



Semicon PhotoMetrology Solutions LLC

We have many low-cost solutions that can help keep your fab competitive.

- Contamination removal & control
- Light source management
- Tool & component management

SemiPhotoMet

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**“Helping to keep your
tools productive,
costs down, and
profits high”**

“RetSweep”

**Reticle Blow-off Cleaning
Modification for Stockers**

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What is “RetSweep”?

A modification to reticle stockers designed and tuned to automatically blow-off dust lying on the glass surface of reticles as they are introduced into and removed from the stocker.

How does RetSweep add value?

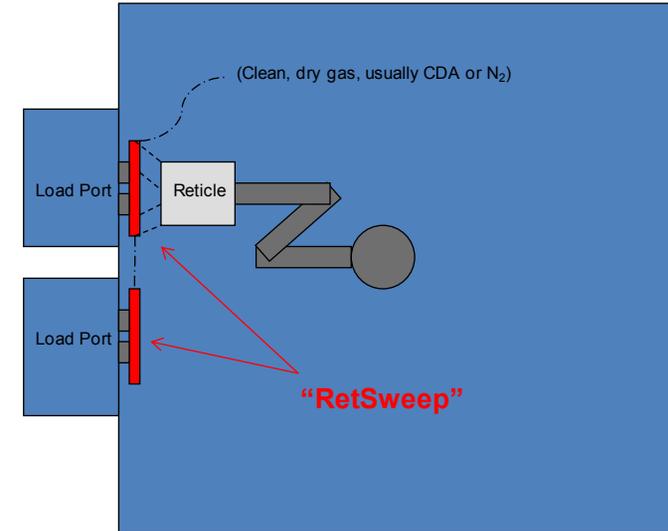
- Increases scanner/stepper productive time.
 - ◇ Particles sitting on the surface of reticles can cause a particle failure at the scanner/stepper causing the tool to sit idle while an operator manually cleans the reticle.
 - ◇ Reduces probability that dust will cause a focus issue at the scanner/stepper.
 - ◇ Reduces probability that dust will migrate onto the edge of the reticle and cause laser reading errors or planarity focal issues.
- Helps keep tools clean.
 - ◇ Reduced maintenance.
 - ◇ Improved performance

Design & Operation

Air knives are utilized to gently blow clean dry air or nitrogen across reticle’s glass surface as the reticle moves into and out of the stocker via the reticle I/O loadports. Sensors are installed and positioned to sense the reticle as it enters and exits the stocker. These sensors turn-on and off the blow-off medium at the correct time and pressure to remove particulates without creating an airborne particulate problem inside the stocker. The air knives are positioned to blow particulates out of the tool where the laminar flow in the clean room can remove them to the subfloor area.

There is no interface with the OEM’s tool software. The unit mounts on the stocker’s frame and is totally independent of other tool functionality, including software. Installation and operation are simple.

How Does this Product Work to Remove Particulate Contamination?



Customer Testimonial:

“We were able to process 120 more wafers per day through our scanners after we installed this unit on our stockers.”