



# Mask Industry is Ready for Curvilinear ILT

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# A Decade of ILT!



6

Papers

2

Foundries

1

Memory

1

Mask shop



# A Decade of ILT!

## Fast Inverse Lithography Technology

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 Luminescent Technologies, Inc., 650 Castro Street, Suite 220, Mountain View, CA 94041, U.S.A.

Email: leo@luminescent.com



6

Papers



2

Foundries

1

Memory



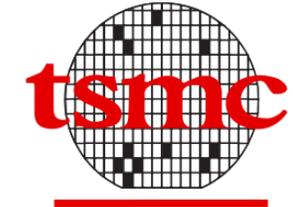
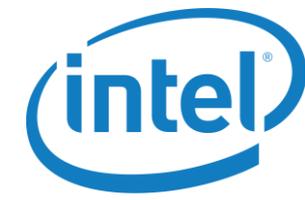
1

Mask shop



# ILT Adopted as the Way Forward

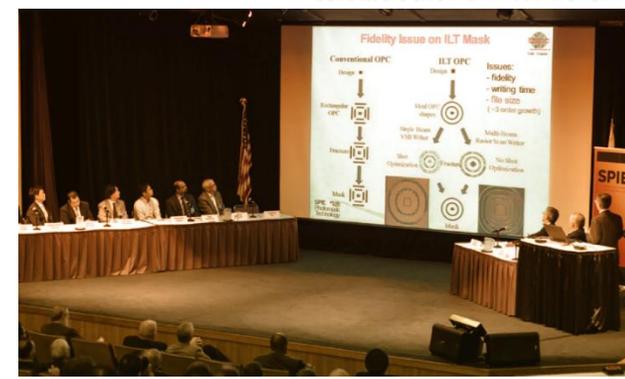
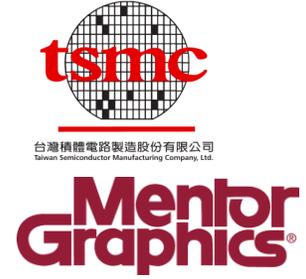
>200  
Papers



台灣積體電路製造股份有限公司  
Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company, Ltd.

