



CenterPoint®

CenterPoint completes successful SEMI EDA compatibility tests with Asyst

Villach, Austria, January, 16th, 2006 – CenterPoint has successfully completed SEMI EDA compatibility tests for the company's [APC\Platform](#) with Asyst Technologies' Equipment Information Bridge (EIB). Both companies are actively involved as Taskforce members in developing Semiconductor Equipment and Materials International's (SEMI) new EDA (Equipment Data Acquisition) standards for collecting equipment and process data across internet technologies.

The SEMI EDA standards enhance data access from semiconductor manufacturing equipment. The new standards allow data access for multiple clients to multiple data sources simultaneously, minimizing the additional load on the equipment side. Standard internet technologies like SOAP (Simple Object Access Protocol) and WSDL (Web Services Definition Language) make it much easier to program applications accessing data sources (processing equipment). This is because, unlike current techniques, they use standard development technologies.

Protecting Intellectual Property of IC-manufacturers is critical when accessing process data and equipment data, even for maintenance reasons. The new SEMI EDA standards meet this requirement by defining criteria for certified access of clients, and authorization of individuals and user groups. They help raise fab performance (higher quality, faster feedback – agility) to improve manufacturing process and equipment efficiency.

Enabler for SEMI EDA standards

CenterPoint's recent [APC\Platform](#) Release 2.0 is an enabler for the new SEMI EDA standards. Supporting the standard requires also inter-vendor compatibility, and CenterPoint's APC\Platform has now been approved as compatible with Asyst's EIB.



Roland Willmann, Managing Director of CenterPoint, remarked: "The cooperation with Asyst has been very fruitful, and makes our EDA support available to a sizeable part of the semiconductor industry. Similar compatibility tests are currently being discussed with other vendors. This kind of cooperation is establishing our [APC\Platform](#) as a powerful and independent EDA client for fab-wide diagnostics, monitoring and control".

EDA adoption needs industry co-operation

Establishing a new standard in the industry requires the cooperation of many parties. For EDA, that means a close relationship between end customers, the providers of data (EDA servers like Asyst's EIB), and the consumers of data (EDA clients like CenterPoint's APC\Platform).

Making [EDA standards](#) available with a comprehensive solution for process diagnostics, monitoring and control provides IC manufacturers the essential added value they need. It means they can change from their existing architecture to the new EDA standard with immediate benefits to their daily business.

--- E N D S ---

Contact (Asyst):

Mark Pendleton
Asyst Technologies
mpendleton@asyst.com
direct: 858.453.0782
Fax: 858-630-2620

Contact (CenterPoint)

Roland Willmann
CenterPoint GmbH
roland.willmann@centerpoint.eu.com
direct: +43(0)424243883-0
FAX: +43(0)424243883 -30