



# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/SG 00/00140

## CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC<sup>7</sup>: H01L 21/56, 21/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC<sup>7</sup>: H01L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

WPI Database

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 6081 978 A (M. UTSUMI et al.) 4 July 2000 (04.07.00) <i>abstract, claims, figs. 1-11.</i>	1,8
A	US 6007317 A (L.E. MESS) 29 December 1999 (29.12.99) <i>abstract, claims, fig. 1.</i>	1,8
A	EP 0548496 A1 (SGS-THOMSON MICROELECTRONICS) 30 June 1993 (30.06.93) <i>the whole document.</i>	1,8
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

<p>* Special categories of cited documents:</p> <p>..A.. document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>..E.. earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>..L.. document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</p> <p>..O.. document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>..P.. document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p>	<p>..T.. later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</p> <p>..X.. document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone</p> <p>..Y.. document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art</p> <p>..&amp;.. document member of the same patent family</p>
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Date of the actual completion of the international search  
**14 February 2002 (14.02.2002)**

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**21 February 2002 (21.02.2002)**

Name and mailing address of the ISA/AT  
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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.

PCT/SG 00/00140

Patent document cited in search report			Publication date	Patent family member(s)			Publication date
EP	A	0548496		none			
US	A	6007317	28-12-1999	US	A	5923959	13-07-1999
				US	A	6164946	26-12-2000
				US	AA	01044171	22-11-2001
				US	BA	6335221	01-01-2002
US	A	6081978	04-07-2000	JP	A2	00286278	13-10-2000