



PRESS RELEASE

## **NIKKO MATERIALS USA APPOINTS KEIJI KATAGIRI AS PRESIDENT**

### ***Katagiri Brings Over 20 Years of Experience to New Position***

CHANDLER, Ariz. August 8, 2002 Nikko Materials USA, Inc, the leading supplier of consumable electronic materials such as high purity metals and wafers used in the microelectronics and communications industries, today announced it appointed Keiji Katagiri to the position of President for the Chandler facility.

"As president of Nikko Materials USA, I look forward to strengthening systems to improve the ease with which customers interact with us and build greater customer satisfaction," said Keiji Katagiri, Nikko Materials USA president. "My vision is to continue expanding our market share for all of our quality products, including compound semiconductor wafers."

Mr. Katagiri brings a wealth of experience to his position with Nikko Materials USA. Most recently he served as quality assurance section manager with Nikko Materials Co. Ltd., parent company to Nikko Materials USA, at the Toda plant in Tokyo, Japan. In this role Mr. Katagiri was responsible for planning the policy and objectives of the quality assurance section while developing customer satisfaction and improving quality management systems.

Previously, Mr. Katagiri held positions within American Microsystems, Inc. from 1992 to 2000 where as a senior staff engineer he developed new contamination control technologies, achieving the high yield of silicon VLSI devices.

From 1981 to 1992, Mr. Katagiri held a variety of positions with Nikko Materials Co. Ltd. parent company, Japan Energy Corporation (formerly Nippon Mining Co.). Mr. Katagiri continually broadened his semiconductor experience as he progressed from material engineer to process engineer, honing his skills in the research and development of fabrication techniques for laser diodes and light emitting diodes.

An active member in the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, the Japan Society of Applied Physics and several other professional organizations, Mr. Katagiri continually expands his expertise. Mr. Katagiri has published numerous papers on indium phosphide (InP) crystal growth and holds almost 30 patents in the semiconductor manufacturing field.

Awarded with the Nippon Mining Co. President Award in 1988, Mr. Katagiri was recognized for his achievement in the development of InP single crystal growth technique. He also received recognition in 1983 from the Research Center for the development of the precise temperature measurement method on InP melt surface in a high temperature, high pressure chamber.

### **About Nikko Materials USA, Inc.**

Nikko Materials USA, Inc., a recognized leader in the field of high purity metals and wafers used in the microelectronics and communications industries, offers a wide variety of sputtering targets for the manufacture of semiconductors, data storage devices and optical films. In addition to these products, Nikko Materials USA offers ACROTEC InP and CdZnTe wafers widely used for compound semiconductor and IR

sensor applications. Nikko Materials USA operates under parent company Nikko Materials Company Ltd., a Nippon Mining Company headquartered in Tokyo, Japan.