



SV Probe Acquires K&S Wafer Test Assets Combination Propels SV Probe to Global Top 3

----- FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE -----

(San Jose; California, January 26, 2006) – SV Probe, one of the world’s leading suppliers of high-performance probe cards, today signed an agreement to purchase the assets of the wafer test business of Kulicke and Soffa Industries, Inc. (NASDAQ: KLIC), the world’s leading supplier of semiconductor wire bonding assembly equipment for US\$10M cash.

SV Probe will acquire the wafer test assets to be able to provide continuous service and supply to K&S’ existing customer base for blade, cantilever, vertical, and advanced-vertical probe card products and wafer interface products. This includes certain working capital, production assets, as well as intellectual property.

Kevin Kurtz, President and CEO of SV Probe, said, “The combination of SV Probe and K&S wafer test products has moved SV Probe into the global top three, providing a comprehensive set of innovative and cost effective wafer test solutions. There is tremendous synergy between SV Probe and K&S which will translate into a smooth integration for our customers.”

Scott Kulicke, chairman and chief executive officer of K&S, discussed the decision to divest the probe card business: “We’ve made significant progress with this business over the last few months, including introducing new products, completing our planned product moves into China, and gaining market share. However, this progress has come at the expense of diverting focus away from our goal of being both the technology leader and the low cost supplier in our core assembly markets, and that’s unacceptable.” He added, “We came to the conclusion that our probe card customers would be better served by suppliers focused solely on them. In selecting SV Probe, we’ve found a company committed to continuing to meet the high standard of customer service that has characterized K&S’ ownership of this business, and we’ve structured the sales agreement to insure customers a seamless transition.”

According to VLSI Research, K&S’ probe card business was ranked third in the world in calendar 2004 with US\$65 million in sales, while SV Probe was ranked eighth with an estimated US\$20 million in sales.

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About SV Probe

SV Probe PTE Ltd, a worldwide probe card and test interface manufacturer, utilizes leading edge technology to achieve rigid semiconductor test requirements. As one of the fastest growing probe card manufacturers, our success is due to developing and delivering high quality, innovative products on a consistent, on-time basis. We have combined engineering, sales, customer service, manufacturer and quality assurance teams, with access to the latest in technology investments, to become an innovative leader within the industry. SV Probe is 50% owned by Singapore-based Ellipsiz Ltd. SV Probe's web site address is <http://www.svprobe.com>

Contact: Karen Lynch, Vice President of Business Development
Tel: 1-480-598-2025, Fax: 1-480-598-8559, Email: klynch@svprobe.com

About Kulicke & Soffa

Kulicke & Soffa (NASDAQ: KLIC) is the world's leading supplier of semiconductor wire bonding assembly equipment. We believe K&S is the only major supplier to the semiconductor assembly industry that provides customers with semiconductor assembly equipment along with the complementing packaging materials that contact the surface of the customer's semiconductor devices. The ability to provide these critical assembly related products is unique to Kulicke & Soffa, and allows us to develop system solutions to the new technology challenges inherent in assembling and packaging next-generation semiconductor devices. Kulicke & Soffa's web site address is <http://www.kns.com>.

Contact: Michael Sheaffer, Director, Media & Shareholder Activities
Tel: 1-215-784-6411, Fax: 1-215-784-6167, Email: msheaffer@kns.com

About Ellipsiz Ltd

SGX mainboard-listed Ellipsiz is an outsourced services provider serving the semiconductor and EMS (electronics manufacturing services) industries. Our main businesses include semiconductor manufacturing equipment distribution, probe card design and manufacture, wafer reclaim and pump refurbishment services, and manufacturing test systems integration. The group has operations in Singapore, Malaysia, Taiwan, Vietnam, China and USA. Please visit us on the web at www.ellipsiz.com.

Contact: Alvin Chiang, Director for Investor and Public Relations
Mobile: 65-9046-1368, Email: chiang.alvin@ellipsiz.com