# Metallurgical Considerations for PVD Materials







#### Buffalo, NY USA - Manufacturing Facility

• 100,000 ft<sup>2</sup> overall, 6,500 ft<sup>2</sup> of cleanroom, state-of-the-art machining/ milling/rolling/stamping/ cladding centers, target bonding, hydrostatic wire extrusion, high purity refining/recycling, metals casting, automated plating, full analytical capabilities, product Research & Development.

#### Subsidiary of Brush Engineered Materials, Inc.

- (NYSE BW) of Cleveland, OH USA
- Global Business w/ \$500KK +/- Combined Annual Sales





#### **Brewster, NY USA** – *WAM-TFP*

- 35,000 ft<sup>2</sup> with vacuum melting, hot-pressing, milling, hot & cold rolling, automated CNC machining and target bonding capabilities.
- Class 100 clean room with CMM & Automated Cleaning
- Acreage to more than double our facility as required.



# Target Manufacturing Capabilities



## Service and Support

#### Regional Offices (Sales and Applications Engineering support)

Buffalo, NY(manufacturing)Brewster, NY(manufacturing)Philippines(manufacturing)Singapore(manufacturing)Ireland/JV(bonding center)Taiwan(bonding center)Korea(bonding center)Santa Clara, CA(bonding center)

#### > Worldwide Representatives

Florida	Italy
India	China
Japan	Netherlands

Buellton, CA /JV London, England Guadalajara, Mexico\* Dallas, Texas Philadelphia, PA Tucson,AZ Shanghai, China

France

Germany

New England

Manila, Philippines







#### **PVD -** *Physical Vapor Deposition*

- a coating process whereby the deposition species are transferred and deposited in the form of individual atoms or molecules

### Sputtering –

- the bombardment of a solid surface with a flux of energetic particles (ions) that results in the ejection of atomic species

#### **Evaporation** –

- the transfer of material to form a coating by physical means alone, essentially vaporization

Metal Handbook, Desk Edition, 1998, ASM Intl.



- 1. Improved Adhesion
  - The kinetic energy of sputtered atoms or molecules are orders of magnitude greater than of other deposition processes
- 2. Improved Stoichiometry
  - Can maintain composition when sputtering compounds
- 3. Improved Coverage of Steps
  - Higher kinetic energy = better step coverage
- 4. Flexibility
  - Research or volume applications



## **Applications of PVD**

- ➤CD and DVD reflective layers
- >AR coatings
- Semiconductor fabrication
- Decorative coatings
- ≻Hard drives

### ≻LED's







# **How Does Sputtering Work?**

- The ejection of the source material is accomplished by the bombardment of the surface of the target with gas ions accelerated by a high voltage
- Particles of atomic dimension from the target are ejected as a result of momentum transfer between incident ions and the target



"Billiard Ball Analogy"

## **Other Sputtering Notes**

#### ➤ Vacuum

- Sputtering takes place in a low pressure atmosphere of gas (Ar). Argon is used because it is inert, inexpensive and produces reasonable yields of sputtered atoms
- Chamber is first pumped to a high vacuum to rid the chamber of any background or contaminant gases which would degrade the film
- Power Supply
  - May be DC, RF or a mixture of the two
  - Same purpose generate plasma

## **Magnetron Sputtering**

- The rate limiting step in many sputtering systems is the generation of sufficient plasma
- The plasma can be effectively increased by the use of magnets
  - This however affects the erosion of the target and can affect the film uniformity



## **Metallurgical Considerations**

- The sputtering target specifications are interrelated to the thin film desired
- Specifications for a sputtering target often include the following:
  - Dimensional
  - Composition
  - Impurities
  - Grain size
  - Orientation
  - Pass Through Flux (PTF)



#### Proper dimensional tolerances must be held to ensure target fit, proper cooling and general target performance

CNC machining used whenever possible

Intensive quality control measurement





## **Compositional & Impurity**

Off composition or high levels of impurities can effect both the sputtering process itself and the material characteristics of the deposited film

- > Must begin with the correct starting material purity
  - Additional impurities may be added during processing
  - Involves QC analysis of all starting materials
- Must use the correct manufacturing technology
  - Vacuum induction melting
  - Inert gas hot pressing
  - Compatible crucible materials
  - Material segregation
- > QC analysis of all outgoing products







# The grain size of a sputtering target can have a profound impact on the film uniformity of a sputtered film





## Grain Size Con't

# Grain size is controlled in 2 separate ways (melted targets)

- 1. Casting Technology
  - Effects starting grain size and uniformity
  - Especially important for brittle materials VCT<sup>TM</sup>
- 2. Thermo mechanical processing (TMP)
  - Grain size is controlled by the correct sequence of rolling and annealing schedules
    - Percent reduction, number of reductions
    - Annealing time, temperature, atmosphere
- Grain size is checked using metallurgical preparation techniques combined with image analysis





