



## IMPROVE Equipment Forum

9 May 2012  
10 - 13 h

organized by  
**Fraunhofer IISB**

at  
**MINATEC Campus**  
**17 rue des Martyrs**  
**38054 GRENOBLE Cedex 9**  
**France**

Travel information can be found at:  
<http://www.minatec.org/en/infos-acces>

### Scope of the workshop:

- Facing the challenges arising from increased competition and upgrading of requirements for future equipment
- Enhancing the communication and understanding between equipment suppliers, research institutes and IC manufacturers
- Making use of the overlap provided by similar challenges and the chances of increased collaboration
- Background information concerning funding policies and possibilities

Every day work in European SC manufacturing is determined by tackling and overcoming of many challenges that have to be addressed in order to keep competitiveness. Cost decrease per function, reduction of cycle times, improvement of reproducibility and equipment effectiveness and reduction of the environmental impact of the factories at one go are only some key challenges that have to be met. They are, at the best, risen by utilization of joint efforts of processing and metrology equipment manufacturers as well as IC manufacturers and IDMs.

Many problem-solving approaches or even solutions in this regard have been evaluated and demonstrated in the framework of the two European projects IMPROVE and SEAL: IMPROVE on the one hand aims to enhance European semiconductor fabs efficiency by providing methods and tools to better control the process variability, reduce the cycle time and enhance the effectiveness of the production equipment. Thus activities are focused on the three major development areas Virtual Metrology (VM), Predictive Maintenance (PM) and Adaptive Control Plan (ACP) (for more detailed information see <http://www.eniac-improve.eu>). SEAL on the other hand covers assessment activities and related cross-cut R&D activities for processing and metrology equipment in order to qualify the equipment for More Moore and More than Moore applications thus heading beyond the current state-of-the-art (for more detailed information see <http://www.seal-project.eu>).

The close cooperation between participating companies and research institutes up to now results in large advances in knowledge for all mentioned core activities in both projects. The achievements of IMPROVE and SEAL together therefore pave the way for the development of novel equipment that better suits the needs and requirements of the IC manufacturers, thus sustainably strengthening and consequently ensuring the competitiveness of all parts of the European semiconductor industry.

**To further enhance collaboration and foster the exchange of ideas, we invite you to contribute to a vivid and expedient discussion in this respect.**

### Agenda:

- Introduction to the IMPROVE project and obtained key results
- How IMPROVE results influence future equipment
- Status of the 450 mm equipment project EEMI 450
- Discussion
- Background information about funding strategies (KET, Horizon 2020, FP8)