



PRESS RELEASE

**SEPTEMBER 1998**

**NIMTEC INC. ANNOUNCES VECTRA LICENSING**

NIMTEC/ Japan Energy is pleased to announce its designation as the first Approved Vendor of titanium consumable parts for Applied Materials® proprietary Vectra™ IMP metal deposition technology. IMP high purity titanium consumables are used in conjunction with a sputtering target to provide enhanced performance in demanding metal deposition processes. The agreement allows NIMTEC/JE to market these parts directly to Vectra™ IMP users worldwide.

As an Approved Vendor, NIMTEC/JE has passed all of Applied Materials® requirements for parts performance and for manufacturing control.

Applied Materials® Vectra™ IMP PVD system provides a major improvement in performance over current PVD processes, extending the applicability of this technology many device generations into the future. This agreement underlines Applied Materials® commitment to also further decrease the Cost of Ownership of PVD metal deposition by allowing customers to work directly with target vendors on all high purity consumable parts.

In the future NIMTEC/JE plans to work with Applied Materials® to offer copper and tantalum consumables for the Electra™ Cu Barrier/ Seed Layer system for Advanced Cu interconnects.

NIMTEC/ Japan Energy supplies high purity metal process consumables to the semiconductor, flat panel display, and magnetic media industries. Service provided through locations world-wide, with headquarters in Tokyo, Japan. In the US contact at 1-800-NIMTEC1; in Japan, (03) 5573-6568.

Vectra and Electra are trademarks of Applied Materials