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HiLight Semiconductor announces installation of new UltraFlex-HD next generation ATE test platform at HiLight's Southampton HQ

HiLight Semiconductor, a world leader in CMOS integrated circuit chips for optical communications, today announced the successful installation and commissioning of an UltraFlex-HD test system from Teradyne. The new ATE test system is a significant upgrade from the current Integra-Flex tester used by HiLight, enabling at least a doubling of throughput during high-volume chip testing.

HiLight will use the new test platform to develop efficient, cost-effective test programs for current and future products designed for the highly competitive optical communications market. An 'in-house' ATE tester enables HiLight's test engineers to obtain every last bit of performance whilst focusing on reducing test costs. HiLight's test engineers can also speed up new product introductions by avoiding waiting for engineering time and ATE tester access at supply-chain partners. Nearly all test development can be done 'in house'.

The UltraFlex-HD system will be used to develop test programs for HiLight's high-speed products intended for 25 Gbps and 100 Gbps applications. The system can also be used for a multitude of other functions including customer sampling, product qualification, device evaluation and characterisation.

The UltaFlex-HD can test both die on wafers and industry standard semiconductor packages and is equipped with a handling feeder to enable small volume production test capability allowing HiLight to minimise test capacity issues seen at present within the semiconductor industry.

lain Lochhead, VP Operations at HiLight, commented "The UltraFlex-HD system is widely used by HiLight's supply-chain partners and generally at OSATs within the semiconductor industry. This new platform enables us to minimise supply constraints at a very busy time in our industry"

"The new investment in the test floor of nearly \$1m overall demonstrates HiLight's commitment to developing high performance, leading edge products, whilst ensuring competitive unit costs which enables our customers to develop low cost, high-quality solutions." stated Dr Jess Brown, VP Sales at HiLight.

About HiLight Semiconductor Limited:

HiLight Semiconductor Ltd. is a Venture Capital backed, Fabless chip company, founded in 2012 by veterans of several previous start-ups. Specialising in deep sub-micron CMOS, the company designs and supplies the world's highest performance PMD and PHY ICs for high speed fiber-optics based communications and networking/Datacentre applications.

The company has shipped 85 Million ICs to date.

HiLight is headquartered in Southampton, UK, with design offices in Bristol UK and sales and local technical support offices in China (Shenzhen, Wuhan, Shanghai, Chengdu), Taipei and Japan.