

Activities of the MEMS Industry Forum

1. 16th International Micromachine/Nanotech Symposium ~MEMS World~

The 16th International Micromachine/Nanotech Symposium was one of the current events held at MicroNano 2010. The Symposium took place on July 28, 2010 (Wed) in Micro/Nano Conference Area A of Tokyo Big Sight, East Hall 5. The audience filled most of the seats in the conference area and contributed to a lively Q&A session.

In order to allow visitors sufficient time to attend the Symposium and still take in the exhibitions, the Symposium was limited this year to an afternoon program, rather than running the entire day, and featured six lectures including the keynote speech.

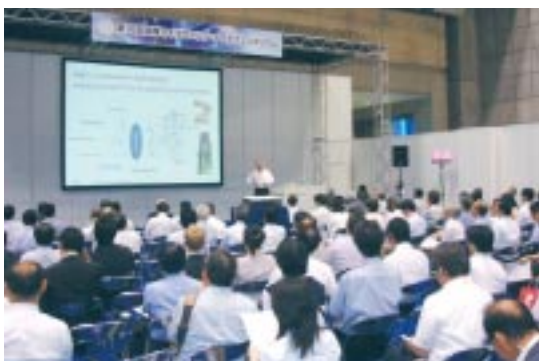
The 16th International Micromachine/Nanotech Symposium adopted the theme “Green Innovation Explored by Ambient Devices” and included presentations from international research institutes overseas detailing their latest results in the field of sensor networks, which is attracting a lot of attention and relates to the G-device Project. For the keynote speech, we turned to Isao Shimoyama, professor in the Graduate School of Information Science and Technology at the University of Tokyo and chairman of the International Exchange Committee established by the MEMS Industry Forum (MIF). As in previous years, simultaneous interpretation was provided.

Other lectures were given by representatives of the following member organizations.

- IMEC-NL of the Holst Centre (the Netherlands)
- CEA-LETI (France)
- Fraunhofer ENAS (Germany)
- BSAC (America)
- Dalsa Semiconductor (Canada)

According to a questionnaire distributed to audience members, most respondents indicated that they were either “mostly satisfied” or “satisfied” with the contents of the lectures, and the evaluations were thought to be consistent. There were also a few requests in the questionnaires from respondents who wished to continue the discussion in a separate room after the symposium in order to ask questions in greater depth, which is a matter to be considered for subsequent events.

We will work to incorporate your suggestions in a timely manner in order to provide a productive program next year.



Speech given by an IMEC researcher

2. MEMS Industry Forum Workshop

The MIF Workshop was held on July 30 (Fri) as Part II of the TIA-NMEMS Symposium. The Workshop offered an opportunity to distribute information on the activities of the MIF and to promote an exchange of opinions.

This year's Workshop was given the subtitle “Preparatory Activities for Implementing a Micro/Nano R&D Center” and served to introduce the MIF's various activities within the context of TIA-NMEMS. The MIF reported on industrial trends and trends in international R&D and international standardization, as well as its efforts to promote MEMS industrialization including activities related to personnel training, foundry services, and the MemsONE design tool. As with Part I of the Symposium, the conference area was substantially full for the Workshop, reflecting a heightened interest in the MEMS industry, trends in MEMS R&D, and efforts to build the R&D center at Tsukuba.

3. International Exchange: Visits to LETI and Fraunhofer and Participation in Nano Korea

As part of its efforts to promote international exchange, the MIF visited France's LETI and Germany's Fraunhofer ENAS and IPMS in June to participate in an exchange of views on the MEMS industry. In addition, the MIF participated as an exhibitor at the Nano Korea exhibition held in Korea in August this year.



The Nano Korea exhibition hall

4. Investigative Committee for an Open Innovation Center

This fiscal year, the MIF established the Investigative Committee for an Open Innovation Center under the Industrial Exchange Committee. The Investigative Committee initiated discussions on the best course of action for implementing a nanotech center at Tsukuba in order to strengthen Japan's international competitiveness in the MEMS industry. The Investigative Committee will also serve as the TIA-NMEMS Working Group that participates in the Executive Council for the Tsukuba nanotech center so that the results of discussions conducted in the Investigative Committee are reported directly to the Executive Council.

The first Investigative Committee meeting held in July and a subsequent council meeting revealed some specific challenges to implementing the center. We intend to continue this thorough investigation in order to help make the Tsukuba nanotech center a reality. Progress in the investigation will be reported on the MMC's Web site (Japanese only).