

ams schedules multi-project wafer starts for analog foundry customers in 2014

Multi-project prototyping service offers large cost savings as manufacturing costs are shared between multiple users

Unterpremstaetten, Austria (November 13, 2013), The Full Service Foundry business unit of ams AG (SIX: AMS) today announced its fast and cost-efficient IC prototyping service, known as Multi-Project Wafer (MPW) or shuttle run, with an updated schedule in 2014. The prototyping service, which combines several designs from different customers onto a single wafer, offers significant cost advantages for foundry customers as the costs for wafers and masks are shared among a number of different shuttle participants.

ams' best in class MPW service includes the whole range of 0.18 μ m and 0.35 μ m specialty processes. In order to provide leading analog semiconductor process technologies, manufacturing and services, ams offers four MPW runs in 0.18 μ m CMOS (C18) process as well as four MPW runs in its advanced 0.18 μ m High-Voltage CMOS (H18) technology. The H18 process technology is based on IBM's industry-proven 0.18 μ m CMOS process CMOS7RF and offers industry-first RF (Radio Frequency) integration and high density SoC (System on a Chip) capability. It is perfectly suited for applications such as smart sensors, sensor interface devices, smart meters, industrial and building controls, and LED lighting control in the automotive, industrial and medical markets.

For the 0.35 μ m specialty processes, which are based on the 0.35 μ m CMOS process transferred from TSMC (Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company), a total of 14 runs are offered in 2014: ams' 0.35 μ m High-Voltage CMOS process family with a 20V CMOS option, which is ideally suited for power management products and display drivers; a 50V CMOS option, which has been optimized for automotive and industrial applications; and a 120V module, which meets the requirements of sensor and sensor interface chips in high-voltage applications. The advanced High-Voltage CMOS process with Embedded Flash functionality adds to ams' MPW service portfolio. The CMOS compatible 0.35 μ m SiGe-BiCMOS technology S35 enables RF circuit designs with an operating frequency of up to 7 GHz combined with high-density digital parts on one single ASIC. Overall, ams will offer almost 150 MPW start dates in 2014, enabled by long lasting co-operations with partner organizations such as CMP-TIMA, Europractice, Fraunhofer IIS and Mosis. Japanese customers may also participate via our local MPW program partners Toppan Technical Design Center Co., Ltd (TDC) and Dai Nippon LSI Design Co, Ltd.

The complete schedule for 2014 has now been released and detailed start dates per process are

available on the web at <http://asic.ams.com/MPW>.

To take advantage of the MPW service, ams' foundry customers deliver their completed GDSII-data on specific dates and receive untested packaged samples or dies within a short lead-time of typically 8 weeks for CMOS and 12 weeks for High-Voltage CMOS, SiGe-BiCMOS and Embedded Flash processes.

All process technologies are supported by the well-known hitkit, the ams industry benchmark process design kit based on Cadence, Mentor Graphics or Agilent ADS design environments. The hitkit comes complete with fully silicon-qualified standard cells, periphery cells and general purpose analog cells such as comparators, operational amplifiers, low power A/D and D/A converters. Custom analog and RF devices, physical verification rule sets for Assura and Calibre, as well as precisely characterized circuit simulation models, enable rapid design starts of complex high performance mixed-signal ICs. In addition to standard prototype services, ams also offers advanced analog IP blocks, a memory (RAM/ROM) generation service and packaging services in ceramic or plastic.

About ams

ams develops and manufactures high performance analog semiconductors that solve its customers' most challenging problems with innovative solutions. ams' products are aimed at applications which require extreme precision, accuracy, dynamic range, sensitivity, and ultra-low power consumption. ams' product range includes sensors, sensor interfaces, power management ICs and wireless ICs for customers in the consumer, industrial, medical, mobile communications and automotive markets.

With headquarters in Austria, ams employs over 1,300 people globally and serves more than 7,800 customers worldwide. ams is the new name of austriamicrosystems, following the 2011 acquisition of optical sensor company TAOS Inc. ams is listed on the SIX Swiss stock exchange (ticker symbol: AMS). More information about ams can be found at www.ams.com.

for further information

Media Relations

ams AG
Ulrike Anderwald
Director Marketing Communications
T +43 (0) 3136 500 31200
press@ams.com
www.ams.com

Technical Contact

ams AG
Andreas Wild
Marketing Manager, Full Service Foundry
T +43 3136 500 31246
andreas.wild@ams.com
www.ams.com