Officially  
announced

# Today



ILT expertise proliferated

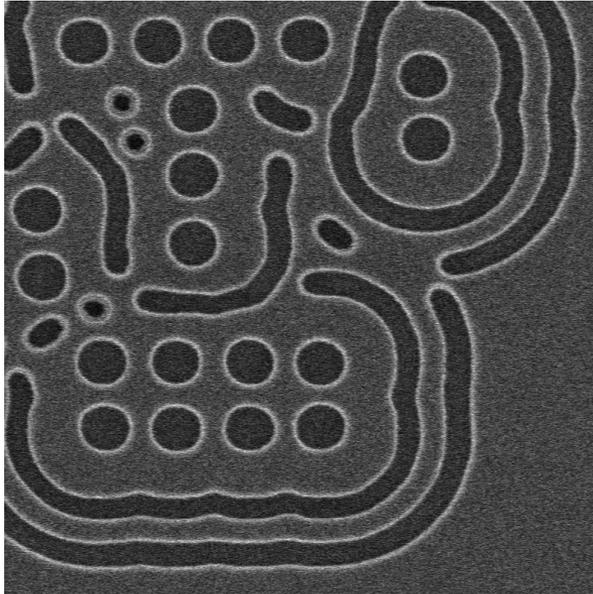
2014 panel

2016 panel

# Is the Entire Mask Supply Chain Ready for Curvilinear ILT Masks?

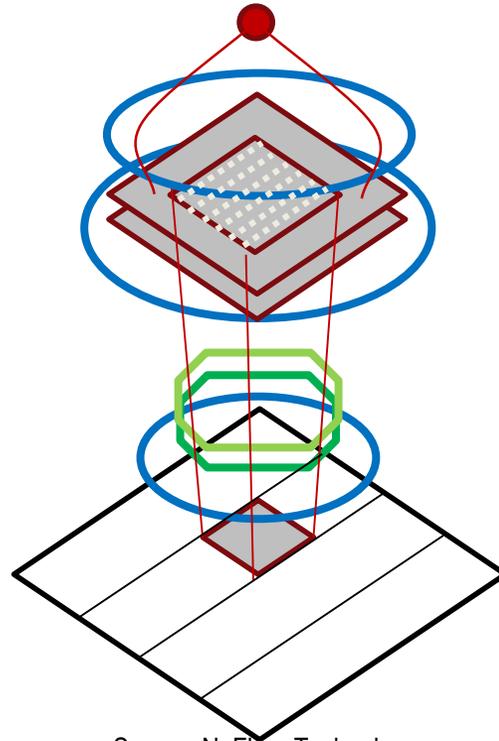


# Big Changes Are Coming in Litho and Mask ...



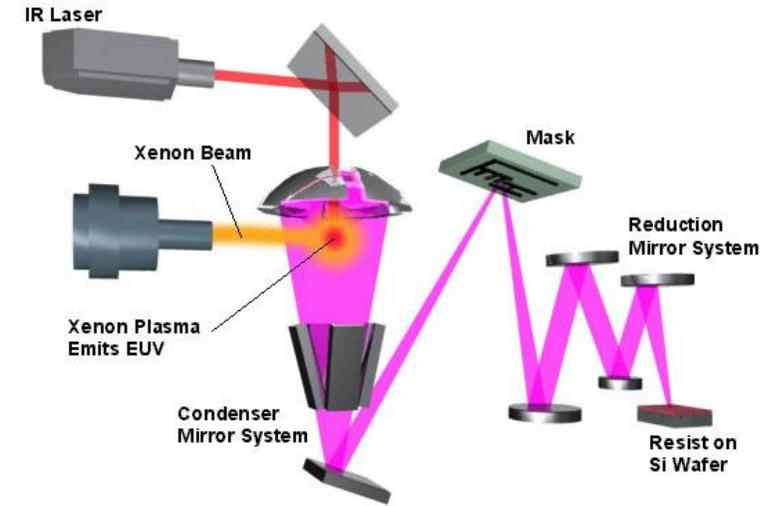
B.G. Kim, et al., BACUS, 2012

ILT Mask Patterns:  
Here Today



Source: NuFlare Technology

Multi-beam Mask Writing:  
