

Micrel Semiconductor & Cypress Systems "Solving Problems One Gauge At A Time"



Some of the challenges in our mature fab

- A fab constructed in the 80"s manufacturing today's technologies at class one levels
- The facility has the capacity of 30k 150mm wafer starts/month
- The manufacturing facility utilizes over 500 processing tools
- Vintage 80's process tools to process tools of today
- In excess of 500 process pressure monitors spread out threw the facility
- Pressure monitored twice a day manually
- Minimal automation installed in facility



Become more efficient

- Man hours wasted per year doing manual gauge monitoring = 2792
- Monitoring consumes @ 8 hours/day x 349 working days
- The tech needs to cover about 72k sqft of fab and facility pads to take readings
- Readings includes facility supplies, IE CDA, N2, process cooling water flow, temperature and pressure
- Readings also include a little over 300 process gas cylinders measuring pressure and weight
- Readings for vacuum pump exhaust are also taken



A current day solution for an old fab problem

- Need to automate monitoring
- Solution needs to be cost effective
- It needs to be reliable
- Has to be non-evasive
- Solution must be user friendly
- Zero fab downtime associated with installation
- Does not introduce any hazard or damage equipment
- Must be able to produce data automatically
- Solution must prevent failures



Enter Cypress Systems

- Installation of Cypress Systems "Wireless Gauge Solution"
- Old analog gauges with a digital look and output
- Clamp on non-evasive wireless gauge readers
- Installation of wireless transducers on cylinder scales
- Automated data collection and monitoring (Real Time)
- Web based viewing from any online pc
- Automated alarm notification thru pager or cell phone
- Able to view history as well as current readings



Enter Cypress Systems Cont

- Micrel installed 100 wireless readers on process gas cylinders
- Micrel installed 50 wireless readers on the facility supplies
- 100 manual inspections where eliminated
- 24 items that were not previously monitored were added
- Techs were trained in using the system in about an hour
- Labor to do monitoring was reduced by 50%
- No production was interrupted by the installations or training



Enter Cypress Systems Cont

- Calculated pay back is less then 1 year on labor only
- System has already prevented a CDA failure that manual inspections would have missed
- Expect to run process gas cylinder 10-15% longer due to real time monitoring
- System has reduced gas bottle reading errors by removing "old and tired eyes
- Gas bottles no longer being changed with 1/3 product left in them because the could be close to change out
- System allows for high and low limits and alarm notification to users



Cypress Systems- Micrel Is Very Pleased

- Micrel is now proactive in regards to monitoring gases and facility systems
- Micrel is able to be efficient with their labor
- Micrel is able to monitor with disrupting production
- Installation of the product created no hazards or damaging equipment
- System is preventing failures from occurring because of the "Real Time Data"
- System supports future benefits for process engineering and process control
- Micrel will continue to purchase and install Cypress Systems Wireless Gauge Readers

