Motion Control & Positioning Solutions

for Semiconductor Manufacturing



"There is not a Single Modern Chip in Mass Production, where PI has not been involved in its Manufacturing or Testing Process.

It is PI's high priority to contribute to the long-term development and success of the global semiconductor industry".

Dr. Karl Spanner, President of Physik Instrumente

Why Rely on PI?

Reliability & Confidence

PI serves all major semiconductor equipment manufacturers for

- Reticle positioning
- Objective positioning
- Wafer positioning
- Inspection tools



Passion for Technology

- ... is in our DNA, and the basis of our reputation for
- High quality engineering
- Manufacturing precision of world-class positioning systems and components

Technological Depth

World leading depth in R&D and production

- From piezo ceramics powder and multilayer actuators
- To highly integrated motion control and positioning systems
- With sub-µm to sub-nanometer precision

Technological Breadth

Very broad range of

- Drive Technologies,
- Sensor Technologies,
- Positioning Technologies
- Control Technologies

The PI Group – Enabling Innovation since 1970

Moving the State-of-Art in Motion Control and Piezo Technology Forward

- 1300+ Employees / 15 Subsidiaries
- Design & Manufacturing in USA, Europe, Asia
- >350 patents
- \$200M Net Sales
- Privately Owned, Independent, Stable
- All Core Technologies Developed In-House
- Vendor to Partnership: OEM Development Together with the Customer

Close to our Customers – All Around the World

America	Asia	Europe	Germany
PI USA	PI Japan	PI UK	PI HQ Karlsruhe
5 Locations	PI Shanghai	PI France	PI Electronics
Israel	PI Singapore	PI Italy	PI Ceramic
	PI Taiwan	PI Benelux	PI miCos
	PI Korea	miCos Iberia	

+ Distributors in Australia, South America, Russia



The Whole is Greater than the Sum of its Parts!

Smarter Motion Control for Semiconductor Manufacturing Equipment

PI Strengths

Nanometer and Sub-Nanometer Precision Actuators, Stages, Drives and Multi-Axis Systems

ACS Strengths

High-throughput Industrial Motion Controllers, w/Distributed Intelligence, Deep Integration.Vast experience in semiconductor applications.

PI ACS

In 2016, PI acquired the majority of ACS **to join forces**

Combined, PI Mechanics and ACS Controls achieve exceptional levels of performance & speed, enabling high yield in industrial processes. PI + ACS enable the next generation of demanding applications in semiconductor manufacturing, including EUV-L, Wafer & Mask Inspection, Metrology, Lithography, etc.

Precision Motion Control and Positioning Solutions

Throughput and Precision for Numerous Applications at Different Levels of Integration

Wide Range of Solutions

- Piezo based actuators
- Piezo motors with nanometer precision and a high feed force
- Multi-axis systems with controllers
- Gantry systems with mechanical, air or hybrid bearings
- Magnetic Levitation: clean and active guiding technology









Controlled by



Countless Tasks for Positioning, Motion Control, Sensing

In Semiconductor Manufacturing – from the Wafer to the Packaged Chip



Lithography – Picometer Precision Ceramic Motors / Actuators

Ultra Precise Piezo Motors for Positioning of Optical Components

Nanometer Precision with a High Feed Force

- Scalable travel range due to scalable runner length
- Resolution to 30 picometers
- Self-locking when at rest, no heat generation
- Nonmagnetic and
- vacuum-compatible operating principle



PiezoWalk Motor – Picometer Resolution (NEXLINE[®]) Multiple Motion Modes

- 50 Picometer Steps in Analog Linear Mode Clearly Visible
- Step Mode for Long Travel Motion







NEXLINE[®] analog (shear) mode provides picometer position resolution

EUV-L and Rapid Prototyping

Proven Competence in the Latest IC Production Technology

High-Precision Positioning System even in Strong Magnetic Fields

- Nonmagnetic
- UHV-compatible to 10⁻⁹ hPa
- Ultra-compact 6 axis design
- Parallel-kinematic motion



UHV-compatible Piezo Flexure Nanopositioning Stages 1 to 6-Axis



P-911 UHV-Compatible Miniature Piezo Hexapod, highly customized development

Reticle and Wafer Inspection

Reticle / Wafer Positioning in X, Y and Z

Plglide: Cleanroom compatible air bearing stage for metrology

- High precision over huge travel ranges
- Low profile
- Bidirectional repeatability $\pm 0.1 \, \mu m$
- High load capacity
- Optional granite base plates
- Cleanroom compatible



A-311 Compact Planar XY Air Bearing Scanner



A-322 XY-Theta Air Bearing Scanner

Silicon Photonics – Fast Alignment Systems

Waver-Level Active Alignment and Optimization for Silicon Photonics

Simultaneous measuring & optimization of in- AND outputs of wafer level optical components

- High-Speed firmware-based alignment routines
- Scriptable Modular Software
- Area scan and gradient search
- Multiple in- and outputs
- 6-Axis hexapod PKM systems or multi-axis stacked positioners







Cascade CM300xi SiP Wafer Prober (Image: FormFactor)

Inspection / Bonding / Testing

On the Fly Focusing / Z- Positioning

PIFOC Nano-Focus Z-positioner with broad range of customizable characteristics

- Sub-Nanometer Resolution Drivenand Sensor Technology
- High Speed Millisecond Settling Time
- High Stiffness Very Stable
- Broad Variety of Travel Ranges



Outstanding lifetime due to Mars-Mission Tested PICMA[®] piezo ceramic actuators

PIRest Piezo Shims – Programmable to Nanometer Tolerances

Latest Technology for Adjustment of Consistently Stable Gaps

Long-term stable positioning of heavy optical elements

- Variable shimming for easy alignment of optical components
- For system qualification and calibration
- During first installation
- Realignment as a consequence of relaxation or temperature drift
- µm travel range and nm resolution



P-131 PIRest Programmable Spacers

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