2017-2018



Source: Barrett Research Group

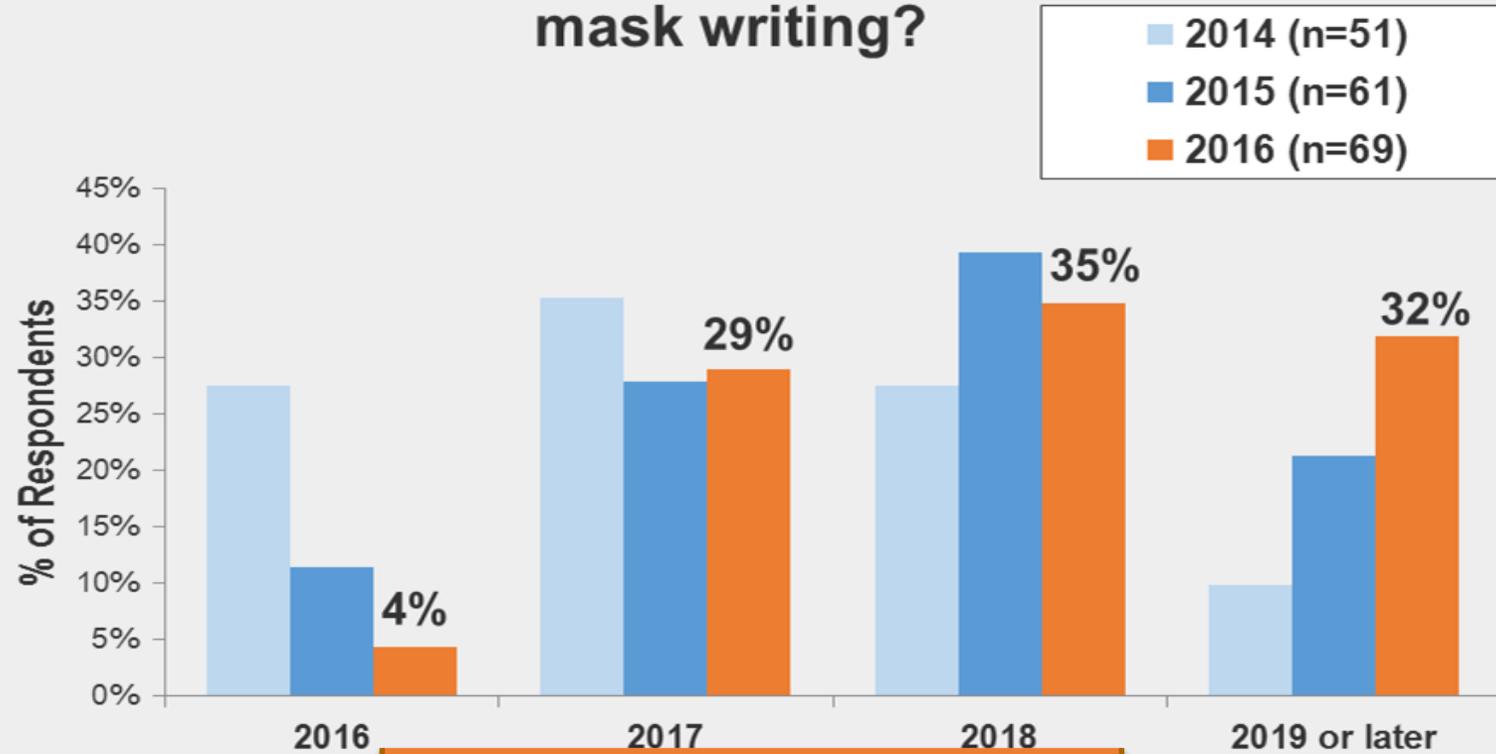
EUV Mask Production:  
2018

# 68% Say Multi-beam HVM by end of 2018

## 2016 eBeam Initiative Survey



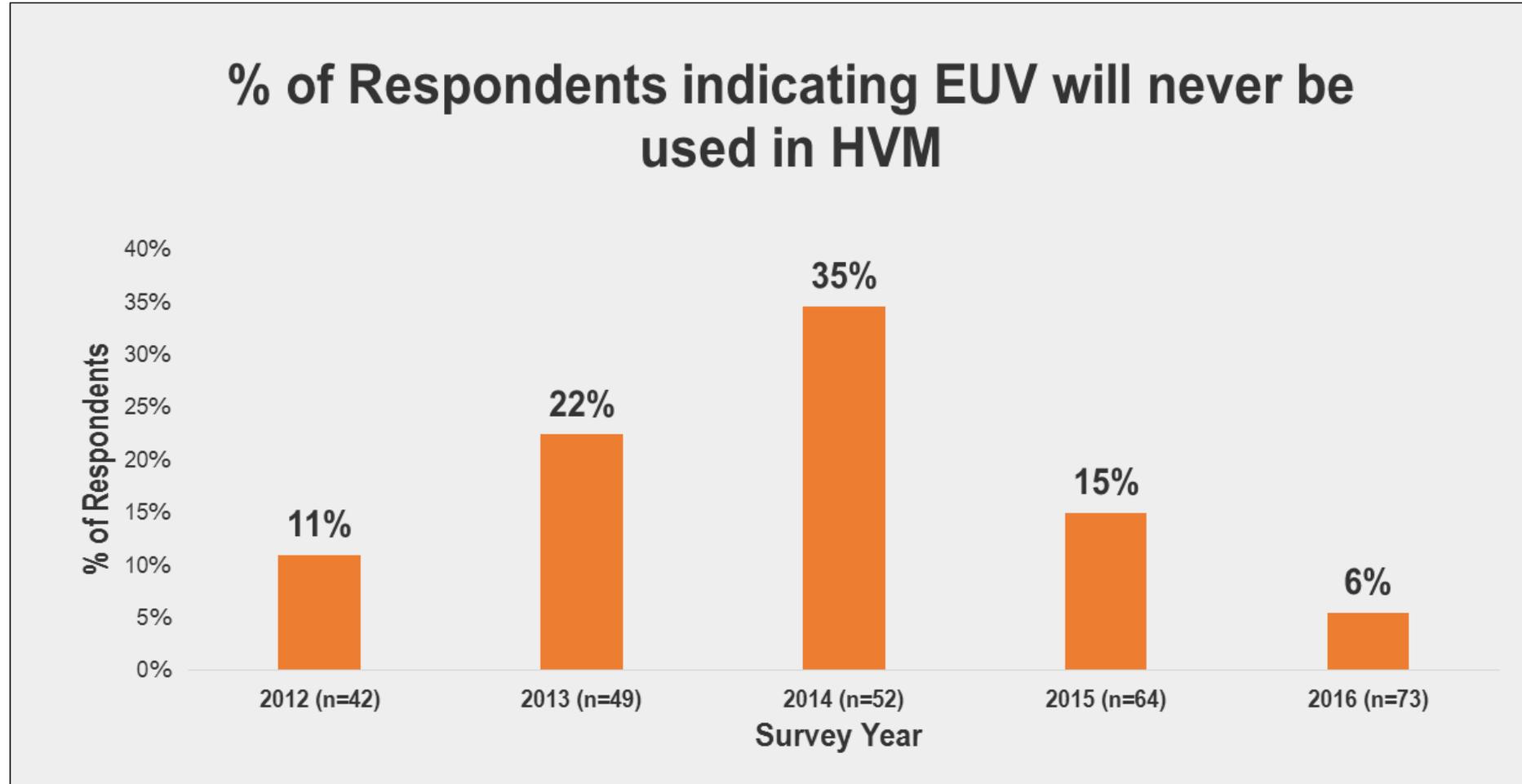
By the end of which year do you believe that multi-beam technology will be used for high volume manufacturing mask writing?



68%

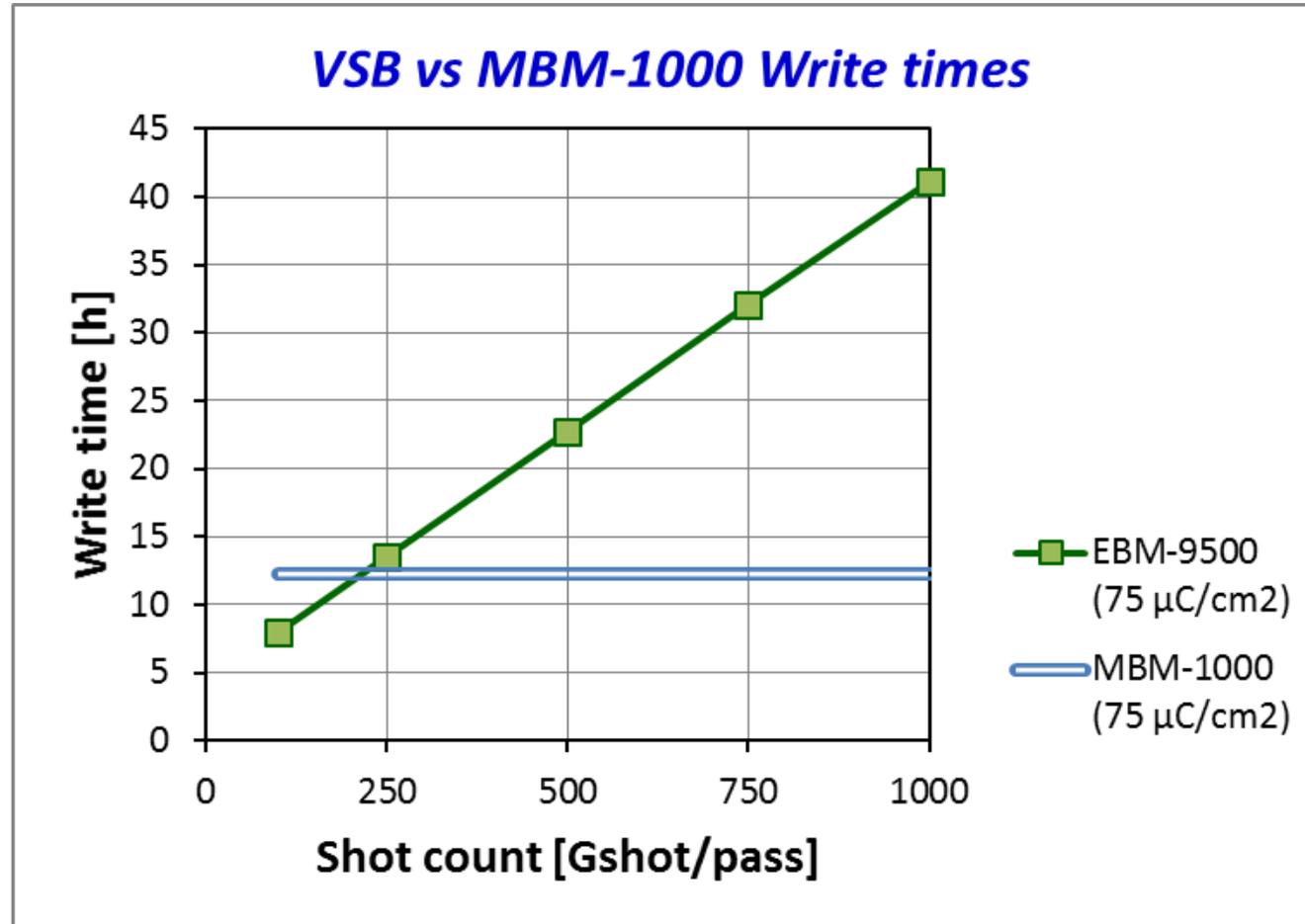
# EUV Pessimism is the Lowest in 5 Years

