



Press Release  
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## **NEXX Systems licenses Alchimer's eG ViaCoat technology for metallization of high aspect ratio TSVs**

*8th October, Semicon Europa:* Alchimer S.A., the nanometric TSV metallization company, has licensed its eG ViaCoat™ product for creating thin, conformal copper seed layers for TSV metallization to NEXX Systems, Inc., a leader in electro-deposition systems for through-silicon vias (TSV) applications.

Under the terms of the agreement, Alchimer will supply NEXX with process recipes for eG ViaCoat and the use of chemistries to optimize wet Cu TSV metallization. Alchimer's scientists and engineers will also provide continuous support to NEXX by characterizing and customizing the process for a wide variety of barrier layer materials. The agreement is the first of its kind, in that it provides the industry with a 300mm production platform for wet TSV seed deposition in line with Cu fill.

eG ViaCoat is Alchimer's electrochemical coating process for the metallization of high aspect ratio TSVs used in advanced 3D packaging applications. eG ViaCoat produces conformal, thin, uniform and adherent copper seed layers, even on resistive barriers. It enables significant reduction in cost of ownership (CoO) for TSVs as compared to dry vacuum processes. eG ViaCoat won the Best of the West Award at Semicon West 2008.

NEXX Systems is an industry leader in electro-deposition and PVD solutions for advanced packaging and 3D applications. NEXX Stratus ECD systems won Best Product awards in 2008 from *Semiconductor International* and *Advanced Packaging*, and NEXX's Apollo PVD system won the Attendees' Choice Award 2008 for best CoO product from *Solid State Technology/Advanced Packaging*.

"We are very excited to be working with NEXX, a leader in ECD tool performance and productivity for TSVs. The Stratus tool is the perfect 300mm platform from which to demonstrate the economic value proposition of our eG ViaCoat product," comments Steve Lerner, CEO of Alchimer.

"The unparalleled performance of ViaCoat enables us to further increase the productivity of our Stratus plating platform at lower cost. ViaCoat provides a less complex solution for copper seed than competitive solutions that require additional tool sets with attendant high costs," says Dick Post, Chairman of NEXX Systems. "We are pleased to enter into such an agreement with Alchimer at a time when cost reduction is so critical to making 3D packaging meet the required cost targets."

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### **About NEXX Systems**

NEXX Systems brings exceptional products and technical expertise to flip chip and advanced packaging. Our Apollo and Stratus product lines provide the most efficient, yet affordable, systems of their kind: Apollo for multi-layer sputter deposition of metals and Stratus for high throughput electro-deposition of metals. Additional information can be found at: [www.nexxsystems.com](http://www.nexxsystems.com).

### **About Alchimer**

Alchimer develops and markets chemical formulations and processes for the electrochemical deposition of nanometric films to create copper interconnects in semiconductor wafers and through silicon vias for 3D packaging. The company is a spin-off from the Commissariat à l'Energie Atomique. The Founded in 2001, it won the First National Award for the Creation of High Tech Companies from the French Minister of Research and Industry and is a Red Herring Top 100 European Company. For more information, visit: [www.alchimer.com](http://www.alchimer.com).