

PFC Reduction - April 1999 ESH T/F

April 26, 1999

Position Paper Regarding PFC Emissions Reduction Goal

Emissions reduction for PFC's proposed by the World Semiconductor Council (WSC) Environmental Safety and Health (ESH) Task Force has been approved by members of the WSC (the European Electronic Component Manufacturers Association or EECA, the Electronic Industries Association of Japan or EIAJ, the Korea Semiconductor Industry Association or KSIA and the Semiconductor Industry Association in the U.S. or SIA) at the third WSC meeting in Fiuggi, Italy on April 23, 1999. The WSC is committed to proactively seek to reduce the emissions of PFC's from their semiconductor manufacturing processes.

Consensus on the PFC Emissions Reduction Goal

EECA, EIAJ, KSIA, and SIA have reached a consensus to reduce the aggregate absolute emissions of PFC's from the semiconductor fabrication facilities by 10% or greater by the year 2010. The baseline year for EECA, EIAJ, and SIA is 1995, and that for KSIA is 1997. The reduction goal will be applied to each association and be reviewed based on the latest progress as appropriate and necessary.

Background of the Emissions Reduction Goal

The semiconductor industry made a conscious choice to proactively pursue an international objective reflecting the global nature of the industry and the issue. This new global commitment is an outgrowth of our earlier voluntary efforts.

The PFC emissions reduction goal built upon the recent consensus reached by the WSC ESH Task Force on the standardized international measurement methods. While the industry is still not in a concrete position, due to technology constraints, to commit to specific emissions reduction methodologies, there have been significant advances in our understanding of potential ways to reduce PFC emissions. The industry will continue its efforts to identify sustainable and cost-effective alternatives that will reduce PFC emissions while not hindering the growth of global semiconductor industries. WSC Members participating in the ESH Task Force will also share pre-competitive information to achieve their progress toward the goal. The WSC will also collaborate to ensure all industry suppliers of equipment and gases deliver solutions globally to provide a fair and harmonized base for the reduction of PFC emissions.

Publication

The information on PFC emissions will be made available from each participating association according to their existing agreements.