



News Release: Plasma-Therm Wins VLSI 2010 THE BEST Award

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St. Petersburg, FL – VLSIresearch has announced that Plasma-Therm, a global supplier of plasma process equipment, has been awarded by equipment users as one of THE BEST 2010 Small Suppliers of Wafer Processing Equipment.

The extensive Customer Satisfaction Survey, which lasted approximately two months, reached chip making equipment users across the globe to rate their equipment suppliers in fields including product performance, process support, cost of ownership and uptime. Plasma-Therm was rated highest in technical leadership and commitment by its equipment users.

“We are honored to be voted in the top three of THE BEST Small Suppliers of Wafer Processing Equipment. The Customer Satisfaction Survey that is used to determine the THE BEST goes directly to our customers and provides us with first-hand feedback of their satisfaction level with our systems. THE BEST award is tangible proof that our direct attention on focused customer support and top line customer service is paying off,” said Abdul Lateef, CEO of Plasma-Therm.

This year’s award marks the 12th in a row of being one of THE BEST equipment suppliers for Plasma-Therm. Plasma-Therm, Inc. was voted one of the THE BEST in 1998 and 2000, and then from 2001 – 2009 under the Unaxis and Oerlikon brand.

“The Customer Satisfaction Survey has been measuring the industry’s opinion of chip making equipment quality and service for 22 years. Being voted one of THE BEST in the industry, Plasma-Therm has set its standards for exceeding customer satisfaction remarkably high early on in its reemergence as an independent company,” said Risto Puhakka, President of VLSIresearch.

Plasma-Therm, founded in 1974, is a supplier of advanced plasma process equipment that caters to various specialty markets including photomask, solid state lighting, thin film head and compound semiconductor. Plasma-Therm offers both dry etch & PECVD technologies. To meet the diverse

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needs of our global customer base, Plasma-Therm has sales, service and spares locations throughout North America, Europe and Asia-Pacific.

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 VLSIresearch, please visit www.vlsiresearch.com.

For more information about Plasma-Therm, please visit our Web site at www.plasmatherm.com or contact Kristina Martinez, Marketing Assistant at Plasma-Therm, at Kristina.Martinez@plasmatherm.com or at +1-727-577-4999 ext. 1308.

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