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WSTS FORECASTS SEMICONDUCTOR MARKET TO RECOVER IN 2013 AFTER SLIGHT DECLINE IN 2012

Worldwide Semiconductor Market is forecasted to be US$290 billion in 2012, down 3.2% from 2011, followed by a recovery of 4.5% growth in 2013

The World Semiconductor Trade Statistics (WSTS) has released its updated semiconductor market forecast that the world semiconductor market in 2012 will be US$290 billion, down 3.2% from 2011, followed by a recovery of positive 4.5% growth to US$303 billion in 2013. Forecasts for these 2 years are both revised downward from the previous 2012 spring forecasts of positive 0.4% and 7.2% growth respectively, due mainly to growing uncertainty of the world economy including China’s slow down.

2012 market weakness is broad, with negative growth in all geographical regions and all product categories except Logic and Optoelectronics. Among the regions, Europe is forecasted to be most hard hit, to decline 10.7% from 2011 to US$33 billion.

For 2013, WSTS does not predict continued semiconductor market decline, with the anticipated emergence of new electronics products and applications, although uncertainty of world economy, such as European debt issues and US “Fiscal Cliff”, may remain as concerns.

WSTS anticipates the world market to grow 5.2% to US$319 billion in 2014, with healthy mid single digit growth across most of geographical regions and semiconductor product categories, supported by the healthier economy of the world.

About WSTS:
World Semiconductor Trade Statistics (WSTS), founded in 1986 as a non-profit organization of semiconductor product companies, is the singular source for monthly industry shipment statistics.

WSTS Forecast Summary

From the autumn 2012 Forecast Meeting, held in Kobe, Japan
13 to 16 November 2012.

Autumn 2012	Amounts in US$M				Year on Year Growth in %			
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2011	2012	2013	2014
Americas	55,197	**52,771**	**54,727**	**57,345**	2.8	-4.4	3.7	4.8
Europe	37,391	**33,401**	**33,695**	**35,198**	-1.7	-10.7	0.9	4.5
Japan	42,903	**42,018**	**43,424**	**45,354**	-7.9	-2.1	3.3	4.4
Asia Pacific	164,030	**161,745**	**171,207**	**180,870**	2.5	-1.4	5.9	5.6
Total World - $M	299,521	**289,936**	**303,053**	**318,766**	0.4	-3.2	4.5	5.2
Discrete Semiconductors	21,387	**19,303**	**20,351**	**21,540**	8.0	-9.7	5.4	5.8
Optoelectronics	23,092	**25,989**	**27,775**	**29,477**	6.4	12.5	6.9	6.1
Sensors	7,970	**7,934**	**8,518**	**9,132**	15.5	-0.4	7.4	7.2
Integrated Circuits	247,073	**236,710**	**246,410**	**258,618**	-1.1	-4.2	4.1	5.0
Analog	42,338	39,683	41,120	43,521	0.1	-6.3	3.6	5.8
Micro	65,204	60,316	62,075	64,959	7.5	-7.5	2.9	4.6
Logic	78,782	80,543	85,461	90,375	1.8	2.2	6.1	5.7
Memory	60,749	56,167	57,754	59,764	-12.7	-7.5	2.8	3.5
Total Products - $M	299,521	**289,936**	**303,053**	**318,766**	0.4	-3.2	4.5	5.2

Note: Numbers in the table are rounded to whole millions of dollars, which may cause totals by region and totals by product group to differ slightly.