



For immediate release

Sonoscan's New High-End Lab Acoustic Microscope System

Elk Grove Village, IL, July 11, 2011 – Today at the Semicon West show in San Francisco, Sonoscan announced the availability of the Gen6™ C-SAM® acoustic micro imaging system. The Gen6 incorporates new and upgraded capabilities building on its well-known predecessor, the Gen5™. While the Gen6 maintains the highly-praised look of the Gen5™, the electronics and operating system are on a completely redesigned platform.

The Gen6 retains unique features such as Virtual Rescanning Mode (VRM), Digital Image Analysis (DIA), Frequency Domain Imaging (FDI) and Time Domain Imaging (TDI) that scientists and applications engineers have come to depend upon in the Gen5. And, like its predecessor, the Gen6 has the industry's only inertially balanced linear motor scanner. But powerful new features have also been added to help analyze more complex problems as for example, samples built with 3D packaging technology.

The Gen6's new Master Control Unit includes a Windows® 7-based computer that has an Intel® QuadCore 64-bit Processor and operates on Sonoscan's new Sonolytics™ software, complete with PolyGate™. The very intuitive Sonolytics Graphical User Interface screens can turn every operator into a "pro".

The new Sonolytics software offers many advantages over older technologies. For instance, the Gen6 frees the operator from being locked into a small number of options for image resolution. For a particular sample, the operator can now select the most useful resolution over a range from under 1 megapixel to 268 megapixels.

PolyGate permits automatic and simultaneous imaging of a sample at up to 200 different gates (horizontal "slices"). While many samples do not need to be non-destructively sliced at hundreds of levels, PolyGate is very useful searching for subtle changes in a sample such as "white bumps", die tilt, stacked die defects, etc.

The Gen6 has a 500MHz pulser with improved signal stability. This means, for example, that work at 230, 300 or 400 MHz on flip chips provides better images of the underfill, bumps and related features. The system also incorporates heated water to increase image quality by reducing signal and frequency losses in the coupling fluid.

Sonoscan, Inc., 2149 E. Pratt Blvd., Elk Grove Village, IL 60007. Phone 847.437.6400; Contact person: Steve Martell, x240; email info@sonoscan.com; web www.sonoscan.com.

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About Sonoscan®: Sonoscan is the leading developer and manufacturer of acoustic microscopes and sophisticated acoustic micro imaging systems, widely used for nondestructive analysis of defects in industrial products and semiconductor devices.

For over 30 years, Sonoscan's attention to customer needs and investment in R&D has created systems that set industry standards for speed and accuracy. Key products include C-SAM® systems for off-line and laboratory analysis and FACTS2™ for automated production inspection.

Through its SonoLab division Sonoscan applications engineers, with experience totaling more than two centuries in acoustic microscopy, assist hundreds of customers annually in solving materials problems and quality control issues. SonoLab operates applications testing laboratories in multiple global locations to serve the inspection needs of customers that do not have their own capability.

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