



News Release: Plasma-Therm Acquires Majority Share of Advanced Vacuum to Expand Product Lines and Markets

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St. Petersburg, FL – Plasma-Therm LLC, a leading supplier of plasma etch and deposition equipment, has announced it has secured majority shareholder status of Advanced Vacuum, a leading vacuum and thin film equipment provider headquartered in Sweden. Both operations have partnered to create a strategic alliance with complementary etch and deposition systems that support the needs of R&D through production environments.

This mutually beneficial partnership will strengthen their respective product offerings and expand an established sales and service network. With additional support and funding through Plasma-Therm, Advanced Vacuum will be able to dedicate additional resources to product development.

Thomas Engstedt, CEO of Advanced Vacuum, expressed that “We are very pleased to establish this relationship with Plasma-Therm. Having a world class partner who can provide financial support, technology and a solid service infrastructure will allow us to increase our product portfolio and grow our market share.”

“The two companies, each a leading supplier for etch and deposition systems, will extend their market reach in the areas of dedicated R&D systems, failure analysis and non-clustered platforms. Advanced Vacuum brings an outstanding reputation for providing high performance at low cost and will complement Plasma-Therm’s value driven product portfolio of systems intended for production”, said Abdul Lateef, CEO at Plasma-Therm. “With this transaction we anticipate expansion into applications that will leverage Advanced Vacuum’s capabilities for custom vacuum equipment design and fabrication. The large combined installed system base will benefit from their expertise in control system upgrades.”

Advanced Vacuum, headquartered in Sweden and established in 1993, provides a focused portfolio of services and products for the vacuum and thin film technology industries. Services include state-of-the-art, award winning vacuum and electronics control systems and products that include leading open load plasma etch and deposition systems. Advanced Vacuum is also a key principal OEM

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Plasma-Therm acquires Advanced Vacuum

equipment supplier for northern Europe through representation of Edwards Vacuum, Advanced Energy and Entegris. To learn more about Advanced Vacuum, visit their web site at www.advanced-vacuum.se.

Plasma-Therm, founded in 1974, is a supplier of advanced plasma process equipment offering etch and deposition technologies. Plasma-Therm systems support various specialty markets including solid state lighting, thin film head, MEMS, photomask and compound semiconductor. To meet the diverse needs of our global customer base, Plasma-Therm has sales, service and spares locations throughout North America, Europe and Asia-Pacific. To learn more about Plasma-Therm, visit www.plasmatherm.com.

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