## Only 6% Responded with “Never” in 2016



Source: 2016 eBeam Initiative Perceptions Survey [www.ebeam.org](http://www.ebeam.org)

# Multi-beam Provides Constant Write Time



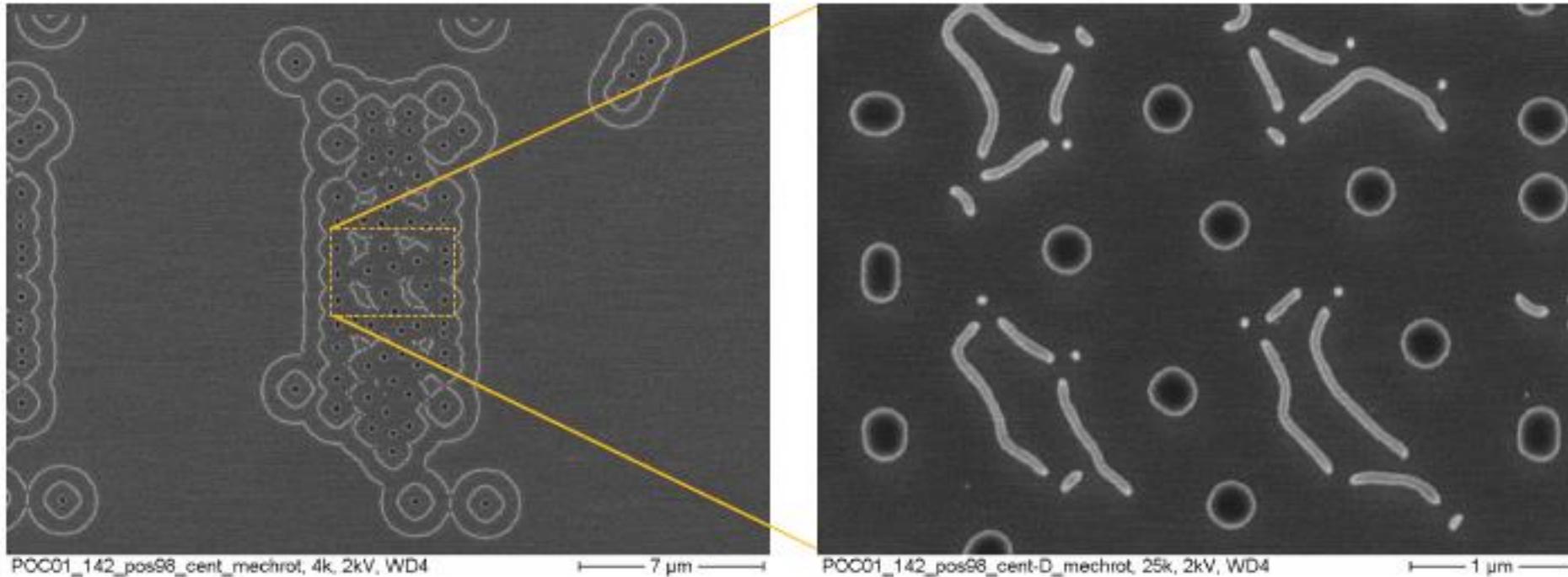
Source: NuFlare Technology, eBeam Initiative SPIE lunch 2016

