

PRESS RELEASE

Plasma Technology

North End, Yatton, Bristol BS49 4AP, UK
T: +44 (0) 1934 837000
E: Plasma.technology@oxinst.com
plasma.oxinst.com



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SiC Plasma Epi Prep Alternative to CMP is Validated: Oxford Instruments Complete Feasibility Study at Tier 1 SiC Semi Fab

Following Oxford Instruments announcement of their plasma alternative to CMP product, being launched at the International Conference on Silicon Carbide and Related Materials (ICSCRM / ECSCRM), in Davos Switzerland 11-16 September 2022, Oxford Instruments share exciting news.

Oxford Instruments' have developed a non-contact plasma etch method of preparing SiC substrates for epitaxy. The technique delivers comparable results to CMP but with lower OPEX, higher device yield and a process window capable of supporting the transition to thinner wafers and therefore increasing wafers per boule. Their feasibility project carried out at a tier 1 SiC semiconductor manufacturing fab using whole wafers, found that performance of the new plasma substrate preparation technique is already equivalent to CMP for epitaxy readiness.

"This validation outcome is a significant milestone in our goal of creating a more cost-effective and sustainable technique for preparing SiC substrates for epitaxy" comments Klaas Wisniewski, Plasma Technology's Strategic Business Development Director, who also added: " Our Plasma epi-prep technology is hugely promising and currently compares favourably to existing alternatives, but has the potential to exponentially increase substrate production and meet growing demand for SiC substrates in high growth markets."

Oxford Instruments will formally launch their plasma epi-prep solution at the ICSCRM, in Davos Switzerland 11-16 September 2022. In the conference technical sessions, they will present their latest whole wafer epi and device results utilising their patented dry etch process. There will also be an opportunity to speak in person at the event to discuss implementing plasma epi-prep in high volume manufacturing fabs. Register to attend at this link <https://icscrm2022.org/registration> and to prearrange an in-person meeting, contact Brian.Dlugosch@oxinst.com (VP of Strategic Production Markets, Oxford Instruments Plasma Technology).

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For further information and electronic copies of the images please contact:

Grant Baldwin, Technical Marketing Manager
Oxford Instruments Plasma Technology
E: Grant.Baldwin@oxinst.com

About Oxford Instruments plc



Oxford Instruments designs, supplies and supports high-technology tools and systems with a focus on research and industrial applications. Innovation has been the driving force behind Oxford Instruments' growth and success for 60 years, supporting its core purpose to address some of the world's most pressing challenges.

The first technology business to be spun out from Oxford University, Oxford Instruments is now a global company and is listed on the FTSE250 index of the London Stock Exchange (OXIG). Its strategy focuses on being a customer-centric, market-focused Group, understanding the technical and commercial challenges faced by its customers. Key market segments include Semiconductor & Communications, Advanced Materials, Healthcare & Life Science, and Quantum Technology.

Their portfolio includes a range of core technologies in areas such as low temperature and high magnetic field environments; Nuclear Magnetic Resonance; X-ray, electron, laser and optical based metrology; atomic force microscopy; optical imaging; and advanced growth, deposition and etching.

Oxford Instruments is helping enable a greener economy, increased connectivity, improved health and leaps in scientific understanding. Their advanced products and services allow the world's leading industrial companies and scientific research communities to image, analyse and manipulate materials down to the atomic and molecular level, helping to accelerate R&D, increase manufacturing productivity and make ground-breaking discoveries.

About Oxford Instruments ***

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