



Pivotal's Sensor X™ Achieves Design Win With a Leading OEM for Contamination, Conditioning, and Dry Clean Optimization on CVD and Etch Tools

ATOMIC LEVEL EXCITATION ALLOWS FOR A MULTITUDE OF APPLICATIONS AND A COMPELLING ROI

Pleasanton, CA.—September 10, 2009—Pivotal Systems Corporation, the leader in advanced process monitoring and control solutions, today announced that a leading OEM has adopted Sensor X™ to better identify contaminants, monitor chamber conditioning and optimize dry clean processes for their CVD and etch tools. “Chamber conditioning, maintenance and troubleshooting are big issues for both OEMs and IDMs,” said Rich Vogt, Pivotal’s Vice President of Global OEM Sales, “This OEM in particular has recognized the value of the SX-1100 product in providing a multitude of both in situ and offline diagnostic monitoring capabilities to increase the overall performance of their tools. Applications ranging from in situ contamination to post PM chamber conditioning optimization to dry clean end pointing can all be provided by the same Sensor X system, creating a compelling ROI.”

“Because of the atomic level emission, the SX-1100 is able to excite a large range of species, including those for atmospheric leak and moisture out-gassing detection, for residual chamber contaminants such as fluorine and chlorine, as well as metal contaminants such as nickel and titanium, which cannot be detected with traditional optical emission spectroscopy” said Mukund Venkatesh, Vice President of Marketing at Pivotal, “As the cost of tool maintenance becomes prohibitively expensive with long chamber conditioning and unscheduled tool downtime periods, a high sensitivity atomic-level real time gas analysis tool like the SX-1100 is critical to know what is going on inside the chamber and take immediate corrective action.”

“We continue to be very pleased with the expanding list of applications where Sensor X has demonstrated real value in semiconductor process segments like etch and thin films,” said Joseph Monkowski, Pivotal’s President and Chief Technology Officer.

About Pivotal Systems

Pivotal Systems Corporation provides best-in-class monitoring and process control technology for the semiconductor manufacturing industry. Pivotal’s vision is to enable an order of magnitude increase in fab productivity and capital efficiency for current and future technology nodes. This vision is achieved through its real time in situ process monitoring and control solutions. Founded in 2003 and based in Pleasanton, California, the company is led by veterans from the semiconductor and high-tech industries. For more information about Pivotal, please visit www.pivotalsys.com, or send an email to info@pivotalsys.com.