### **Grain Size (Powder Methods)**

#### ➤ Inert Gas Hot Press

- Powder Processing
  - High Melting Temperature
    W/Ti, Ruthenium
    - Unworkable Alloys
      Fe/Si/B/Nb/Cu
    - Ceramics
- ➢ Hot Isostatic Pressing (HIP)
- Controlled by the Mesh Size of the Powder
- ≻ Lower Purity
  - Non-metallics











The crystallographic orientation of the target can also effect the deposited film properties. The general goal is to have a target that has a completely random grain orientation.



One Direction Sputtered Atoms Ejection Unidirectional Grain results:

Unidirectional Deposition



Random Grain results: Random Deposition



- Wrought Target Materials are Polycrystalline
- Each Grain is an Individual Crystal with a Specific Orientation in Space
- Grain Boundaries are Misfit Regions where Crystals Impinge



## **CRYSTALLOGRAPHY** Unit Cells (Cubic Metals)

- The Most Basic Arrangement of Atoms in a Crystal Structure is Called A Unit Cell
- Expanding the Unit Cell in 3 Dimensions Creates a Crystal Lattice



Face Centered Cubic (FCC)



**Body Centered Cubic (BCC)** 



## **Identifying Crystal Planes: Miller**

**Indices** 



**SPUTTERING THEORY Orientation Effects On Sputtering** Planes having High Packing Density of Atoms have High Sputter Yield > Planes having an Open Atomic Packing Density are Most Transparent to Incident Ions and have Low Sputter Yield

For FCC:  $S_{(111)} > S_{(100)} > S_{(110)}$ 

For BCC:  $S_{(110)} > S_{(100)} > S_{(111)}$ 



Desirable Ta Target

Undesirable Ta Target





<sup>2000.0</sup> µm = 100 steps IPF [010]

NOTE: Undesirable Target had FINER Grain Size but a Less Homogeneous Texture than the Desirable Target

## Orientation Con't

Orientation is controlled by:

- 1. Hot rolling of targets
  - Dynamic Recrystallization
  - Random Orientation
- 2. Rotational rolling of targets
  - Target is rolled and rotated at specific intervals to promote randomness
- X-Ray Diffraction (XRD)/EBSD
  - Can be used to confirm a random orientation







## Pass Thru Flux

- When magnetron sputtering is used with a ferromagnetic sputtering target the pass through flux (magnetic lines) becomes critical to the performance of the system.
  - NiFe
  - CoFe
  - CoTaZr

> Also effects sputter target material utilization

## Pass Through Flux (PTF)

- ➤ Variations in the PTF can arise from
- Target thickness
  - Must keep target as perpendicular to cathode as possible
- Alloy uniformity
  - Alloy uniformity can affect PTF
- Processing history
  - Different processing techniques (ex. Rolling) can affect the PTF of the sputtering target



# Summary - Product Attributes

#### High Quality

- Uniform small grain size (SFG<sup>TM</sup>)
- High PTF
- Low Alkali Content
- Low Gas Content
- Highest Purity
- ISO 9001

#### Full Trace Ability

- Bar Coding
- Lot Numbers, Work Orders

#### SPC Data Collection

- Grain Size
- Processing Parameters
- C of A

#### Quality Documentation

- Compositional and Trace Analysis
- MSDS
- 🛿 Grain Size
- Comprehensive Packing Slip
- Ultrasonic C-Scan for Bonded Targets
- PTF Mapping

# Integrated Analytical Capabilities







#### Fully Integrated Analytical Lab

- ICP- Mass Spectrometer (2)
- ICP-CID Spectrometer (2)
- DC Arc Spectrometer
- LECO Carbon, Oxygen, Nitrogen
- Full Metallurgical Lab including Image Analysis
- DSC / DTA Melting Range
- Surface Profilometer
- Hardness Testing (Rockwell and Micro-hardness)
- Fire Assay Refines
- GDMS (2005)
- CMM
- Pass Through Flux (full face PTF)
- University of Buffalo for additional services

#### Nanotechnology will extend CMOS scaling



Nanowires, Naotubes, etc.





DNA scaffold is moved to a silica substrate, where a silver layer binds to the ends of the SWNT not covered with the protein. Gold covers the silver nucleus to create contact wires and complete the transistor—a semiconducting SWNT forming a gate over the silica substrate, connected to two electrodes.

#### Nanotubes/Nanowires ( >> 2010?)

- Collaborations with universities in progress
- Good individual device data, many integration and materials issues to be resolved





#### **Soldier with Nano Gear**





