Chartered Honors Novellus Systems With Supplier Award

Outstanding Continuous Improvement Program (CIP) Award Given for ElectroChemical Plating (ECP)

San Jose, Calif., February 22, 2006 Novellus Systems, Inc. (Nasdaq NM: NVLS), the productivity and technology leader in advanced process equipment for the global semiconductor industry, today announced it has been recognized by Chartered Semiconductor Manufacturing with an Outstanding Continuous Improvement Program (CIP) Award. Chartered honored Novellus during its annual Supplier Day with the award for implementing an innovative solution that led to significant yield improvement in the ElectroChemical Plating (ECP) processing step. Chartered selects annual supplier award recipients based on criteria including quality, service, innovation, delivery and cost.

"We want to thank Chartered for acknowledging Novellus with this honor," said Tom Caulfield, Novellus' executive vice president of sales, marketing, and customer satisfaction. "This award demonstrates our never-ending commitment to delivering world-class products and support to our customers. We are dedicated to providing the highest levels of technical innovation, productivity enhancements and support to ensure Chartered's long-term success."

"Our CIP Awards publicly recognize the outstanding performance of suppliers who have helped make Chartered one of the world's leading foundries, and who continue to contribute to our success," said Tang Yong "TY" Ang, vice president of fab support operations at Chartered. "We are aggressively driving equipment yield improvements in our manufacturing operations at Fab 7, and recognize Novellus' contribution to these goals."

About Novellus:

Novellus Systems, Inc., an S&P 500 company, manufactures, markets and services advanced deposition, ultraviolet thermal processing (UVTP), 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, Italy, India, China, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Singapore and Taiwan, we are a publicly traded company on the Nasdaq stock exchange (Nasdaq: NVLS). Additional information about Novellus is available on our home page at www.novellus.com.

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