Materion Breaks Ground on Multi-Million Dollar Wafer Level Coating Cell

Coating Facility for Infrared Wafer Level Products

WESTFORD, Mass.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Materion Barr Precision Optics & Thin Film Coatings, a Materion Corporation (NYSE:MTRN) business, announced today the current construction of a 3,000-square-foot class 1000 clean room outfitted with the market's latest infrared coating chambers and 3D patterning equipment. The work cell will significantly enhance Materion's capability to manufacture low-defect coatings in high volume for the infrared wafer level, defense and consumer electronics markets.

The Wafer Level Coating Cell, located at Materion's facility in Westford, Massachusetts, is uniquely designed to be self-contained with a semiconductor manufacturing layout to handle 200mm wafers. The multi-million dollar investment will assist in decreasing the cost of uncooled micro bolometer detectors and ultimately facilitate major growth throughout the commercial infrared camera industry. The new Wafer Level Coating Cell meets current market demand requirements as well as being in the forefront of future market needs. It also enhances competencies across many other technologies in which Materion has competitive differentiation, such as gesture control filters, arrays, gas sensing filters, and others.

Completion of the work cell is expected to finish in the third quarter of 2013 and will include a state-of-the-art 3D photolithography deposition tool, semiconductor wet etch and alignment processing tools, semi-automated inspection tools, and several custom-designed high-volume 200mm coating deposition chambers. The long-range plan foresees a total of 20,000 to 40,000 wafers per year when fully built out. Initial work will be composed of multiple volume production lines along with current projects aimed at the defense, commercial infrared and consumer electronics markets.

Materion will continue to refine processes and operations during the following year to maximize yields, optimize processes and ramp-up to full capacity. In addition, Materion is continuing to invest in its coating technology for the next generation micro-bolometer devices (less than 12 micron) and plans to unveil this new technology in 2014.

Materion Barr Precision Optics & Thin Film Coatings provide a broad array of technologies including complex optical filters, filter arrays, lens coatings and optical thin film component assemblies. Diverse markets are composed of: commercial, defense, life sciences and medical, thermal imaging, automotive, and space, science and astronomy industries. Website: www.materion.com/barroptics

Materion Corporation is headquartered in Mayfield Heights, Ohio. The Company, through its wholly owned subsidiaries, supplies highly engineered advanced enabling materials to global markets. Products include precious and non-precious specialty metals, inorganic chemicals and powders, specialty coatings, specialty engineered beryllium alloys, beryllium and beryllium composites, and engineered clad and plated metal systems. Website: www.materion.com

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