NOVELLUS ANNOUNCES AVAILABILITY OF WEBCASTS AT UPCOMING INVESTOR CONFERENCES

SAN JOSE, Calif., May 6, 2003 - Novellus Systems, Inc. (Nasdaq NM: NVLS), the productivity and innovation leader in advanced deposition, surface preparation and chemical mechanical planarization processes for the global semiconductor industry, today announced that the company will provide live webcasts of its presentations at the following upcoming investor conferences. The presentations are scheduled as follows:

- Richard S. Hill, Novellus' chairman and chief executive officer, will present on Tuesday, May 13, 2003, at Deutsche Bank's 2003 Semiconductor & Semiconductor Capital Equipment Conference beginning at 11:35 a.m. PDT.
- Peter R. Hanley, Novellus' president, will present on Wednesday, May 14, 2003, at USB Piper Jaffray's 2003 Technology & Communications Conference beginning at 10:15 a.m. EDT.

The live webcast presentations may be accessed via Novellus' Investor Relations home page atwww.novellus.com. A replay of the webcasts will be available for seven days following each conference.

About Novellus:

Novellus Systems, Inc., an S&P 500 company, manufactures, markets and services advanced deposition, surface preparation and chemical mechanical planarization equipment for today's advanced integrated circuits. Our products are designed for high-volume production of advanced, leading-edge semiconductor devices at the lowest possible cost. Headquartered in San Jose, Calif., with subsidiaries throughout the United States, as well as in the United Kingdom, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Ireland, Israel, India, China, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Singapore and Taiwan, we are a publicly traded company on the Nasdaq stock exchange (Nasdaq: NVLS) and a component of the Nasdaq-100 Index®. Additional information about Novellus is available on our home page at www.novellus.com.

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