



PRESS RELEASE

NIKKO MATERIALS NAMED ROCKWELL SCIENTIFIC' SUPPLIER OF THE YEAR

CHANDLER, Ariz., February , 2005 Nikko Materials, the leading supplier of consumable electronic materials such as high purity metals and wafers used in the microelectronics and telecommunications industries, was honored at an award ceremony on February 24 by Rockwell Scientific as its Supplier of the Year.

Nominated by Rockwell Scientific for 10 years of outstanding service, Nikko Materials edged out its competitors for the top award by offering excellent performance in business practices, the highest quality products and outstanding delivery performance.

Nikko Materials is truly deserving of this inaugural supplier award as it continually exceeds our stringent expectations in both delivery schedule and material quality, said Dr. Kadri Vural, Vice President of the Imaging Division for Rockwell Scientific Company. Nikko provides us with the world's best compound semiconductor materials, which has contributed greatly to the success of Rockwell Scientific's infrared imaging products.

The Rockwell Scientific awards began in 1975 under then company name, Rockwell International, and included the Engineer of the Year award. In the early 90s they expanded the award program and began extolling additional top honors for Operations Excellence and Team of the Year. This year represents the inaugural presentation of Partner of the Year and Supplier of the Year for Rockwell Scientific.

Recognition by Rockwell Scientific as an outstanding supplier underscores our long-standing commitment to providing the highest quality semiconductor materials possible, said Kurt Williams, sales manager for Nikko Materials USA. To receive such an award, especially the first year it is given out, instills in our team a great deal of pride for the products and services we offer the microelectronics and telecommunications industries.

About Rockwell Scientific Company

Rockwell Scientific Company LLC, based in Thousand Oaks, CA, is an independent, privately owned high-technology enterprise with unique technical strengths in imaging sensors, electronics, optics, materials, and information science. Its range of activities includes performing research services for the U.S. Government and private sector companies, as well as the manufacturing and sale of high-value products and licensing the technologies related to its R&D efforts.

Additional information can be obtained at www.rockwellscientific.com.

About Nikko Materials

Nikko Materials, 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, offers ACROTEC InP and CdZnTe wafers widely used for compound semiconductor and IR sensor applications.

Nikko Materials, is a subsidiary of Nippon Mining Holdings whose core businesses are comprised of petroleum, non-ferrous metals and electronic materials.

Please visit nikkmaterials.com for more information.