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sp3 Introduces Advanced Diamond Deposition System

New tool combines uniform wide-area deposition with an enhanced user interface and broad range of nano-crystalline and micro-crystalline diamond film processes

SANTA CLARA, Calif. — April 18, 2006 — sp3 Diamond Technologies, Inc., a leading supplier of diamond film products, equipment and services, introduced the Model 650 hot filament CVD diamond deposition reactor, the most economical system available for the production of high quality diamond products.

The Model 650 is a fourth generation system which continues the proven process automation and safety features of sp3's earlier CVD reactors while adding fully integrated process control that allows unattended operation and external monitoring. The Model 650 can be configured to produce finely tuned deposition processes in ultra-smooth nano-crystalline or rougher micro-crystalline structures from submicron to 50-micron plus in thickness.

“Diamond has many properties that enable its use in a variety of applications, including hardness, high stiffness, high thermal conductivity, electrical conductivity or electrical insulation for semiconductor applications, high biocompatibility and extreme chemical resistance,” stated Dwain Aidala, president and COO of sp3 Diamond Technologies, Inc. “The Model 650 further accelerates diamond's use in mainstream manufacturing by offering the most automated and flexible system available for CVD diamond deposition.”

Predecessors of the Model 650 have been used to grow thermal films on silicon wafers up to 300 mm, silicon-diamond-silicon wafers successfully used as a base wafer for successful GaN growth, and nanocrystalline films for MEMS wafers. sp3's Model 650 addresses expanded applications such as diamond on wafers in sizes up to 300mm, wear coatings, substrates for thermal management, amorphous silicon deposition for solar cells and other products, electrodes for water treatment and electrochemistry, passivation layers for semiconductor chucks, as well as cutting tools.

sp3's Model 650 is available in a standard production configuration and a more flexible configuration for research and development applications. It supports a uniform or mixed batch of irregular shaped substrates with proprietary fixturing while flat substrates are coated with the standard planar filament array fixturing package. An optional three-dimensional filament array produces process uniformity without the complexity and reliability sacrifices of mechanisms inside the process chamber.

For information on pricing and delivery times, please contact Seki Technotron, sp3's worldwide CVD reactor distributor. In North America and Europe, please contact Bob Johnson via e-mail at bjohnson@sekitech.com or call 408 496-4121. In Japan and the rest of Asia, please contact Kikuo Sakuma via e-mail ksakuma@sekitech.jp or call +81 3 3820 1712. Additional information is available online at www.cvd-solutions.com.

About sp3 Diamond Technologies, Inc.

Diamond is hard, durable, stiff, thermally conductive and electrically insulating. These are just some of the many qualities that diamond offers making it ideal for a wide variety of applications, from cutting tools to advanced semiconductor manufacturing. sp3 Diamond Technologies makes CVD (chemical vapor deposition) diamond for a broad range of applications where current materials have reached their limit. Our ability to make and deposit diamond is a direct result of our proprietary chemical vapor deposition diamond reactor technology and our coating services capability. It is this technology that allows us to deposit uniform thin-film diamond and do it cost-effectively. Consistent and cost-effective manufacture of CVD diamond is in turn

broadening the material's appeal throughout multiple industries where diamond could be considered the material of choice.

Based in Santa Clara, California, USA, the company provides diamond products for advanced thermal applications, diamond coating and material services, hot filament CVD reactors, and deposition consulting services. sp3 Diamond Technologies is a subsidiary of sp3 Inc., a full service provider of products and services relating to thin-film and freestanding diamond deposition and other diamond materials. For more information about the company and its products and services please visit www.sp3inc.com.

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