**Multi-beam has the shot count advantage  $> \sim 200$  Gshot/pass**

# Multi-beam is Great for Curvilinear ILT

ILT test pattern design: DNP

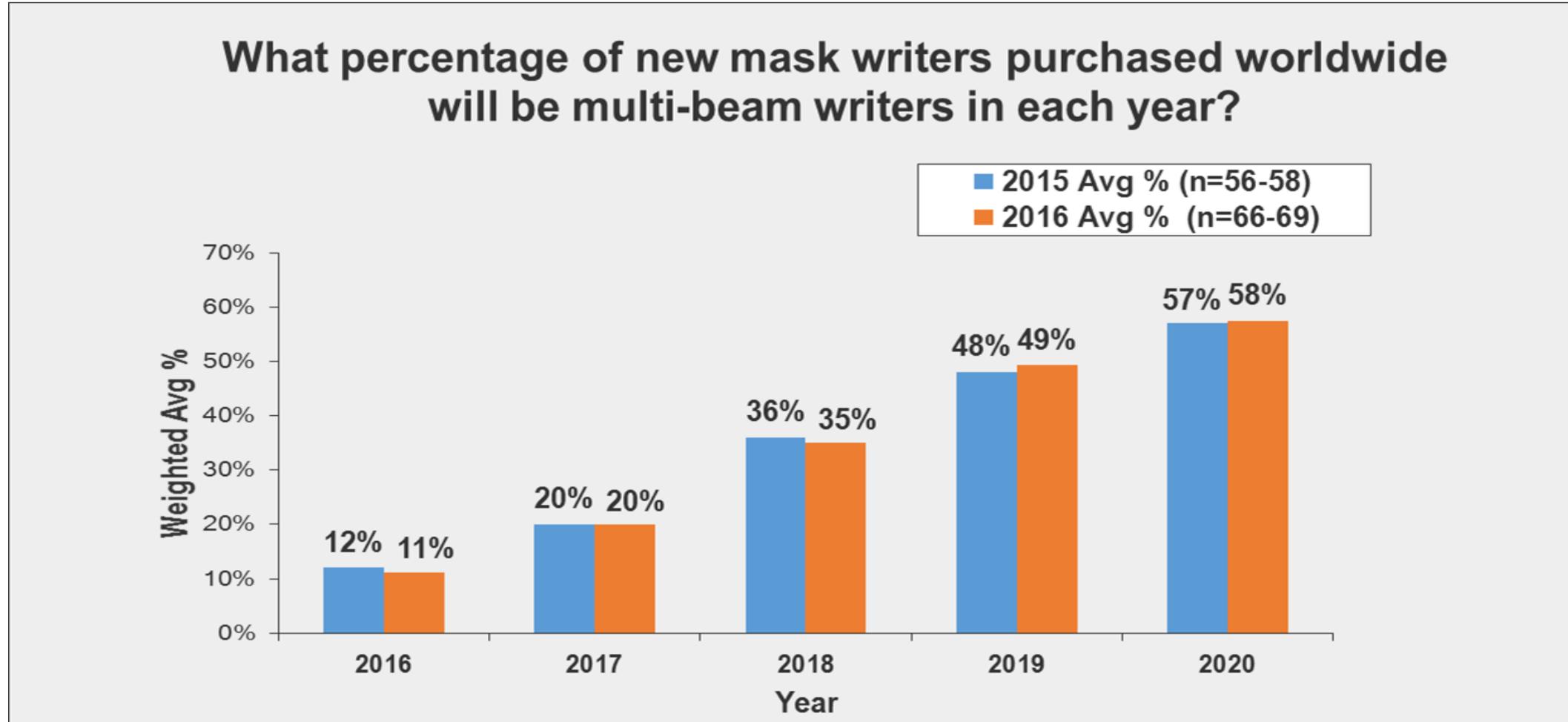
50nm dots, 75nm lines



D2S note: Written on IMS alpha machine

## Multi-beam exposure without loss of TPT

# But VSB, Multi-beam Will Co-exist for Years

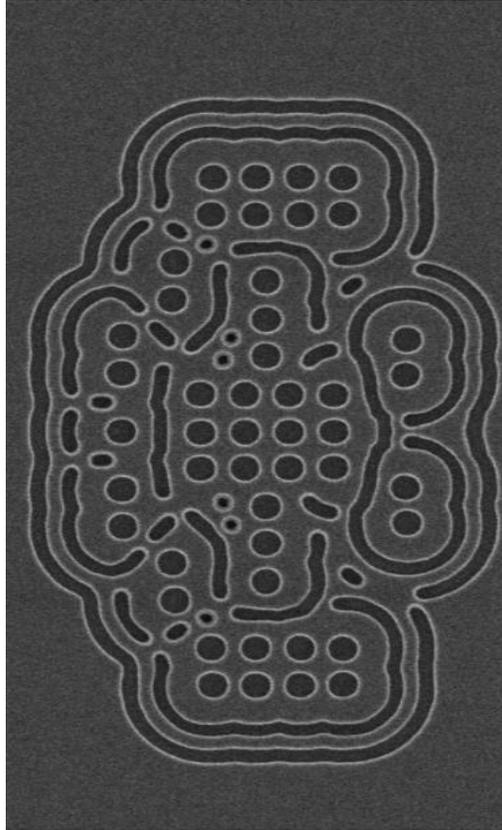


Source: 2016 eBeam Initiative Perceptions Survey [www.ebeam.org](http://www.ebeam.org)

