First Molecular Imprint Litho Tool

Molecular Imprints, Inc. (Mil, 1807-C West Braker Lane, Aus- tin, TX 78758; Tel: 512/339-7760, Fax: 512/339-3799) said that Motorola Labs will take delivery of the first Step' and Flash Imprint Lithography (S- FIL TM) system, the Imprio 100. The Lab will use the tool to perform advanced de- vice research in the areas of novel devices, compound semiconductors, molecular electronics, and photonic and optical devices.

"We are pleased to work with an advanced lithography tool like MII's Imprio 100. We have been working together for two years, and now hope to realize a break- through in a lithographic technique that will enable smaller, faster future devices," says Laura Siragusa, director of advanced processing/characterization at Motorola Physical Sciences Re- search Laboratories.

Douglas J. Resnick, lithography and etch section manager at Motorola Physical Sciences Re- search Laboratories, adds, "The Imprio 100 uses an appealing technology with the potential for significant lower cost of ownership."

According to Norman E. Schumaker, president and CEO of Molecular Imprints, "Working with a leading-edge partner like Motorola Labs has enabled us to bring our first product to market in a short period of time. We are looking forward to a long and beneficial relationship as Motorola pursues its initiative in lithography."

The Imprio 100 is the initial product offering from Mil. The tool employs Step and Flash Imprint Lithography (S-FIL) and is capable of creating sub-l00 nanometer images. S-FIL is a bi-layer approach using a low-viscosity, UV- curable liquid etch barrier deposited on an underlying transfer layer. The template is rigid and transparent allowing for UV curing of the etch barrier and the adaptation of traditional layer -to- layer alignment techniques. This lithography approach may be the enabling technology for research applications in the areas of nano-devices, MEMS, and optical communications components and devices.

Molecular Imprints has exclusive license, for the lifetime of the patents, to develop and use S-FIL technology, which was invented at the University of Texas at Aus- tin under the direction of professors Grant Wilson and S. V. Sreenivasan.

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