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E²Stack[®] AL412 EUV Assist Layer Material

E²Stack® AL412 material has been shown to improve adhesion, process window, pattern collapse, and reduce line edge roughness (LER). This spinon assist layer material can be applied directly onto inorganic substrates or incorporated into a film stack. It is suitable for use under chemically amplified resists (CARs), metal containing resists, and other non-CAR resists.

BENEFITS

- Reduce LER/LWR
- Reduce pattern collapse
- Promotes adhesion and minimizes collapse effect induced by capillary forces during development
- Meets industry standard outgassing requirements
- Versatile material that can be used on a variety of different resists (CARs, metal-containing resists, and non-CAR resists) and different patterns (contact holes, pillars, and line space)

Spin Speed Curve



MATERIAL PROPERTIES

Typical Properties

	248 nm	193 nm	13.5 nm	
n	1.45	1.68	~ 1.00	
k	0.44	0.11	0.006	
Shelf Life at 21°±5°C	12 months			
lons				
Al, Cu, Mg, Mn, Fe	< 5 ppb			
Ca, K, Na	< 10 ppb			

Product-Specific Properties:

Material	Thickness	Spin Speed	Bake
E²Stack® AL412-301.5	15 nm	1500 rpm	205°C, 60 s
E²Stack® AL412-302	20 nm	1500 rpm	205°C, 60 s
E²Stack® AL412-300.5	5 nm	1500 rpm	205°C, 60 s

Results from NXE3300



Use of an assist layer provides lower roughness than resist on silicon hardmasks or substrates.

SEM Cross Sections of L/S



CAR - PTD CD=18 nm



Metal Oxide Resist CD=14 nm

PROCESS RECOMMENDATIONS

Coat

E²Stack[®] AL412 material is applied by a spin-coating process. Apply with dynamic dispense* at 1000 to 3000 rpm and immediately ramp, without spread spin, to 1000 to 3000 rpm for 60 seconds.

*Dispense speed optimization for equipment set is required for thickness uniformity and defect reduction.

Bake

Single-stage hot plate bake at $205^{\circ} \pm 20^{\circ}$ C for 60 seconds. Baking temperature optimization may be required to achieve the desired photoresist profile.

Resist Coat

Resist can be applied over the material without any modification to standard resist spin or bake process. An adhesion promoter is not required.

Resist Develop

Use standard photoresist develop parameters.

Exposure

In most applications, exposure dose may need to be optimized from that of a stand-alone resist process.

Dry Etching

 $\rm E^2Stack^{\circledast}$ AL412 material may be dry etched by a number of plasma etching methods in a range of etch gases including O₂, O₂/CHF₃/Ar, C₂F₆, Cl₂, N₂/O₂, O₂/HBr, and HCI.

Stripping

E²Stack[®] AL412 material can be removed by an oxidizing plasma or an oxidizing solvent-stripping process such as ozone plasma strip, Piranha, or RCA cleaning.

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