# Is the Entire Mask Supply Chain Ready for Curvilinear ILT Masks?

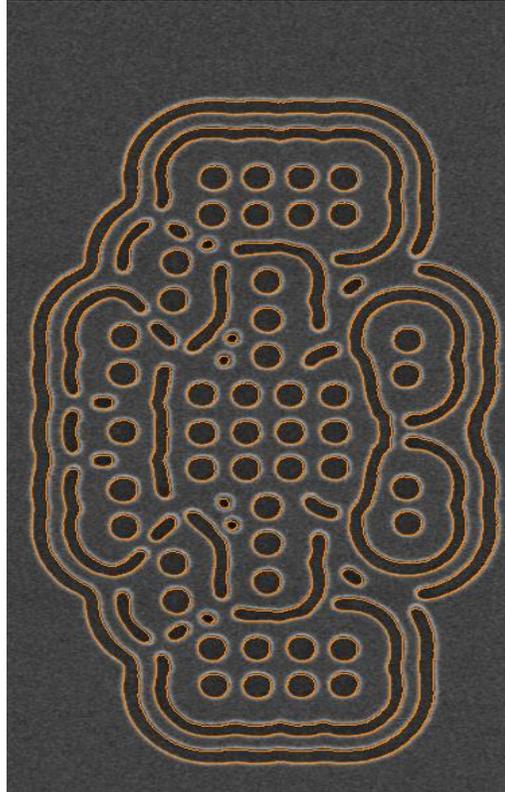


# The New ILT World Calls for New CD Metrology: Mask and Wafer!

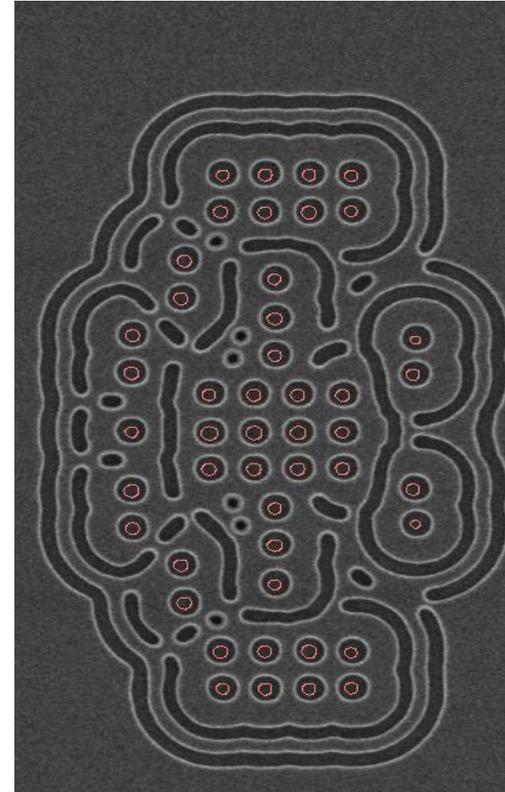


# The New ILT World Calls for New CD Metrology: Mask and Wafer!

Mask



Wafer

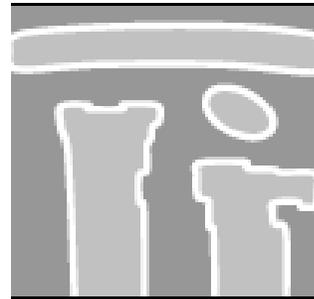


# Simulation Can Provide Aerial Image from High-Resolution SEM Image

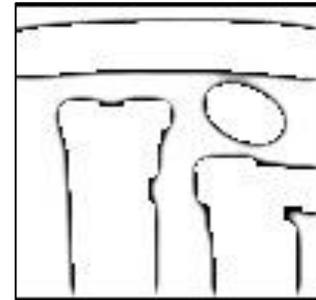
SEM



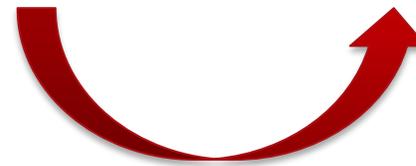
SEM Image



Contour



Aerial Image



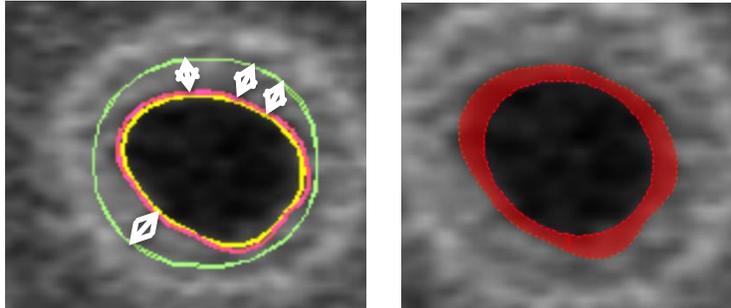
SEM Contour  
Extraction



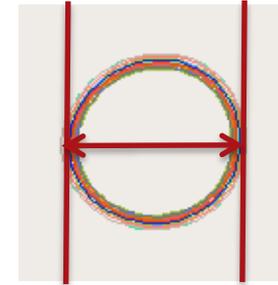
Aerial Image  
Simulation

# The New ILT World Calls for New CD Metrology: Mask and Wafer!

Mask

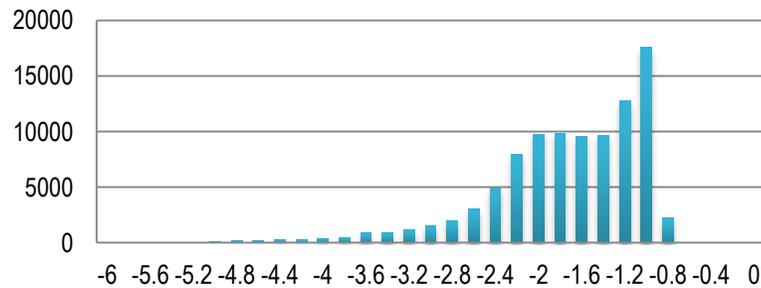


Wafer



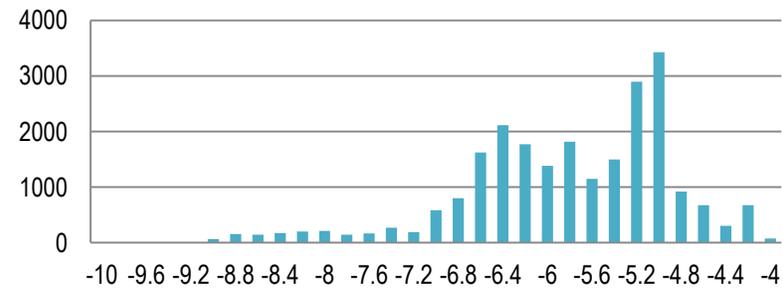
**GPU = Real-time for mask + wafer**

EPE Histogram (Mask)



Contour, EPE,  
PV Band, Histogram

EPE Histogram (Wafer)



CD, EPE,  
PV Band, Histogram

# Is the Entire Mask Supply Chain Ready for Curvilinear ILT Masks?



# Mask Inspection Tools Adding Aerial Image Inspection Mode



KT Teron™ 630

Selectable imaging modes to provide the necessary signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) to ensure defect-free 1Xnm generation reticles, whether optical reticles with **complex OPC** or EUV reticles (Source: KT website)



