NOVELLUS SYSTEMS ANNOUNCES PUBLIC OFFERING OF 8,385,744 SHARES OF COMMON STOCK

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San Jose, Calif. -- Apr. 19, 2000 -- Novellus Systems, Inc. (Nasdaq NM: NVLS) today announced the public offering of 8,385,744 shares of its Common Stock at $59.625 per share. The offering, which will be made only by means of a prospectus, is being made by Banc of America Securities LLC. The Company has granted the underwriter a 30-day option to purchase up to an additional 661,635 shares of Common Stock solely to cover over-allotments, if any. The net proceeds to the Company, not including the over-allotment option, are expected to aggregate approximately $488 million, and will be used for general corporate purposes. Copies of the final prospectus may be obtained from Banc of America Securities LLC, 600 Montgomery Street, San Francisco, California 94111.

About Novellus Systems
Novellus Systems, Inc. manufactures, markets, and services advanced automated wafer fabrication systems for the deposition of thin films. Novellus deposition systems are designed for high-volume production of advanced, leading-edge semiconductors at the lowest overall cost. The Company’s stock trades on the Nasdaq Stock Market’s National Market under the symbol "NVLS". Additional information about the company is available on the Novellus Systems home page on the World Wide Web, located at http://www.novellus.com.

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