

South Africa

▼ *Keystone Electronic Solutions* received its BBBEE level 4 verification certificate in November last year.



Ivan Popov (left) and John Eigelaar show off Keystone's BBBEE certificate.

Overseas Business

▼ *Exfo* reported encouraging financial results for the first 2010 fiscal quarter ended 30 November 2009. Sales reached \$45,6 million in the quarter, down 1,7% from \$46,4 million in the first quarter of 2009 but up 24,8% from \$36,5 million in the fourth quarter of 2009. GAAP net earnings were \$0,3 million, or \$0,01 per diluted share, compared to GAAP net earnings of \$5,3 million, or \$0,08 per diluted share, in the same period last year and a GAAP net loss of \$1,2 million, or \$0,02 per share, in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2009.

▼ For its third 2009 quarter, *austriamicrosystems* reported revenues of 39,5 million Euros, a sequential quarter-on-quarter increase of 40% and a decrease from 54,0 million Euros in the same quarter of 2008. EBIT for the third quarter improved sequentially to -0,2 million Euros (10,0 million Euros in the third quarter of 2008). The third quarter net result was -0,6 million Euros (9,4 million Euros in the same period of 2008). Basic and diluted earnings per share for the third quarter were -0,05 Euros, compared to 0,86 Euros in the same period the previous year.

▼ *Atmel* announced financial results for its third quarter of 2009. Revenues were \$317,7 million, a 12% increase compared to \$284,5 million for the second quarter of 2009, and a 21% decrease compared to \$400,0 million for the third quarter of 2008. Net loss, on a GAAP basis, for the

third quarter of 2009 totalled \$17,5 million or \$0,04 per diluted share. This compares to a net loss of \$12,4 million or \$0,03 per diluted share for the second quarter of 2009 and a net loss of \$4,7 million or \$0,01 per diluted share for the year-prior quarter.

▼ Announcing results of operations for its first quarter of fiscal 2010, which ended 3 December 2009, *Micron* reported net income attributable to Micron shareholders of \$204 million, or \$0,23 per diluted share, on net sales of \$1,74 billion. These results compare to a loss of \$100 million, or \$0,12 per diluted share, on net sales of \$1,3 billion for the fourth quarter of fiscal 2009 and a loss of \$718 million, or \$0,93 per diluted share, on net sales of \$1,4 billion for the first quarter of fiscal 2009.

▼ Despite paying \$1.25 billion in settlement charges to *AMD*, *Intel* reported fourth-quarter revenue of \$10,6 billion. The company reported operating income of \$2,5 billion, net income of \$2,3 billion and earnings per share (EPS) of \$0,40. For 2009 Intel posted revenue of \$35,1 billion. The company reported full-year operating income of \$5,7 billion, net income of \$4,4 billion and EPS of \$0,77. The company generated more than \$11 billion in cash from operations and paid cash dividends of \$3,1 billion.

▼ *Linear Technology* reported financial results for the quarter ended 27 December 2009. Revenue of \$256,4 million for the second quarter of fiscal year 2010 increased \$20,2 million or 9% compared to the previous quarter's revenue of \$236,1 million and increased \$7,2 million or 3% over \$249,2 million reported in the second quarter of fiscal year 2009. Net income of \$75,5 million increased \$14,8 million or 24% over the first quarter of fiscal year 2010 and decreased \$10,7 million or 12% from the second quarter of fiscal year 2009. Diluted earnings per share of \$0,33 increased \$0,06 per share over the first quarter of fiscal year 2010 and decreased \$0,05 per share from the second quarter of fiscal year 2009.

▼ Foundry chip maker *TSMC* (Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company) announced its net sales for December 2009: on an unconsolidated basis, net sales were approximately NT\$30,47 billion, an increase of 3,8% over November 2009 and an increase of 131,5% over December 2008. Full-year sales for 2009 totalled NT\$285,74 billion, a decrease of 11,2% compared to 2008. On a consolidated basis, net sales for December 2009 were approximately NT\$ 31,55 billion, an increase of 4,1% over November 2009 and an increase of 118,7% over December 2008. Full-year sales for

2009 totalled NT\$295,74 billion, a decrease of 11,2% compared to 2008.

▼ *National Instruments* reported quarterly revenue for Q3 2009 of \$165 million, which represents an 8% sequential increase. Net income for Q3 was \$10 million, with fully diluted earnings per share (EPS) of \$0,13. In Q3 2009, NI virtual instrumentation and graphical system design products, which constitute the majority of the company's product portfolio, experienced a 23 percent year-over-year revenue decline. Instrument control product sales, which represent approximately 7% of NI revenue, were down 28% year-over-year, and up sequentially by more than 20%, after four quarters of sequential decline. Product revenue was \$152 million, down 24% from Q3 2008, and software maintenance revenue was \$13 million, down 9% year-over-year.

Companies

▼ *Yokogawa Europe* has teamed up with *Hitec Power Protection* of the Netherlands to develop a range of high-current power measurement solutions combining Yokogawa's family of precision power analysers with Hitec's Zero-flux range of DC current-transformer based sensors.

▼ *Microchip* has acquired *ZeroG Wireless*, an innovator in low-power embedded Wi-Fi solutions, for an undisclosed amount. The two companies have previously collaborated on product development in the form of WiFi I/O modules and development boards for Microchip microcontrollers. ZeroG is a privately held fabless semiconductor developer of Wi-Fi-certified transceivers and FCC-certified modules, which further strengthen Microchip's wireless offerings by enabling embedded designers to easily connect to this ubiquitous networking protocol with any 8-, 16- or 32-bit PIC microcontroller.

▼ *Origin Energy* of Australia has partnered with *Micron Technology* on a 50:50 joint venture focussing on the development of photovoltaic technology. Specific details of the agreement, such as where the joint venture would be situated or what resources the companies would put into it, have not been revealed.

▼ *IDT* announced it has acquired *Mobius Microsystems*, a developer of precision all-silicon oscillator technology. The transaction is an all-cash agreement for the outstanding Mobius shares. The agreement has already received appropriate board approvals.

▼ *GlobalFoundries* has officially integrated operations with *Chartered Semiconductor Manufacturing* and started functioning as