SEMI Applauds President Obama’s Planned Visit to Applied Materials in Austin

SEMI

SAN JOSE, Calif. — May 8, 2013 — SEMI applauds the White House announcement that President Obama will visit Applied Materials facilities in Austin, Texas on Thursday, May 9, as part of his focus on manufacturing jobs, high-tech skills and technology that will drive long-term economic growth. The administration’s announcement cited Applied Materials’ contribution to innovation and job creation.

In his February State of the Union address, President Obama outlined a number of priorities that concern SEMI members, including a focus on manufacturing, research and development, corporate tax reform, high-skilled immigration reform, solar energy and international trade. SEMI is working with administration officials, legislators and SEMI members to promote these, and other, policies beneficial to high-technology manufacturing.

Applied Materials is a global semiconductor equipment company and a long-time SEMI member with public policy, communications and technology staff that collaborate closely with other SEMI member companies to promote industry-wide competitiveness issues with legislators and policy makers in the U.S. and around the world.

Applied Material’s 1.9 million square foot Austin facility represents the company’s largest manufacturing facility and second-largest employee site. It is primarily dedicated to manufacturing advanced chip-making equipment and enabling rapid product commercialization for the world’s chip producers. Last fall, Applied Materials celebrated its Austin facility’s 20th anniversary and 20,000th system shipment. Between 125-500 chip-equipment systems are manufactured per quarter to serve Applied’s global customer base.

“We are pleased to see the President of the United States visiting a global semiconductor equipment manufacturer to emphasize the role of manufacturing in our economy,” said Denny McGuirk, president and CEO of SEMI. “Manufacturing is an important economic multiplier that provides high-paying jobs and secondary jobs throughout the nation.”

Nearly 500 companies in North America are SEMI members, including large multi-billion dollar enterprises such as Applied Materials as well as many small- and medium-sized companies that provide the enabling high-tech components, sub systems and materials to produce sophisticated machinery to manufacture micro-

and nano-technology products such as integrated circuits, flat panel displays, LED lighting, photovoltaic systems, micro-electromechanical devices (MEMS) and other electronics.

According to an analysis of government data by the Semiconductor Industry Association (SIA), the U.S. semiconductor industry supports more than one million American jobs including direct jobs and related jobs in other sectors.

SEMI maintains an office in Washington, D.C. and voice in the Nation's capital. SEMI public policy professionals work with member companies to garner support for a wide range of issues that affect industry, including Presidential priorities like the Advanced Manufacturing Program and federal funding of basic research at the National Science Foundation (NSF) to immigration and corporate tax reform. SEMI works on very specific government issues such as educating policymakers on the impact of export controls and fighting for industry priorities on trade agreements.

SEMI members are frequently active participants in this industry representation. Accordingly, SEMI Americas hosts its annual Washington Forum event which brings SEMI industry executives to Washington for two days of meetings, events, and speakers to share the latest public policy priorities with government officials inside the beltway. This year, 23 SEMI member executives and other participants took part the event in which they covered a wide variety of policy interests including, high-skilled immigration reform, intellectual property, solar PV, and federal R&D investments in a total of over two dozen meetings, including meetings with White House staff.

About SEMI

SEMI is the global industry association serving the nano- and microelectronics manufacturing supply chains. Our 1,900 member companies are the engine of the future, enabling smarter, faster and more economical products that improve our lives. Since 1970, SEMI has been committed to helping members grow more profitably, create new markets and meet common industry challenges. SEMI maintains offices in Bangalore, Beijing, Berlin, Brussels, Grenoble, Hsinchu, Moscow, San Jose, Seoul, Shanghai, Singapore, Tokyo, and Washington, D.C. For more information, visit www.semi.org [1].

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