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Advanced Binary Film for 193nm Lithography Extension to Sub-32nm Node

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Consideration of Mask Cost



- The mask cost increases by multiplication of mfg. cost x "frequency of re-making"
- It is critical for leading-edge masks to maximize their useful life, especially in the high volume production phase

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Can we develop a new film with significantly improved chemical & irradiation durability?

193nm Irradiation on MoSi Film

Before ArF irradiation

After ArF irradiation



193nm Irradiation on Ta Film

Before ArF irradiation

After ArF irradiation



Film Structure and Optical Property

Film structure





	AT01	AT02
Thickness of AR layer	9nm	5.5nm
Thickness of ABS layer	42nm	42.5nm
OD @193.4nm	3.06	3.02
Film side reflectivity @193nm	23.7 %	30.5 %
Backside reflectivity @193nm	37.2 %	38.8 %
Film side reflectivity @257nm	15.9 %	26.8 %



W.L. (nm)

W.L. (nm)

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A thin film is achieved with sufficient OD and optimized reflectivity

Initial Patterning Result



Cross sectional SEM image of 60nm L/S

✓ Vertical profile obtained



TOP view of 60nm L/S

LER: 3.5nm (3 sigma)

Resist: PRL009 100nm w/o HM

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Initial Patterning Performance





Design CD (nm)

Category	Design Range	CD linearity	
		Range	3 sigma
L/S space	1000 - 60nm	6.0nm	4.9nm
IS space	1000 - 60nm	3.5nm	2.4nm
IL line	1000 - 64nm	8.8nm	8.1nm

No correction of EB writing was performed.

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AT01 can be patterned using 100nm resist

Film Stress

Flatness change between initial and after AT01 deposition

Plate	Sub TIR (nm)	AT01 TIR (nm)	Delta TIR (nm)
1	279	276	-3
2	293	281	-12
3	416	430	14



Low stress is observed on AT01



Image Placement Error

Reference: Proc. of SPIE Vol. 7823 78232W-9



Magnification change is near zero (-0.1 ~0 ppm)

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Chemical Cleaning Durability

Test condition per cleaning cycle



AT01 demonstrates excellent mask cleaning durability

Physical Cleaning Durability

Reference: Proc. of SPIE Vol. 7823 78232W-9



No pattern collapse at 62nm patterns

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Degradation Due to 193nm Irradiation



- ✓ Minimal CD shift due to 193nm irradiation
- ✓ No pattern degradation observed



Summary

- Ta was selected as the base material for its dry-etch capabilities and suitable thickness (to achieve satisfactory optical density), as well as its cleaning and irradiation durability
- Ta-based AT01 and AT02 are now fully developed
- AT01 successfully demonstrates high durability to both mask cleaning and 193nm irradiation
- AT01 and AT02 are expected to enhance mask life, resulting in significant long-term savings in total mask related cost in the lithography process

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