

Electronic Materials



Cationic Silica Particles in Acidic CMP Slurries for Performance Enhancement

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Overview

- Charge-centered FEOL slurry design
- Additive and pH effects on removal rate
- Silica ILD slurry development
- Slurry design and development for high selectivity applications



A Charge-Centered Approach to FEOL CMP





Cationic Silica Slurry Design



- In an acidic regime, charge on silica particles is made positive using charge-modifying additives.
- The resulting attractive forces between abrasive and dielectric film lead to higher removal rates at lower abrasive loading.
- Excessive additive in the bulk liquid may adsorb onto wafer surfaces, leading to weakened particle/wafer attraction and, consequently, diminished removal rate.



Additive Concentration and pH Affect Adsorption



Fixed pH



[Additive]: A < B < C Additive saturates surface and then increases its bulk liquid concentration.



Additive Concentration and pH Affect Adsorption



Fixed [Additive]



pH: C < D < E pH influences silanol ionization. Ionized silanol groups neutralize additive cations on the surface.



Dow ILD Slurry Portfolio

Non-Formulated Klebosol® Colloidal Silica Slurry





OPTIPLANE[™] 2118 Slurry – Planarization Efficiency and Pad Synergy



OPTIPLANE[™] 2118 demonstrated improved performance with Dow's VISIONPAD[™] 6000 pad over IC1000. Synergistic effects between pad and slurry allow performance tuning.



OPTIPLANE[™] 2118 CMP Slurry Advantage – Low Scratch Defects



VISIONPAD[™] 6000 Pad



A 70% or more reduction in defects was observed for acidic OPTIPLANE[™] 2118 slurry compared to alkaline fumed silica slurry.



- Critical stress intensity for crack propagation in silicates driven by –OH catalyzed Si-O bond cleavage.^[1]
- Strength required for initiating crack generally increases with decreasing pH.
 - Acidic pH may contribute to reduced defect counts.

[1] Proc. of SPIE, vol.4940, 83, 2003.

Cationic Silica Slurries for High Selectivity Applications





OPTIPLANE™ 16XX Slurry Series for High Selectivity Applications



IC1010 pad, 93/87 rpm carrier/platen speed, 7 lbf pressure on Kinik AD3CS211250-1FN conditioning disk, 150 mL/min slurry flow rate, 3 psi down-force for SiN study.

The OPTIPLANE[™] 16XX slurry series targets high selectivity applications with tunable removal rates, selectivities, and performance on patterns.

OPTIPLANE[™] 1600 slurry offers a solution for high selectivity applications; OPTIPLANE[™] 1601 slurry enables improved topography and dishing control.



OPTIPLANE™ 16XX Slurry Performance Summary

Performance Metric	OPTIPLANE™ 1600 Slurry	OPTIPLANE™ 1601 Slurry
Particle Loading	2%	3%
Blanket TEOS RR at 3 psi, Å/min	2198	2055
Pattern HDP RR, Å/min	2017	1088
Pattern SiN RR, Å/min	109	94
Pattern Oxide:SiN Selectivity	19	12
SiN Loss at 500 Å Overpolish, Å	23	55
Dishing at 500 Å Overpolish, Å	304	146

Data shown for pattern wafers pre-planarized on P1. STI performance of experimental slurries tested on P2 using IC1010[™] pad. Performance is tabulated for the 50% pattern density feature.

OPTIPLANE[™] 1601 slurry polishes with a lower pattern HDP RR relative to OPTIPLANE[™] 1600 slurry, but with lower dishing.

IC1010 pad, 3 psi down-force, 93/87 rpm carrier/platen speed, 7 lbf pressure on Kinik AD3CS211250-1FN conditioning disk, 150 mL/min slurry flow rate.



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OPTIPLANE™ 1601 Slurry Performance – 50% PD Feature



50% PD SiN Loss vs. P2 Polish Time

Low dishing was measured for OPTIPLANE[™] 1601 slurry with respect to P2 polish time.

IC1010[™] pad, 3 psi down-force, 93/87 rpm carrier/platen speed, 7 lbf pressure on Kinik AD3CS211250-1FN conditioning disk, 150 mL/min slurry flow rate.



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50% PD Dishing vs. P2 Polish Time



- Innovative cationic silica particles and an effective additive portfolio enable tailoring of slurry platforms for desired performance.
- Surface interactions between modified silica abrasives and CMP substrates are tuned using surface active components to attain high oxide removal and selectivity to silicon nitride. Dishing control is achieved by incorporation of additives that reduce trench oxide loss in high selectivity applications.
- OPTIPLANE[™] 2118 slurry, OPTIPLANE[™] 1600 slurry, and OPTIPLANE[™] 1601 slurry capture the capabilities of cationic silica abrasives to enable improved performance in FEOL applications.





Thank You

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