WSTS Semiconductor Market Forecast Autumn 2007

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From the Autumn 2007 Forecast Meeting, held in Prague, Czech Republic
30 October to 2 November 2007

WSTS Projects 3.8 percent global semiconductor growth in 2007

Worldwide Chip Market to Grow 3.8 percent in 2007, 9.1 percent in 2008

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The global semiconductor market is expected to grow 3.8 percent on an annualized basis to $257.2 billion in 2007, according to the autumn 2007 forecast of the World Semiconductor Trade Statistics (WSTS). Projected growth in the worldwide semiconductor market will decrease from 6.8 percent growth in 2006. The current projections have however been revised upwards by 1.5 percentage points compared to the forecast that WSTS issued in May this year, mainly due to to a very strong 3rd quarter 2007. However no need was seen to revise the future market development scenario significantly, so that the further years 2008 and 2009 remained very close to the original projections with 9.1 and 6.2 percent growth respectively.

"The WSTS foresees a continuously growing demand for electronic products such as PCs, digital consumer appliances and mobile communications, enhanced by the increase of semiconductor content per installed system." said Toshio Ogawa, Worldwide Chairman of WSTS. He continued, "These trends are expected to unfold in a challenging, yet generally healthy world economy."

The current forecast anticipates a positive growth throughout the forecasting period, peaking in 2008. While the forecasted semiconductor market does not show a pronounced cyclical pattern, some product groups maintain cycles similar to historical patterns. The Asia Pacific region continues to be the fastest growing geographical area, due to the dynamics of both strongly rising domestic demand and the continuing manufacturing shift to this region.

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