

Semiconductor Insider

Issue 36, January 2011

"N" Quotes

“ NSTAR is a great company for my needs. Thank you for all the opportunities that have been provided.

- BB, Arizona

“ My recruiter has been great and honest. Everything given to me from NSTAR has been quality.

- GR, Idaho

“ I have had numerous experiences with HR, Payroll, and Recruitment. All departments have treated me with excellent service and have been very friendly and easy to work with! Thank you.

- RR, New Mexico

“ My job was a perfect fit for what I was looking for.

- JH, Texas

[See More>>](#)

Referral CoNtest WiNners December:

Soren S. Henry N. Torsten G.
Lisa C. Ryan G.

Congrats, and Thank You!

Refer someone, and be entered into the monthly drawing for a \$50 gift card of your choice!

[Refer someone now to be entered>>](#)

What can NSTAR do for you? Global Project Support

Global Project Support Services are designed to provide long or short-term support, for a wide variety of equipment-related projects throughout the US, Europe, and Asia.

The perfect solution for:

- Equipment decommissions, startups, and tool moves (including rigging and crating)
- End-of-Life Fab support services
- Predictive Maintenance Services
- Engineering Services such as Tool Matching, Process Development, Consulting, and Data Analysis

Recent Global Project Support in China, France, Germany, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Russia, Singapore, Taiwan, and United States.

Learn more about [our innovative solutions](#), or Call Darrell at 877-678-2766 x 130.



Industry News (click title to view original source.)

Toshiba to Outsource Chip Manufacture to Rival Samsung

Toshiba announced it will outsource chip manufacture to Samsung to boost profitability under a wider restructuring plan. This plan will allow Toshiba to focus on its flash memory business and save on capital investment costs.

Dialog Adds 3D Viewing to Mobile Devices

Dialog Semiconductor has created a chip (the DA8223) that can perform real-time 2D to 3D conversion for mobile devices, including phones and tablets, and will allow 3D viewing without glasses.

Rapid and Cost Effective DNA Sequencing

Ion Torrent's *Personal Genome Machine* (PGM) is a printer-sized DNA sequencing device that uses disruptive semiconductor technology to allow for rapid sequencing. It is a lightweight and cost-effective gadget that enables more scalability in sequencing tests.

Semiconductor Equipment Orders Down

North American semicon equipment manufacturers posted their third straight monthly decline in orders, with \$1.51 billion for November, and a book-to-bill ratio of 0.96. That was the lowest ratio since June of 2009, when it stood at 0.8.

Semicon Industry is Key Ultrapure Water Market

Newly built semicon fabs are ideal sales opportunities for the water business, as these facilities need treatment systems that can cost several million dollars, as well as high-purity water distribution systems. The number of fabs worldwide should grow from 977 in 2010 to 1017 in 2012. The largest number of new fabs under construction are in China, followed by Taiwan, the Americas, and Japan.

Semiconductor Detector for Radioactive Explosives

One big challenge in making a detector for radioactive explosives is combining the detector's three essential elements so they won't explode. Redlen Technologies developed ways to meet that challenge, and now sells \$10 million of its products annually around the world.

Fairchild Wins Product of the Year

Fairchild Semiconductor won the *Power Systems Product of the Year Award* at the annual Elektra Awards. Fairchild's FSA9280A USB detection switch took the top honor in the Power Systems category, which judged entrants on power module and power supply innovations from the last 12 months, including new architectures, use of materials and packaging.

Shrink Nanotech Acquires "Electronic Glue"

Shrink Nanotechnologies, Inc. is an innovative nanotechnology company that recently formed BlackBox Semiconductor, Inc., which has entered into a worldwide multi-year exclusive license with the University of Chicago, licensing work based on their "electronic glue" chemistry. The license covers all applications except for thermoelectric applications.

Dialog: Outstanding European Semicon Company of 2010

Dialog Semiconductor won the 2010 Global Semiconductor Alliance Outstanding EMEA Semiconductor Company Award. Dialog also won this award in 2009. Now in its 15th year, the GSA awards recognize companies that demonstrate strength in market leadership/competition, product lines, innovation, corporate management and overall likelihood of long-term success.

Keep up with [Industry News](#) at www.nstargs.com



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Here are just a few. [See more jobs>>](#)

Click titles for full details.