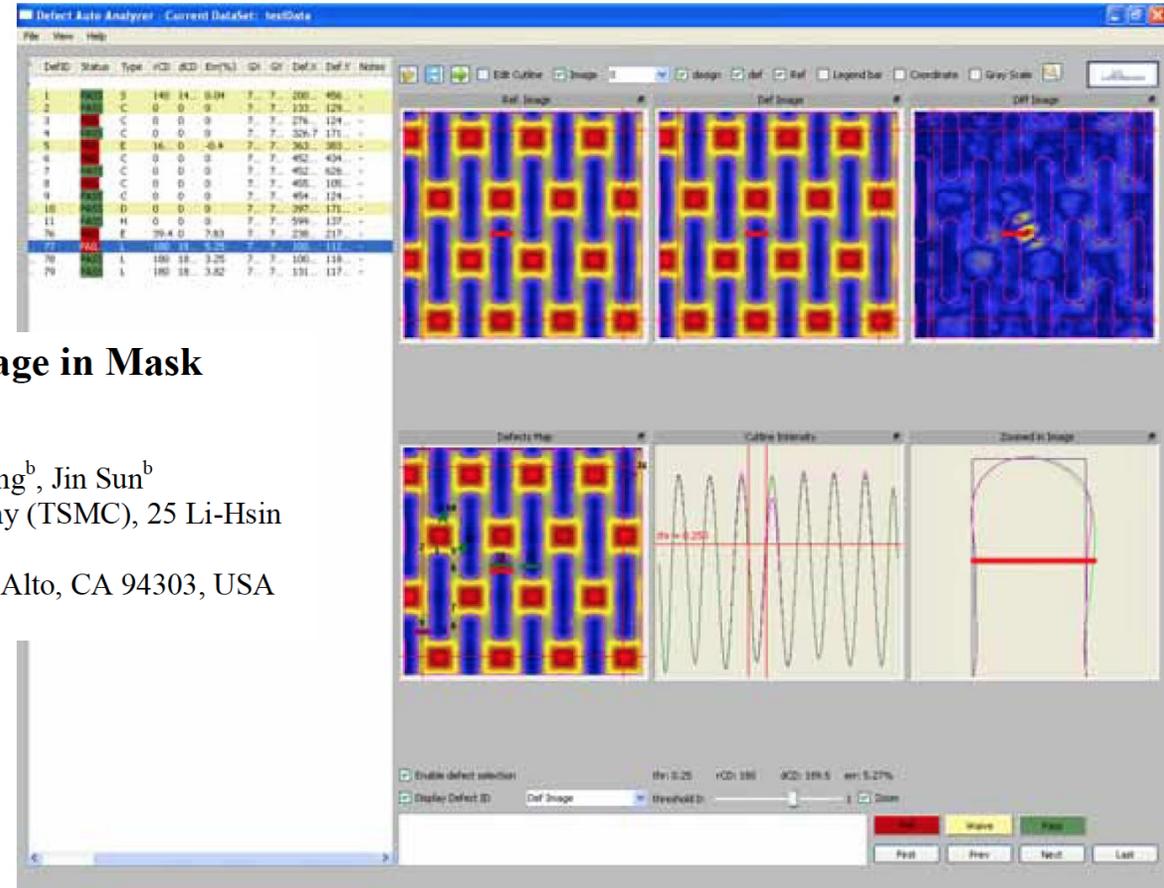
Applied AERA™ 4

Designed to emulate a scanner, the Aera4 system delivers superior first-time inspection success rate over other high-resolution inspection systems on advanced masks, including those with **aggressive OPC**, such as **inverse lithography**. (Source: AMAT website)

# Is the Entire Mask Supply Chain Ready for Curvilinear ILT Masks?



# Simulation and Aerial-based Defect Review Has been Used in Production For Years



## Mask Defect Auto Disposition based on Aerial Image in Mask Production

C.Y. Chen<sup>a</sup>, Laurent Tuo<sup>a</sup>, C. S. Yoo<sup>a</sup>, Linyong Pang<sup>b</sup>, Danping Peng<sup>b</sup>, Jin Sun<sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup>E-Beam Operation Division, Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company (TSMC), 25 Li-Hsin Rd. Hsinchu, Taiwan 300-77, ROC

<sup>b</sup>Luminescent Technologies, Inc., 2471 East Bayshore Road, Suite 600, Palo Alto, CA 94303, USA

Ref: C. Y. Chen, et al., "Mask defect auto disposition based on aerial image in mask product", Proc. SPIE 7379, Photomask and Next-Generation Lithography Mask Technology XVI, 73791F (May 11, 2009); doi:10.1117/12.824292; <http://dx.doi.org/10.1117/12.824292>

