

#### 1.0 Introduction

The AZ IPS-6000 Series advanced electronic product is a i-line and broadband sensitive photoresist that have been developed for use as patterning in semiconductors advanced packaging application (3DIC/TSV, Cu Pillar, FO, WLCSP, MEMS).

The product was developed with Merck's greatest enthusiasm and research & development effort to make it a state-of-art product in the industry that suit a wide range of applications:

- ✓ Electro-chemical deposition/ plating of Cu RDL in WLCSP process
- ✓ Electro-chemical deposition/ plating of Cu, Ni, Sn, SnAg, Au for 3DIC, FO, Flipchip processing.
- ✓ Sacrificial layer for Si etching process in TSV
- ✓ Sacrificial layer for SiO2 or SiN etching process in CMOS sensor processing

The development of AZ IPS-6000 series has also included extensive test and verification to determine it delivers the following performance:

- √ Higher aspect ratio and high resolution
- ✓ Better coating uniformity

- ✓ Straight pattern profile and footing free
- ✓ Enhanced thermal & chemical resistance (plating)
- ✓ Better bubble performance during coating

#### 2.0 Featured Performance

#### 2.1 Extreme high aspect ratio

Note that AZ IPS-6000 is a positive acting chemically amplified photoresist, it enables patterning of extremely high aspect ratio structures, with relatively low exposure dose for the thickness of the film. Typical exposure doses for AZ IPS-6000 series are given in Table 1.

These recommended doses were determined on standard Cu sputtered wafer. Exposure dose on silicon surface will be much lower.

A 5:1 aspect ratio is typically achieved on a lower end exposure tool such as Mask aligner. The performance is even better with utilizing a low NA stepper tool for radiation.



A highest 12:1 aspect ratio pattern has been printed with a CANON FPA-5510iV i-line stepper. Meanwhile 8:1 aspect ratio pattern is typically achievable on an Ultratech AP300 broadband stepper.

Resolution and aspect ratio of pattern printed at various film thickness are shown in Table 2.

Table 1. Typical Exposure dose at various film thickness (broadband exposure on Cu substrate)

Film thickness	Exposure dose (mJ/cm2)
50um	500-700
60um	600-800
70um	800-1000
80um	1200-1400

Table 2. Aspect ratio achieved with various exposure tool.

	AZ IPS-6000			Negative PR
SEM				
Exposure tool	ALIGNER	ULTRATECH	CANON	ULTRATECH
Film thickness	50um	80um	60um	~75um
CD	10um	10um	5um	25um
Aspect ratio	5:1	8:1	12:1	3:1

2.2 Straight pattern profile, less footing

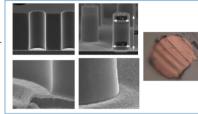
The combination of PAG, base polymer, resin etc has made pattern profile of AZ IPS-6000 series uniquely straight and almost footing-less.

Many had come across issue of collapsed microbump highly linked to footing pattern, as footing length reduce landing area and sturdiness of bumppad bonding.

With less footing and straight pattern profile, it is beneficial to achieve stronger bump-pad bonding and higher shear strength.

Fig 1. Microbump plating (Ø21um) and shear mode with >75%

metal remain.



2.3 Chemical resistivity, close zero dark erosion

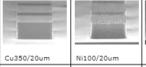
As aforementioned, AZ IPS-6000 series has been tested extensively with different series of commercialized electrolytes. Table 3 shown a list of electrolytes which demonstrate high compatibility and SEM images of plated bump.

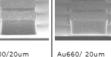


Table 3. List of comparable plating chemistry and SEM inspection of plated

Cu	SC20, SC40, SC50, MSA100, Cu8540, Cu1000, Cu350
Ni	Ni100, Ni200, Nicekl Surfamate (Surtec)
SnAg	TS140, TS202, TS304, BPTS4000
Others	A AEEO.

Micropillar bump (C	cu/Ni/SnAg)	Mushroom bump (Cu/Ni/SnAg)
	(CAN)	







Cu1000/ 26um







Cu1000/Ni100-15/5um

Chemical resistance of a photoresist is also measured by its "dark erosion" or film loss in aqueous developer.

