

European Semiconductor Industry Association

Latest Semiconductor sales data, for immediate release

Brussels, October 29th , 2005

WSTS sales data show strong September and Q3

September's data came in relatively strong, in line with the seasonal average worldwide, but higher in Europe. In the third quarter, the market grew 8.9% worldwide (pulled up by Asia/Pac) and 5.7% in Europe over the second quarter. The European market growth in Q3 was primarily driven by computer chips (MPU, DRAM and Application Specific ICs, growing 18%, 10% and 19% respectively). Consumer ICs (+16%) and Flash Memories (+11%) also outperformed the European total growth. The Communication Application Specific ICs failed to impress, growing only by a modest 5% from Q2 in Europe.

European Semiconductor sales in September 2005 amounted to US\$ 3.289 billion according to the World Semiconductor Trade Statistics (WSTS), up +6.9% versus the previous month. This corresponds to a -1.8% decline compared to the same month last year. On a year-to-date basis, semiconductor sales increased by +1.7% versus the same period in 2004.

The exchange rate of the Euro compared to the US\$ still still has an impact on the growth data but diminishing recently. Measured in Euro, semiconductor sales in September were EURO 2.690 billion, up +6.5% on previous month and still a decline of -1.9% versus the same month a year ago. On a year-to-date basis, semiconductor sales show a decline of -1.4% versus the same period in 2004.

On a worldwide basis, semiconductor sales in September were US\$ 19.550 billion, up +5.2% versus the previous month. This results in an increase of +5.6% versus the same month in 2004 and on a year-to-date basis it results in an improved growth rate of +6.1%.

(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 \in 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.

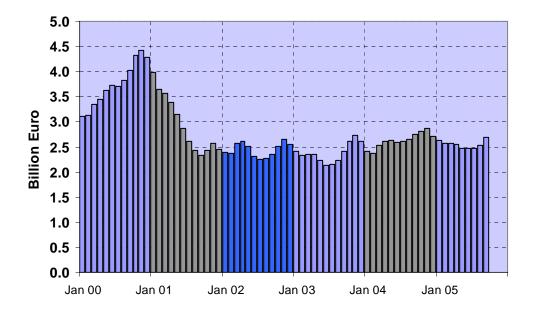


Market data for the 3 month moving average ending:								
Region	sales (in billions)		Month on Month growth		Year on Year growth		YTD growth	
	Aug 05	Sep 05	Aug 05	Sep 05	Aug 05	Sep 05	Aug 05	Sep 05
in \$:								
Europe	3.078	3.289	1.0%	6.9%	-4.3%	-1.8%	1.4%	1.7%
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Americas	3.242	3.448	3.4%	6.3%	-5.1%	0.8%	0.3%	0.9%
Japan	3.599	3.701	0.9%	2.8%	-9.5%	-6.4%	-3.0%	-2.8%
Asia Pacific	8.665	9.112	4.8%	5.2%	13.0%	16.9%	15.0%	15.1%
World	18.583	19.550	3.2%	5.2%	1.6%	5.6%	5.8%	6.1%
In EURO:								
Europe	2.525	2.690	1.9%	6.5%	-4.4%	-1.9%	-2.1%	-1.4%
Rate (\$/Euro)	1.233	1.226	1.1%	0.4%	< Euro against \$ versus prev. Year			

Market data by region¹

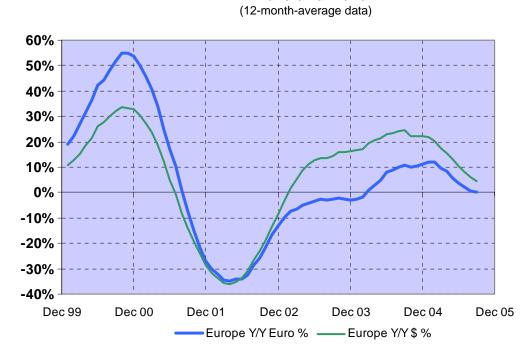
1) Unless otherwise indicated, except YTD growth, all figures are 3-month-average data







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 <u>secretariat.gen@eeca.be</u> or visit our website at <u>http://www.eeca.org/esia.htm</u>.

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

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