Advanced Alignment Station

Litho Booster
Pre-exposure, high-speed grid distortion measurement for all wafers
Unprecedented accuracy with feedforward overlay correction

Litho Booster is an advanced Alignment Station that leverages proprietary Nikon technologies developed for semiconductor lithography systems. Absolute grid distortion values are measured quickly with ultra-high precision for all wafers prior to exposure. Correction values are then fed forward to the lithography system to greatly improve overlay accuracy without reducing throughput, contributing to enhanced yield and optimized equipment investments.

Advanced Alignment Station Litho Booster

There are many types of distortion that can occur at the shot, wafer, lot, and layer level that all have significant adverse effects on overlay performance. This necessitates the ability to detect such errors in advance and compensate for them. Nikon developed the advanced inline Alignment Station (iAS), as a state-of-the-art measurement and correction module. The alignment station performs high-speed, ultra-precise measurement of all wafers, and then corrects problematic grid errors without reducing the throughput of the lithography system. The iAS enables comprehensive, multi-point alignment for all shots on the wafer, realizing remarkable overlay improvements, as well as maximized scanner throughput.

To make this ground-breaking iAS technology scalable and flexible for diverse manufacturing environments, Nikon transformed the iAS module into a standalone, independent alignment unit called Litho Booster. It combines innovative technologies to dramatically improve overlay accuracy. Litho Booster also provides the potential to augment and extend the capabilities of existing equipment, and push semiconductor processing to new limits.

Key Features

• Grid measurement of all wafers prior to exposure
  Absolute grid distortion values for all wafers are measured quickly with ultra-high precision prior to exposure. Litho Booster enables unprecedented overlay accuracy by feeding forward correction values for each wafer and every shot to the lithography system.

• Scalable platform solution with extensive development potential
  Litho Booster is able to incorporate new hardware and software solutions. In addition to grid measurement capabilities, it can also integrate other hardware components and software functionalities for measurement and correction of a variety of processing errors.
  Litho Booster allows the use of third-party applications and software, as well as Nikon software, to provide an optimal open platform solution for customers.

• Highly flexible connectivity
  Litho Booster can be utilized with Nikon immersion and non-immersion scanners. Existing lithography systems can be optimized and their performance enhanced using feedforward Litho Booster measurement results and correction values.

WARNING TO ENSURE CORRECT USAGE, READ MANUALS CAREFULLY BEFORE USING YOUR EQUIPMENT.

The export of this product is controlled by Japanese Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Law and International export control regime. It shall not be exported without authorization from the appropriate governmental authorities.

Performance and equipment are subject to change without any notice or obligation on the part of the manufacturer. Products and brand names are trademarks or registered trademarks of their respective companies. March 2019
©2019 NIKON CORPORATION

NIKON CORPORATION
Semiconductor Lithography Business Unit
Business Planning Department
Shinagawa Intercity Tower C, 2-15-3, Konan, Minato-ku, Tokyo 108-6290, Japan
Tel: +81-3-6433-3639 Fax: +81-3-6433-3759

NIKON PRECISION INC.
1399 Ohareway Road, Belmont, CA 94002-4107, U.S.A.
Tel: +1-(650)-508-4674 Fax: +1-(650)-508-4600

NIKON PRECISION EUROPE GmbH
Robert-Bosch-Strasse 11, D-63225 Langen, Germany
Tel: +49-6103-973-0 Fax: +49-6103-973-333

NIKON PRECISION KOREA LTD.
2, Singal-ro 124beon-gil, Giheung-gu, Yongin-si, Gyeonggi-do, 16968 Korea
Tel: +82-31-288-5601 Fax: +82-31-288-5609

NIKON PRECISION TAIWAN LTD.
3F No. 28, Tai Yuan Street, Chù Pê City, Hûn Chù Hîen, Taiwan
Tel: +886-3-552-5888 Fax: +886-3-552-5858

NIKON SINGAPORE PTE LTD.
Precision Division
60 Anson Road, #09-01 Mapletree Anson, Singapore 079914
Tel: +65-6559-3618 Fax: +65-6559-3665

NIKON PRECISION SHANGHAI CO., LTD.
RM. 601 Xin Jin Qiao Tower, No. 28 Xin Jin Qiao Road, Pudong New District, Shanghai 201206, China
Tel: +86-21-5899-0266 Fax: +86-21-5899-1660

http://www.nikon.co.jp/pec