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NEWS

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Sumika expands PHEMT epiwafer production

Japanese epiwafer supplier Sumika Electronic Materials bolsters the manufacturing lines at its Phoenix facility.

Sumika Electronic Materials is to add GaAs PHEMT epiwafer manufacturing capability at its Phoenix, AZ, site.

The Japanese company, which is owned by Sumitomo Chemical Company Ltd., already makes GaAs HBT epiwafers in Phoenix. The addition of two new MOCVD systems means that Sumika now has two production sites for both PHEMT and HBT epiwafers.

Epiwafer growth using the new equipment is expected to reach full production in the current quarter, Sumika said. The company added that it has plans to commercialize new PHEMT technologies.

The extra capacity will also allow Sumika to add to its existing HBT and diode product lines in Phoenix.

Sumika was formed in 2003 when its parent company bought the GaAs epiwafer business belonging to semiconductor equipment company ATMI and formed two new companies.

In the Japanese part of the operation, located at Sumitomo Chemical's facility in Chiba, Sumika Epi-Solution makes HBT and PHEMT epiwafers.