



PRESS RELEASE

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NEC Japan evaluates the Micronic Sigma7000 product line

Täby, Sweden, April 24, 2001 — Micronic Laser Systems AB (Stockholmsbörsen's "Attract 40 list": MICR), is at the forefront in semiconductor and display laser pattern generators for the production of photomasks to the world wide industries.

NEC, Japan visited the Micronic factory in Sweden in order to evaluate the Sigma7000 product line based on the revolutionary SLM (Spatial Light Modulator) technology for the 0.13 micron design rule and beyond.

NEC and Micronic discussed extensively the new generation technology developed by Micronic with the future requirement of the technology in mind.

"The laser technology used in the Sigma7000 product line using the SLM has a high potential to write both the critical and non-critical layers of the masks for the 0.13 micron and beyond, and also it could be possible to utilize this technology for the direct write applications", says Mr.Tono-oka, Project Manager of the Mask Engineering Group of NEC.

"Micronic is very honored by the opportunity to discuss the Sigma7000 product line closely with NEC who is considered as one of the potential candidates for utilizing this technology, says Sven Löfquist, President of Micronic.

About Micronic Laser Systems AB

Micronic Laser Systems is a Swedish high-tech company engaged in the development, manufacture and marketing of a series of extremely accurate laser pattern generators for the production of photomasks. The technology involved is known as microlithography. Micronic's systems are used by the world's leading electronics companies in the manufacture of television and computer displays, semiconductor circuits and semiconductor packaging components.

Micronic is located in Täby, north of Stockholm and at present has subsidiaries in the United States and Japan and a service office in Taiwan. Micronic's net sales for 2000 amounted to MSEK 704 (MSEK 213 in 1999) and the company has 323 employees. Micronic maintains a web site at: <http://www.micronic.se>

About NEC Corporation

NEC Corporation (NASDAQ: NIPNY) (FTSE: 6701q.l) (TSE: 6701) is a leading provider of Internet solutions, dedicated to meeting the specialized needs of its customers in the key computer, network and electron device fields through its three market-focused in-house companies: NEC Solutions, NEC Networks and NEC Electron Devices. NEC Corporation, with its in-house companies, employs more than 150,000 people worldwide and saw net sales of 4,991 billion Yen (approx. US\$48 billion) in fiscal year 1999-2000. For further information, please visit the NEC home page at: <http://www.nec.com>