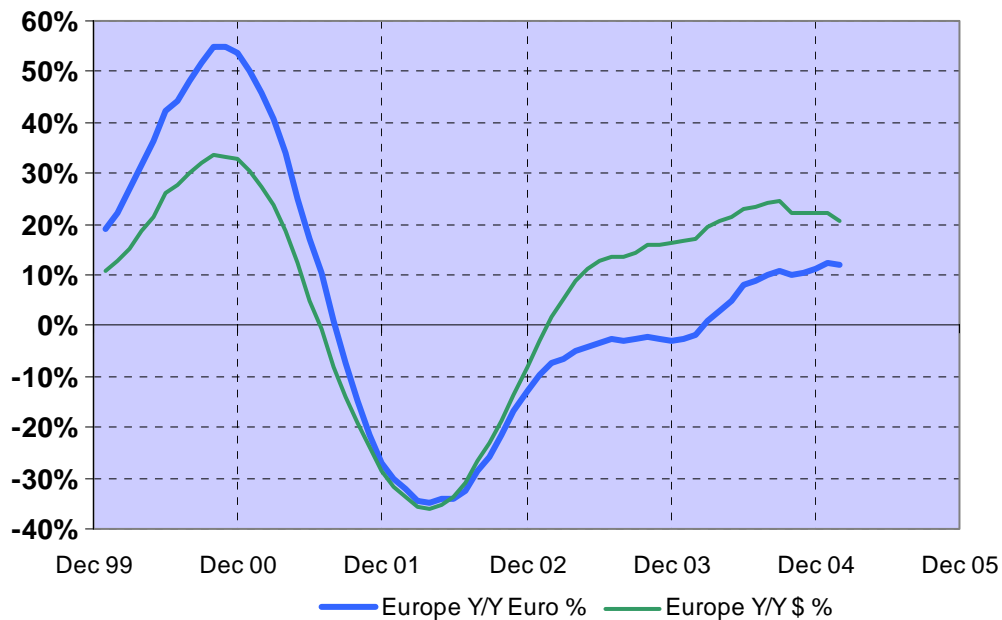
Market data for the 3 month moving average ending:								
Region	sales (in billions)		Month on Month growth		Year on Year growth		YTD growth	
	Jan 05	Feb05	Jan 05	Feb05	Jan 05	Feb05	Jan 05	Feb05
in \$:								
Europe	3.486	3.403	-1.1%	-2.4%	18.5%	14.9%	22.0%	14.3%
Americas	3.224	3.199	-0.4%	-0.8%	9.8%	9.1%	23.8%	13.3%
Japan	3.870	3.795	0.3%	-1.9%	7.0%	6.7%	9.3%	8.1%
Asia Pacific	7.831	7.655	1.1%	-2.3%	29.1%	24.6%	39.2%	25.8%
World	18.411	18.051	0.2%	-2.0%	18.4%	15.8%	25.8%	17.2%
In EURO:								
Europe	2.648	2.581	-2.6%	-2.5%	9.6%	8.8%	17.3%	10.3%
Rate (\$/Euro)	1.310	1.303	4.0%	3.3%	< 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



WSTS monthly data in full product detail is available via subscription. For more information please contact the EECA-ESIA office under secretariat.gen@eeeca.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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