Table 4 shown close-zero film loss of AZ IPS-6000 resist upon dipping in standard TMAH (2.38%) developer for 240sec.

Table 4. Film loss of unbleached resist upon 240sec dipping in standard TMAH (2.38%) developer.

	Wfr 1	Wfr 2	Wfr 3	Wfr 4	Wfr 5	Avg
Bfr Dev.	55.97	55.21	54.51	54.43	54.43	54.91
Post Dev	56.03	55.11	53.83	54.09	54.55	54.72
Film loss	-0.06	0.10	0.68	0.34	-0.12	0.19

Result: Unbleached resist area did not suffer dark erosion or film loss due to standard development by TMAH.

## 2.4 Easy stripping

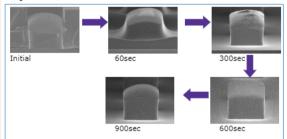
As a known draw back to the negative tone resists, the highly cross-linked resist masks require much stronger stripper and longer solvent strip times.

AZ IPS-6000 photoresist fit in as a solution to difficulties in solvent strip process. It is highly dissolved in acetone, AZ R100 Remover, PGMEA based solvent and other stripper solvent which commercially available for positive tone resist.



Fig. 2 shown clean resist removal in AZ R100 Remover.

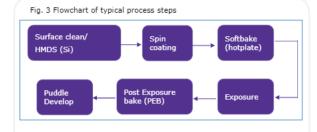
Fig. 2 Resist removal in AZ R100 remover



# 3.0 Easy Processing

Various processing options (equipment) are available, nevertheless, process steps for AZ IPS-6000 resist is rather simple and user friendly for a standard bumping facility setup.

A flowchart of a typical process steps is outlined in Fig 3.



# **Detail process condition**

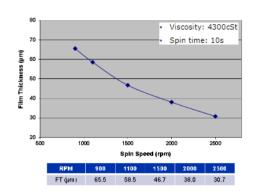
The process may be optimized for time, temperature and dose based on respective tool setup/combination.

Film thickness	FT50um	FT70um	
Coating/Disp.	Dynamic	Dynamic	
Disp volume	~12ml	~14ml	
Softbake	HP1: 80C/180sec HP2: 125C/300sec	HP1: 80C/180sec HP2: 135C/360sec	
Exposure	<ul><li>~500-700mJ/cm2;</li><li>Broadband, i-line</li></ul>	~800-1000m3/cm2;     Broadband, i-line  100C/ 100sec Hotplate	
Post Exp. Bake (PEB)	100C/ 100sec Hotplate		
Develop	<ul> <li>2.38% TMAH</li> <li>3 puddles x50sec</li> <li>2.38% TMAH</li> <li>5 puddles x45sec</li> </ul>		

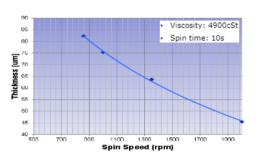




# **AZ IPS-6050 - Spin curve (4300cSt)**



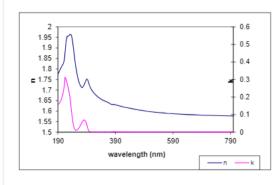
# AZ IPS-6090 - Spin curve (4900cSt)



RPM	860	1000	1350	2000
FT (µm)	82.3	75.3	63.6	45.4



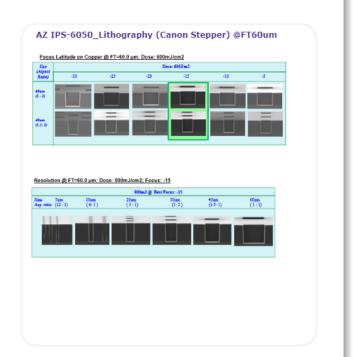
# AZ IPS-6000 series- n & k value





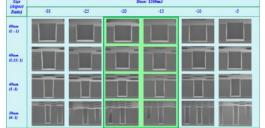
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# AZ IPS-6090\_Lithography (Ultratech Stepper)@ FT80um Focus Latitude on Copper @ FT=80.0 µm; Dose: 1200m.] Sign Dose: 1216m.7 (Apper) 31 43 45 40 45



## Resolution @ FT=80.0 µm; Dose; 1400mJ; Focus; -15