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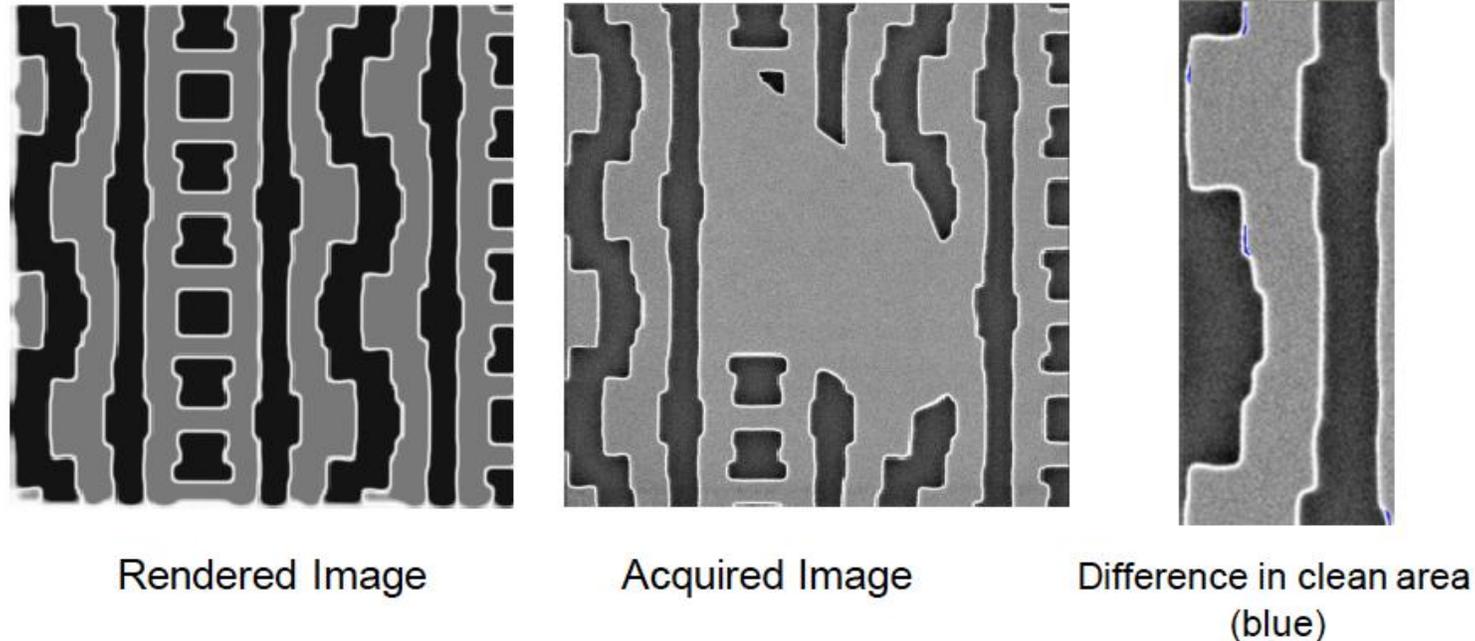


# 2D Mask Repair, Simulation-based Mask Repair Verification Used in Production For Years

## Expanding the Applications of Computational Lithography & Inspection (CLI) in Mask Inspection, Metrology, Review, and Repair

Linyong Pang, Danping Peng, Peter Hu, Dongxue Chen, Lin He, Ying Li, Chris Clifford, Vikram Tolani

Luminescent Technologies, Inc. 2471 East Bayshore Road, Suite 600,  
Palo Alto, CA 94303, USA



Ref: L. Pang, et al., "Expanding the Applications of Computational Lithography & Inspection (CLI) in Mask Inspection, Metrology, Review, and Repair", Proc. of SPIE 7971 79712A-1

# 2D Mask Repair, Simulation-based Mask Repair Verification Used in Production For Years

## In-situ Repair Qualification by Applying Computational Metrology and Inspection (CMI) Technologies

C.Y. Chen<sup>a</sup>, Ivan Wei<sup>a</sup>, Laurent Tuo<sup>a</sup>, C. S. Yoo<sup>a</sup>, Dongxue Chen<sup>b</sup>, Danping Peng<sup>b</sup>, Masaki Satake<sup>b</sup>, Bo Su<sup>b</sup>, Linyong Pang<sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup>E-Beam Operation Division, Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company (TSMC), 25 Li-Hsin Rd. Hsinchu, Taiwan 300-77, ROC

<sup>b</sup>Luminescent Technologies, Inc., 2300 Geng Road, Suite 250, Palo Alto, CA 94303, USA

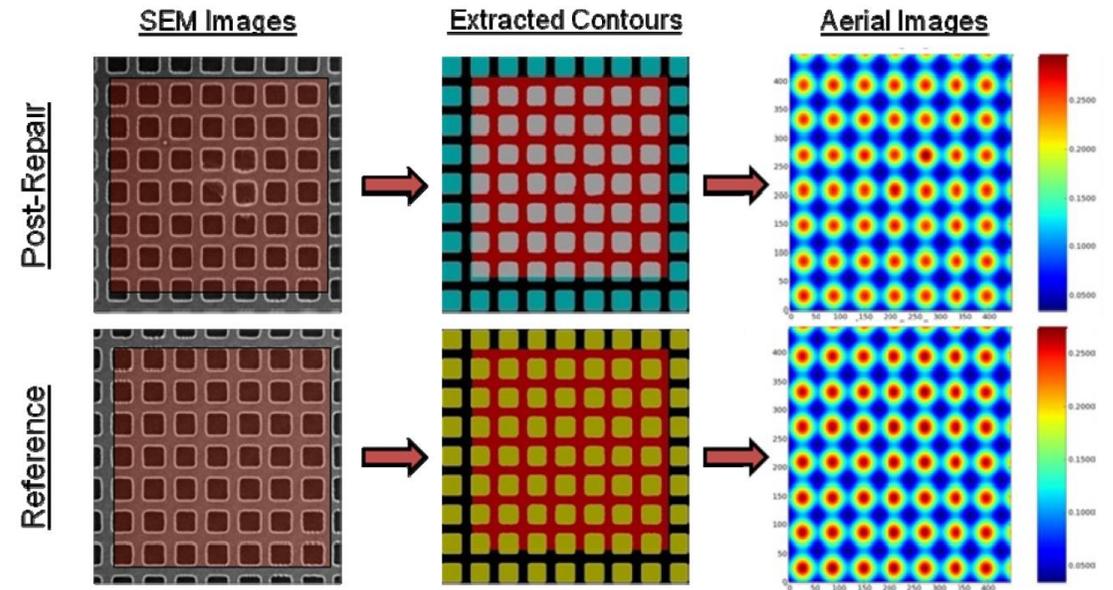


Figure 4 – IRQ data flow from SEM images to aerial images

# The Entire Mask Supply Chain is Ready for Curvilinear ILT Masks