[Resource Engineer \(Diffusion / Kokusai Furnaces\)](#)

6 months - USA (travel) - #1771

[Resource Engineer \(200mm AMAT Producer CVD\)](#)

2-3 months - France (travel) - #1906

[Resource Engineer \(AMAT Endura PVD\)](#)

3 months - Malaysia (travel) - #1915

[Resource Engineer \(AMAT 200mm PVD\)](#)

2-3 months - France - #1901

[Resource Engineer \(Lam legacy Etch\)](#)

3 months - No. America (travel) - #1912

[Resource Engineer \(200mm AMAT EPI\)](#)

6 months - Sherman, TX - #1729

[More openings>>](#)

[Job Seeker Services>>](#)

ChaNges (click title to view original.)

[Sony to Buy Back Semicon Fab from Toshiba](#)

Sony Corp. reportedly plans to buy back stake in Nagasaki Technology Center from Toshiba Corp. The fab was originally owned by Sony, and became a joint-venture between Sony and Toshiba in early 2008. Now Sony wants to regain control, and start making CMOS sensors for various products at the factory.

[TSMC to Raise R&D Spending in 2011](#)

Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co. Ltd. plans to raise its R&D spending by nearly 39 percent in 2011, to about \$1.68 billion. TSMC's ability to do this in the past was the primary reason for its success today, and it will be necessary to fend off future competition.

[Conexant Systems Inc. Sells 25 Acres](#)

Conexant Systems has agreed to sell 25 acres near John Wayne Airport in California, that once housed its manufacturing plant, to a developer. The intention is to use the land to build more than 1,500 condominiums, apartments or townhomes. Before development can begin, two large industrial buildings will have to be demolished.

[Fairchild Semiconductor Plans Layoffs](#)

Fairchild Semiconductor is making plans to lay off employees in Maine. Layoffs will mostly affect manufacturing jobs on Western Avenue, where the company employs some 500 people.

[Keep up with changes at www.nstargs.com](#)

Job Seeker Insight

(click title to view original source.)

[11 Job Search Tips for 2011](#)

This year, your focus will be on finding the right job for you and doing everything you can to be the best candidate for that job. The competition may still be tough, but you're going to be better than the competition.

[Master Telephone Interviews](#)

The telephone interview is by far becoming more and more popular. These tips will help you master the phone interview and get you to the next step.

[More Job Seeker Tips at
www.nstargs.com](#)

FuN Fact:

January's Beginnings

January was established as the first month of the year by the Roman Calendar. It was named after the god Janus (Latin word for door).

Janus has two faces which allowed him to look both backwards into the old year and forwards into the new one at the same time. He was the 'spirit of the opening'.

In the very earliest Roman calendars there were no months of January or February at all. The ancient Roman calendar had only ten months, and the new year started on March 1st. To the Romans, ten was a very important number. Even when January (or Januarius as the Romans called it) was added, the New Year continued to start in March. It remained so in England and her colonies until about 200 years ago.

[Learn More>>](#)



Ntertainment:

[Top 10 Movies for the Modern Tech Geek](#)



It is a great time to be a tech geek with a love for the cinema. Not only is film technology evolving at a breakneck pace, the subject matter for films is also targeting tech audiences in a more nuanced, fulfilling way.

See the list of [Top 10 Modern Tech Geek Movies.](#)

Other News of Nterest

(click title to view original.)

[Patient Monitoring: There's an App for That!](#)

Medical professionals can now download the *AirStrip Patient Monitoring App* which securely sends critical patient information such as bedside device readings, and electronic health records to a clinician's mobile device.

[Privacy Breach for iPad, iPhone Apps](#)

Recently iPad and iPhone apps unexpectedly revealed private customer information to advertisers without user consent. 56 of the apps tested by the Wall Street Journal transmitted a phone's unique device ID to other companies, 47 gave out the phone's location, and another 5 sent out age, gender and other personal details.

["Paging Dr. Robot!"](#)

Elliot, the 5-foot, 3-inch tall, cylinder-shaped robot connects stroke patients, their families and staff in small hospitals with specialists in other communities.

By allowing them to "see" each other on a flat-screen monitor, Elliott enables doctors to diagnose and treat stroke victims quickly.

The robot program is expected to streamline care, improve quality and reduce costs. In the future, Mercy Telehealth Network hopes to offer robotic services to perinatal, critical care, infectious disease, trauma, psychiatry, orthopedics, and other surgical specialties.