

Semiconductor Insider

Issue 39, April 2011

Industry News (click title to view original source.)

Japan Earthquake Shakes Semiconductor Industry

A disruption in the flow of parts from just one supplier can slam the brakes on production at home. Beyond damaging manufacturing equipment, the earthquake has also caused an unstable power supply, making running a semiconductor facility nearly impossible.

Nanotechnology can be Nanomedicine

IBM researchers have developed the first polymer out of nanomaterials that is both biocompatible and biodegradable. These polymers have a magnetic attraction to infected cells, which means it can be used in the body to seek and destroy nasty microorganisms.

Semiconductor Chips to Cost More Due to Quake in Japan

IC supply disruptions related to the Japan earthquake and tsunami of March 11 will help increase the size of the global semiconductor chip market in 2011. Shortages of components will result in higher prices that will more than make up for the shortfall of ICs thereby raising the value of the market.

Freescale, Fuji Join Forces for Green Car Tech

Freescale and Fuji Electric Systems are to collaborate on semiconductors used for powertrains for hybrid and electric cars, as well as other products for green cars down the road, such as Fuji's insulated-gate bipolar transistor devices. These devices convert alternating current control signals to the current needed to turn the motor.

ON Semiconductor Reopens Two Plants in Japan

Two previously closed wafer-fabrication plants were reopened following restoration of power and other services in Japan. Production began ramping up toward full recovery at an ON Semiconductor fab in Aizu, as well as at one operated by Sanyo Semiconductor in Gunma.

Intel-GE Care Innovations Partners with Humana

Humana announced pilot project to improve care for patients with congestive heart failure. The Intel Health Guide is a computer placed in a patient's home which provides daily monitoring of vital signs and transmits that information over the Internet. The two-way video allows nurses and patients to talk face-to-face, and medical professionals can observe physical traits that may indicate changes in a condition and adjust treatment accordingly.

Cactus Semiconductor Works on Medical Advances

Fast-growing Cactus Semiconductor is spearheading an effort to create neurostimulation devices implantable in the human body which could be used to treat chronic pain, epilepsy, Parkinson's disease, rheumatoid arthritis, diabetes, Crone's disease, psoriasis and atherosclerosis.

Cascade Microtech's BlueRay DS Probe Wins CS Award

Cascade Microtech, Inc.'s BlueRay™ DS Probe system won the *Compound Semiconductor* magazine's Metrology, Test and Measurement Award. The 2011 Compound Semiconductor Industry Awards recognized success and development along the entire value chain of the compound semiconductor industry from research to completed device, focusing on the people, processes and products that drive the industry forward.

Keep up with [Industry News](http://www.nstargs.com) at www.nstargs.com

Join NSTAR Online :)

Receive industry news as it occurs, let your voice be heard, and connect with other industry professionals.

And, now on Xing!



March Referral CoNtest WINNERS:

Mark A. Randy F. Norli I.
Anthony M. Jason R.

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>>

Featured Jobs:

We have over 100 openings right now! Here are just a few. [See more on our website>>](#)

Click titles for full details.

Resource Engineer - ASM A412
3 months - US Travel - #2003

Resource Engineer - AMAT CMP
Various length assignments - Worldwide Travel - #1935

Resource Engineer - TEL Thermal Processing Systems (TPS)
1 Year - Malta, NY - #1976

Resource Engineer - AMAT Centura Etch
Various length assignments - Worldwide Travel - #1933

Resource Engineer - AMAT Endura PVD
Various length assignments - Worldwide Travel - #1927

Resource Engineer - AMAT Centura EPI
Various length assignments - Worldwide Travel - #1930

Resource Engineer - AMAT HDP
Various length assignments - Worldwide Travel - #1934

[All Openings>>](#) [Job Seeker Services>>](#)

What can NSTAR do for you? Training Support

Tired of over-paying OEMs for maintenance, installation, or warranty services?

NSTAR can help you get your workforce up-to-speed by providing qualified instructors and training courses to suit many different training scenarios.

Instructors and curriculum for training in the following areas:

- Equipment training
- Process Training
- Safety Training to satisfy OSHA safety standards
- and more for your customized needs!

Contact NSTAR today, and tell us how we can help.

Click to learn more about [Training Support](#), or call Darrell at 877-678-2766 x 130 to get started.

Ntertainment:

Corning's Vision for the Future

Corning's vision for the future has the potential to drastically enhance the ways we do most everything. Watch "A Day Made of Glass" and see how these ideas could change your life.

