



PRESS RELEASE

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Micronic Introduces New Pattern Generation Tool for Generation-7 TFT-LCD Photomasks

Tokyo, Japan – December 3, 2003 – Micronic Laser Systems AB (Stockholmsbörsen's Attract 40: MICR), a leading manufacturer of laser pattern generation equipment to the display and semiconductor industries, today introduced a new laser pattern generation tool cable of writing photomasks for TFT-LCDs through 7th-generation.

“Manufacturers are migrating to 6th and 7th-generation TFT-LCD fabs because of market demand for large LCD-TV and the productivity advantages associated with the larger substrate sizes,” said Ulf Sundstrom, senior vice president for customer support of Micronic Laser Systems AB. “The Micronic LRS15000-TFT2 has the capability to produce photomasks for generation 7 and beyond. Our company remains committed to providing our customers with the tools they need to take advantage of the cost savings offered by next-generation technologies.”

The Micronic LRS15000-TFT2 features a new, larger stage capable of writing photomasks as large as 1300 x 1500 mm, more than sufficient for generation 7 TFT-LCD photomasks. Other key specifications of the tool include minimum 1.5 micron lines and spaces, registration of 350 nm and CD uniformity of 100 nm.

The increasing demand for large-area flat panel display (FPD) televisions is fueling rapid growth in the TFT-LCD market and should continue to do so. According to DisplaySearch, large-area TFT-LCD revenues will increase about 22 percent overall in 2003, bringing the overall value of the market to roughly \$21.4 billion.

Micronic welcome you to visit us in Hakuto's booth #5-B502 at SEMICON Japan, held Dec. 3-5 at the Makuhari Messe in Chiba, Japan, to hear more about the system.

LCD (Liquid Crystal Displays) is the most common technology for flat panel displays. There are two technologies, passive and active LCD. The TFT-LCD is an active LCD providing better image quality and faster response than a passive LCD. The active LCDs have a Thin Film Transistor (TFT) in each pixel.

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, Japan and Taiwan. Micronic maintains a web site at: <http://www.micronic.se>