

ASM International Sues Applied Materials for Patent Infringement

BILTHOVEN, The Netherlands – October 7, 2003 (European time) - ASM International N.V. (Nasdaq: ASMI and Euronext Amsterdam: ASM) and its subsidiary, ASM America, Inc., today announced that they have filed a lawsuit in the U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Texas, Marshall Division, against Applied Materials, Inc. for patent infringement.

The complaint alleges infringement of six of ASM's U.S. patents and seeks injunctive relief from manufacturing, selling, or distributing any infringing products. The complaint also seeks actual and enhanced damages for Applied's willful infringement.

A copy of the filing is available on ASM's website: www.asm.com under News Releases.

About ASM

ASM International N.V. is headquartered in Bilthoven, the Netherlands. ASM International is a global company, serving one of the most important and demanding industries in the world. The Company possesses a strong technological base, state-of-the-art manufacturing facilities, a competent and qualified workforce and a highly trained, strategically distributed support network. ASM International's subsidiaries design and manufacture equipment and materials used to produce semiconductor devices. ASM International and its subsidiaries provide production solutions for wafer processing, assembly and packaging through their facilities in the United States, Europe, Japan and Asia. ASM International's common stock shares trade on Nasdaq (symbol ASMI) and the Euronext Stock Exchange in Amsterdam (symbol ASM). For more information, visit ASM's web site at <http://www.asm.com>

Safe Harbor Statement under the US Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995: The matters discussed in this statement, except for any historical data, are forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements. These include, but are not limited to economic conditions in the semiconductor industry, currency fluctuations, the timing of significant orders, market acceptance of new products, competitive factors, risk factors related to litigation and other risks indicated in filings from time to time with the SEC and Stock Exchange Authorities.

Contact: Robert de Bakker
+ 31 30 229 8540

Mary Jo Dieckhaus
+1 212 986 2900