



News Release: Plasma-Therm Wins VLSIresearch 2011 10 BEST and THE BEST Awards

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St. Petersburg, FL – VLSIresearch has announced that Plasma-Therm, LLC, a global supplier of plasma process equipment, has been awarded by equipment users as one of the 10 BEST 2011 Suppliers of Chip Making Equipment and one of THE BEST 2011 Small Suppliers of Wafer Processing Equipment.

This extensive survey which spans two and a half months and four languages received feedback from more than 550 organizations for this year's Customer Satisfaction Survey. Participants in this survey were asked to rate equipment suppliers in fields including Equipment Performance, Customer Service, and Supplier Performance. Two new categories, Trust in Supplier and Partnering, provided additional insight into key attributes of a supplier's performance in 2011.

Plasma-Therm achieved its 12th consecutive year of being voted one of the 10 BEST and THE BEST Small Suppliers of Wafer Processing Equipment in 2011. This year, Plasma-Therm was also voted one of 10 BEST in Focused Suppliers of Chip Making Equipment.

"Customer service and outstanding equipment performance have always been core values for Plasma-Therm. These VLSIresearch awards continue to validate that we are successfully implementing our principles into action," said Abdul Lateef, CEO of Plasma-Therm.

Plasma-Therm, founded in 1974, is the global technological leader for designing, manufacturing and supporting plasma etch and plasma enhanced chemical vapor deposition (PECVD) equipment to various high technology market segments and industries. Plasma-Therm systems are used in markets ranging from leading edge university R&D to high volume production. Served markets include photomask etching, compound semiconductor, wireless communication, MEMS, nanotechnology, data storage, solar cells and LED/photronics processing.

"Plasma-Therm has once again achieved one of the industry's highest standards for customer satisfaction and equipment performance. The Customer Satisfaction Survey has been measuring these industry standards for over 22 years, and Plasma-Therm has proven, year after year, to affirm their commitment to these important goals," said Risto Puhakka, President of VLSIresearch.

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About VLSIresearch

VLSIresearch is the leading provider of market research and economic analysis on the technical, business, and economic aspects within nanotechnology and related industries. The company is known for its unparalleled accuracy, innovation in market research, and its sharply focused insight into the rapidly changing landscape of the industries covered. Its databases on manufacturing are used throughout the industry, and by government. VLSIresearch's primary databases and reports cover the semiconductor, flat panel display, PV cell and module manufacturing industries, and the market for critical subsystems and components within these and associated high technology industries. VLSIresearch was founded in 1976.

For more information about Plasma-Therm, please visit our Web site at www.plasmatherm.com or contact Nancy J. Messineo at Nancy.Messineo@plasmatherm.com or at +1-727-577-4999 ext. 2362