[Click here](#) to get a glimpse of the future.



ChaNGes (click title to view original.)

[TI to Buy National Semiconductor](#)

Texas Instruments (TI) plans to purchase fellow analog chipmaker National Semiconductor for \$6.5 billion. National Semiconductor has an excellent development team, and its products combined with TI's products will offer customers an analog portfolio of unmatched depth and breadth. Combined, the two could capture 17 to 18 percent market share.

[Fairchild Moves HQ to Silicon Valley](#)

Fairchild has moved its corporate headquarters back to California, but the company says the change won't have any impact on employees in Maine. Being in Silicon Valley, home to thousands of high-tech firms, will put the company in a better position to compete and recruit workers.

[Intel Acquires Silicon Hive](#)

Silicon Hive contributes to Intel's plans to become the processor architecture of choice across a variety of smart device and market segments -- netbooks and laptops, cars, smart phones, tablets and smart TVs. The Silicon Hive capabilities will aid in the delivery of Intel's more differentiated Atom-processor based SoCs as multimedia and imaging grow in importance across the mobile smart device segments.

Other News of Nterest

(click title to view original.)

[Sunengy to Build Pilot Liquid Solar Array Plant](#)

Water is not a surface that immediately springs to mind when contemplating where to install a solar array; however, this may not be the case for much longer thanks to Sunengy's ground-breaking Liquid Solar Array technology. The floating system utilizes traditional concentrated photovoltaic technology lenses, which submerge and cool in bad weather, thus increasing their efficiency and lifespan.

[Electric Vehicle Charging Spots...There's an App for That!](#)

PlugShare is a free app, available on the iPhone, iPad, and iPod Touch, that finds electric vehicle charging spots. The app gives electric-car owners a boost in a landscape where charging stations and outlets can often be hard to find. By providing places where drivers can charge their vehicles, developer Xatori hopes to lessen their fears about getting stuck somewhere without the power to get home.

[Buy Me Some Peanuts and Cracker Jacks... on Your](#)

[Smartphone](#)

The Milwaukee Brewers have entered a partnership with Bypass Lane that will allow fans to order food on their smartphones from their seats at Miller Park. With the technology, fans are given the opportunity to view full food and drink menus of select concessions stands in the vicinity of their seats and are able to place orders by paying with a credit card using Bypass' secure payment platform. When the order is ready for pickup, a text message is sent to the fan from the nearest Bypass Lane.

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

Job Seeker Insight

(click title to view original source.)

[10 Must-do Tips for Job Seekers](#)

Finding the right position can often be frustrating, but there are ways to make your search a little bit easier. Here are 10 tips to simplify your job search.

[Motivational Tips for Job Seekers](#)

Recent unemployment rates have declined, but the average job hunt still last six-to-eight months. Today's job hunt is a marathon, not a sprint, so it's imperative that job seekers not give up and stay motivated.

[Have a Great First Day](#)

Make a good first impression, and you'll soon be viewed as a capable, respected colleague. A bad first impression could mean months (or years) of trying to undo the damage. This article provides great tips on what you can do -- both before and during your first day on the job -- to be remembered for all the right reasons.

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

"N" Quotes

“ The customer support staff, recruiting staff, and co-workers are some of the best I've worked with. It has been an enjoyable and exciting experience so far.

- CL, Utah

“ I am still new with NSTAR, but I was very impressed with the entire screening and hiring processes. I am very pleased to be an asset of the NSTAR team and wish to continue this great relationship for a long period time.

- JN, Oregon

“ NSTAR has the best administrative personnel I have had the opportunity to work with in my career! They are polite, professional and very knowledgeable.

- RR, New Mexico

[See more reasons to work for NSTAR >>](#)

[The Cesium Clock has been Miniaturized](#)

For the first time, atomic clock accuracy is available in a form small enough and power-efficient enough for backpack-size battery-powered devices. Symmetricom introduced the first commercial chip-scale atomic clock, the SA.45s. It measures 4 by 3.5 by 1.1 centimeters, weighs 35 grams, and draws a paltry 115 milliwatts. The tiny clock is accurate to within about less than half a microsecond per day.

FuN Fact:

Patients Flock to Facebook for Health Care Needs

According to a National Research Corp. survey of nearly 23,000 U.S. residents, 41 % of people said they use social media as a health care resource.

[Learn More>>](#)