

## News Release

Your Contact

**Media Relations**

chantal.gilsdorf@emdgroup.com

Phone: +49 151 1454 2860

July 18, 2024

### **Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, to Acquire Unity-SC, Strengthening its Offering for AI-Enabled Semiconductors**

- **Unity-SC's measurement and testing technology enables the production of faster, smaller, and more efficient computer chips**
- **Acquisition expands portfolio of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, in key technologies required for the advancement of AI applications**

Darmstadt, Germany, July 18, 2024 – Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, a leading science and technology company, intends to acquire Unity-SC, a provider of metrology and inspection instrumentation for the semiconductor industry. The transaction amount includes a payment of € 155 million as well as further milestone-based payments. Based in Montbonnot-Saint-Martin near Grenoble, France, Unity-SC employs approximately 160 people, of whom 70 work in research & development.

"The acquisition of Unity-SC complements our science and technology-driven portfolio for the semiconductor industry. It strengthens our ability to benefit from the growth opportunities of Artificial Intelligence as an integrated solutions provider for our customers in developing next-generation chips," said Belén Garijo, Chair of the Executive Board and CEO of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany.

The highly precise metrology measurement devices of Unity-SC make it possible to further optimize the quality, yield, and manufacturing costs of chips used in applications related to Artificial Intelligence (AI), High-Performance Computing (HPC), and High-Bandwidth Memory (HBM). As quality requirements in the semiconductor industry are particularly high, measuring and evaluating physical



## News Release

properties are crucial steps in quality control for the production of modern chips. Among other things, Unity-SC specializes in the testing of chips produced via "Advanced Packaging" and "Heterogeneous Integration". In both these processes, numerous smaller chips – also known as chiplets – are stacked in a very small space to form a mostly three-dimensional structure. This results in high-performance chips for the most demanding fields of application, such as AI data centers, autonomous vehicles, 5G, smartphones, and virtual reality.

The combination of Unity-SC's measurement technologies with the offering of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, in the field of semiconductor materials will contribute to the development of computer chips required for the next steps in innovating AI and other applications. "We are convinced that 3D metrology tools will further advance the semiconductor industry. Adding metrology to our portfolio allows us to provide more materials and more solutions that effectively solve our customers challenges in developing ever faster, more powerful, and more efficient chips," said Kai Beckmann, Member of the Executive Board of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, and CEO Electronics.

"We can benefit from the broad knowledge Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, has in semiconductor materials manufacturing and their extensive optical expertise in light manipulation. Together with Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, we can create high value solutions to serve our common customers. We are looking forward to becoming an integral part of a global company with close customer relationships and an extensive offering to the semiconductor industry," said Dan Lee, CEO of Unity-SC.

The intended acquisition requires a French works council's consultation and would remain subject to regulatory approval and other closing conditions. Subject to meeting the relevant requirements, it is expected to be completed by the end of 2024.

### **About Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany**

Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, a leading science and technology company, operates across life science, healthcare and electronics. Around 63,000 employees work to make a positive difference to millions of people's lives every day by creating more joyful and sustainable ways to live. From providing products and services that accelerate drug development and manufacturing as well as discovering unique

## News Release

ways to treat the most challenging diseases to enabling the intelligence of devices – the company is everywhere. In 2023, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, generated sales of € 21 billion in 65 countries.

The company holds the global rights to the name and trademark “Merck” internationally. The only exceptions are the United States and Canada, where the business sectors of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, operate as MilliporeSigma in life science, EMD Serono in healthcare and EMD Electronics in electronics. Since its founding in 1668, scientific exploration and responsible entrepreneurship have been key to the company’s technological and scientific advances. To this day, the founding family remains the majority owner of the publicly listed company.

All Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, press releases are distributed by e-mail at the same time they become available on the EMD Group website. In case you are a resident of the USA or Canada, please go to [www.emdgroup.com/subscribe](http://www.emdgroup.com/subscribe) to register for your online, change your selection or discontinue this service.

### **About UnitySC**

At UnitySC, our mission is to enable our customers to yield higher and faster by providing differentiated process control solutions. UnitySC is a multicultural, energetic company with high-tech focus and environment awareness. The company is responding to the challenges of rapid growth of the market sectors in advanced packaging and compound semiconductors relying on innovation skills, patented technologies, and working close with customers on application development. UnitySC has 160 employees and is headquartered near Grenoble in France with customers in the US, Korea, Japan, Mainland China, Taiwan, and in Europe. Unity is currently owned by Fogale Nanotech, JOLT Capital, Supernova, French Tech Souveraineté, and the management team.