



European Semiconductor Industry Association

Latest Semiconductor sales data, for immediate release

Brussels, March 2nd, 2006

WSTS data for January released today

The European semiconductor market starts the new year with a negative result, compared to December 2005 - on a three months rolling average. This is partly due to normal seasonality, partly to the slow dynamics seen in the previous month.

Microprocessors, optoelectronics and DSP are the products that mainly brought the average downward.

General good performance is reported for application specific analog IC's, except in computer applications, which on the other hand, show a moderate positive result in the application specific logic.

European Semiconductor sales in January 2006 amounted to US\$ 3.188 billion according to the World Semiconductor Trade Statistics (WSTS), down 3.9% versus the previous month. This corresponds to a 8.2% decline compared to the same month last year. On a total year basis, semiconductor sales declined in 2006 by 11.2% versus the year 2005.

The exchange rate of the Euro compared to the US\$ has an increasing controversial impact on the growth data in the recent months. Measured in Euro, semiconductor sales in January were EURO 2.676 billion, down 4.0% on previous month and up 1.4% versus the same month a year ago. On a Total year basis, semiconductor sales show in 2006 a decline of 4.2% versus 2005.

On a worldwide basis, semiconductor sales in January were US\$ 19.661 billion, down 1.5% versus the previous month. This results in an increase of 7.0% versus the same month in 2005 and on a total year basis it results in a growth rate of 0.7%.

(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 €31.6 bn in 2005.

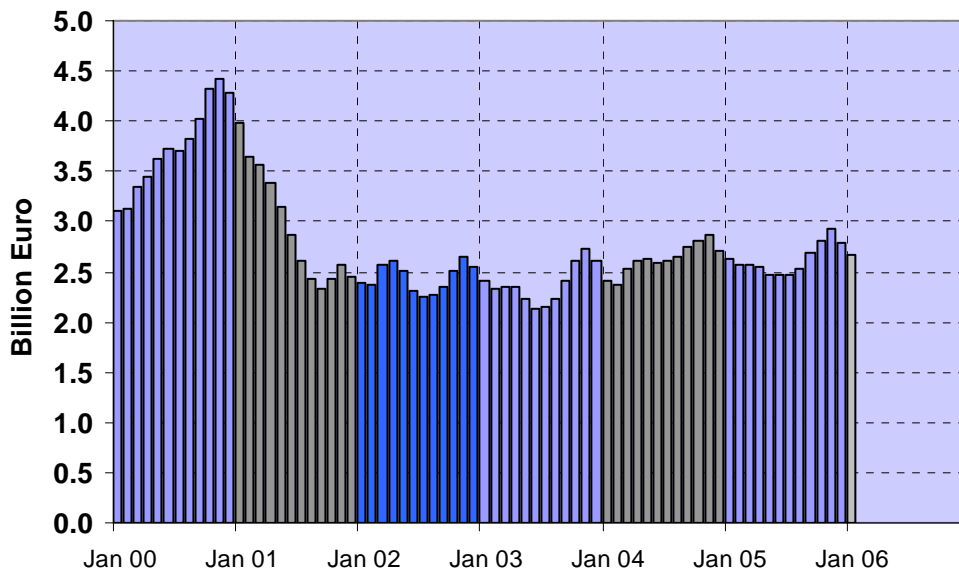
About WSTS: Established in 1986, the World Semiconductor Trade Statistics is a non-profit corporation whose mission is to provide timely, accurate and authentic semiconductor market data on industry product shipments in a product line format serving the broad marketing and executive needs. In 2005 WSTS members are 74 semiconductor companies from all over the world, representing 85% of the world semiconductor market. More information on the WSTS website at www.wsts.org

Market data by region¹

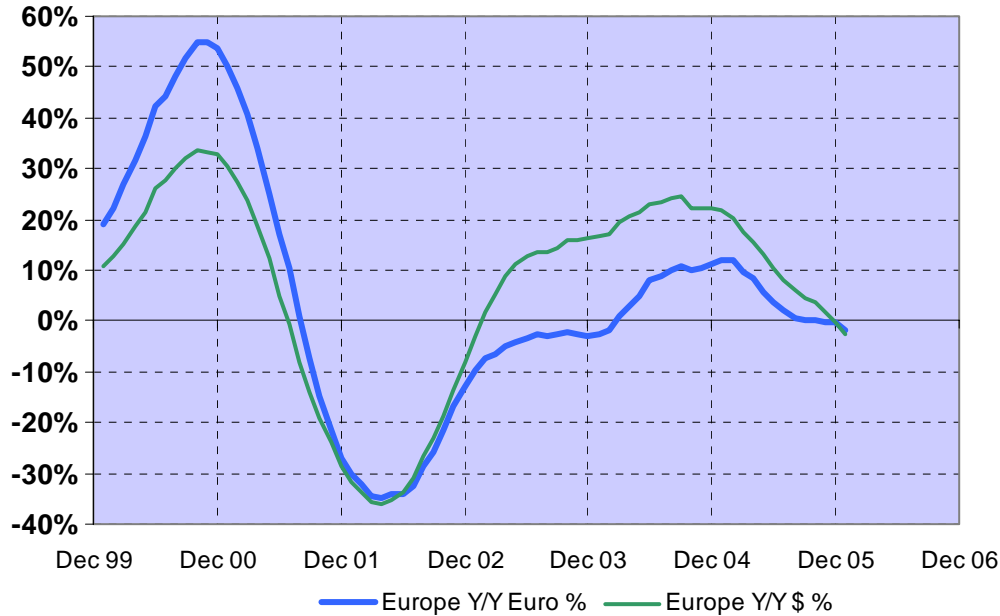
Market data for the 3 month moving average ending:								
Region	sales (in billions)		Month on Month growth		Year on Year growth		YTD growth	
	Dec 05	Jan 06	Dec 05	Jan 06	Dec 05	Jan 06	Dec 05	Jan 06
in \$:								
Europe	3.317	3.188	-6.1%	-3.9%	-5.9%	-8.2%	-0.4%	-11.2%
Americas	3.710	3.716	-0.5%	0.2%	14.6%	16.1%	4.3%	9.3%
Japan	3.620	3.652	-3.9%	0.9%	-6.2%	-5.5%	-3.7%	-3.8%
Asia Pacific	9.307	9.105	-0.8%	-2.2%	20.1%	16.1%	16.5%	4.5%
World	19.953	19.661	-2.2%	-1.5%	8.6%	7.0%	6.8%	0.7%
In EURO:								
Europe	2.788	2.676	-4.9%	-4.0%	2.6%	1.4%	-0.4%	-4.2%
Rate (\$/Euro)	1.185	1.214	-11.5%	-7.3%	< 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 (12-month-average data)



WSTS monthly data in full product detail is available via subscription. For more information please contact the EECA-ESIA office (email address: EECA-ESIA) 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.

For more information, please contact:

PR Contact:

Martin Spät

EECA-ESIA Director

Bruxelles – Belgium

Tel: +32 2 706 8600

email : [Martin Spät](mailto:Martin.Spaet@eeca-esia.org)

About data:

Patrice Vaslot

WSTS Vice Chairman Europe

c/o STMicroelectronics

Paris, France

Tel: +33 1 58 077 763

email : [Patrice Vaslot](mailto:Patrice.Vaslot@st.com)