Novellus Named By Chartered As Top Supplier For 2006 In The Equipment Category

San Jose, Calif., - April 4, 2007 - Novellus Systems, Inc. (Nasdaq: NVLS), announced it has been recognized by Chartered Semiconductor Manufacturing with multiple honors through Chartered's annual supplier awards program. Novellus received the Gold Supplier Award-the highest supplier honor-in the Equipment Category. Novellus was also given Outstanding Continuous Improvement Program (CIP) Awards for SPEED®, its high-density plasma (HDP) chemical vapor deposition (CVD) system; and INOVA®, Novellus' leading-edge physical vapor deposition (PVD) platform.

"Chartered's Supplier Awards recognize the valued equipment, materials and service suppliers that are focused on enhancing and enriching our manufacturing programs, and are dedicated to the ongoing success of Chartered and our customers," said Leow Kim Keat, vice president, customer support operations and supply management organization at Chartered. "Novellus earned multiple awards based on its ability to execute to the highest standard of quality, service and productivity."

"These awards reflect Novellus' priority on continuously improving our customer responsiveness while delivering the most productive technology solutions," said Dr. Tom Caulfield, Novellus' executive vice president of sales, marketing and customer service. "We greatly appreciate Chartered for recognizing Novellus with these honors, and we look forward to continuing to provide the tools and services that will enable Chartered to remain competitive across its fab operations."

Novellus received the Gold Supplier Award for achieving the highest score in the Equipment Category under the Chartered Supplier Rating Program. Scores are based on services, equipment performance, innovation and CIP. Novellus' Concept Two® SPEED platform received the CIP award for its reduction of variation in temperature in Chartered's Fab 3 and Fab 5. The INOVA platform was recognized with a CIP award for productivity improvements achieved in Chartered's Fab 6.

About Novellus:

Novellus Systems, Inc. (Nasdaq: NVLS) is a leading provider of advanced process equipment for the global semiconductor industry. The company's products deliver value to customers by providing innovative technology backed by trusted productivity. An S&P 500 company, Novellus is headquartered in San Jose, Calif. with subsidiary offices across the globe. For more information please visit www.novellus.com.

"Safe Harbor" Statement under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995:

This press release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, including statements regarding (i) our continued efforts to improve our responsiveness to customers while delivering the most productive technology solutions and (ii) our efforts to continue providing tools and services that will enable Chartered to remain competitive across its fab operations. Forward-looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties that may cause actual results to differ materially from those contemplated by the forward-looking statements. Such risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, operational difficulties that limit productivity or extendibility; failure to accurately anticipate and timely respond to customers' evolving needs and an inability to enhance customer productivity, as well as other risks indicated in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). For more details, please refer to our SEC filings and the amendments thereto, including our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2006, and our Current Reports on Form 8-K. Forward-looking statements are made and based on information available to us on the date of this press release, and we assume no obligation to update them.

INOVA, SPEED and Concept Two are registered trademarks of Novellus Systems, Inc.
