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Stone Pillar Technologies Releases Version 4.0 of Stone Pillar Suite for Semiconductor Technology Development

New release improves collaborative test chip development, adds Keithley support for automated test generation, and augments support for process flow management

SANTA CLARA, California, June 27, 2005 – Stone Pillar Technologies Inc. today announced Version 4.0 of Stone Pillar Suite, a software tool suite supporting process technology development from test chip generation through process monitoring.

Software tools within Stone Pillar Suite automate the complex tasks involved in creating a test chip, creating a test plan, managing process flows and experiments, analyzing data, and generating reports. These tools help technology developers and process integration teams gain valuable insight into technology issues from early-stage development through yield improvement. |

Within Version 4.0, the latest release of Stone Pillar TestChipBuilder adds improved support for collaboration by test chip development teams. Object-oriented capabilities now available within TestChipBuilder enable the creation of shared libraries that can be used by entire test chip development teams. In addition, the new version provides process mapping to allow parameterized devices to be used across different process technologies.

Version 4.0 also adds support for Keithley test equipment to the automated test plan generation capabilities offered by Stone Pillar TestPlanManager. Version 4.0 augments the efficiency improvements provided by TestPlanManager with the ability to generate test plans for multiple test systems from a single set of user inputs.

Customers find that the automated capabilities of TestPlanManager reduce the engineering effort of creating test flows significantly. (See <http://www.stonepillar.com/pressreleases/PressRelease20050523.pdf>, "National Semiconductor Reduces Engineering Effort for Test Flow Creation by 90% with Stone Pillar TestPlanManager," dated 23May2005.) TestPlanManager reduces errors and speeds development of test flows by automating many of the steps that have traditionally been implemented by hand.

Version 4.0 also provides enhanced capabilities for process flow management through recipe library support. The impact of changes to library recipes can quickly be analyzed and modifications can be propagated into all process flows where they are used.

"Our customers are demanding greater levels of integration and automation between the many tasks involved in developing a new technology," said Tim Crandle, president of Stone Pillar Technologies. "Stone Pillar Suite provides time savings through automation of key steps such as test chip creation and report generation. Equally

important, Stone Pillar Suite interconnects data from previously separate activities, eliminating errors often introduced during painstaking manual processes.”

Floating licenses for Stone Pillar Suite version 4.0 are available now as either term licenses or perpetual licenses, for either single geographic locations or worldwide. Tools in Stone Pillar Suite are licensed separately, with prices for individual tools ranging from \$10K to \$175K.

About Stone Pillar

Stone Pillar Technologies, Inc. is the leading provider of data management systems for semiconductor process technology development. Stone Pillar Suite enables semiconductor manufacturing and design engineers to gain valuable insight into design-for-manufacturability issues from early-stage technology development through yield improvement.

Products within Stone Pillar Suite automate and optimize tasks such as design rule creation and documentation; test chip development, documentation, and revision; test plan creation; and complete data management, analysis, and report generation. By facilitating detailed data analyses, Stone Pillar Suite reduces engineering costs and capital expenses and speeds the development of new process technologies.

Stone Pillar software is in use by leading semiconductor vendors and at leading research institutions worldwide.

For additional details, visit www.stonepillar.com or contact Stone Pillar Technologies at (408) 748-1105.

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