

2008 Logic and Microprocessors

Semiconductor Product Markets – Worldwide



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Susie Inouye

Myson Robles-Bruce

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Reno, NV 89523

Phone: 775.624.2881

www.databeans.net

Abstract

The computer market is still the largest consumption market for semiconductors, constituting about a one-third share of overall market value. Over half of this revenue comes from Logic and Microprocessors combined. As a result, the most important end-market for these components is the computing market.

However, for the logic market on its own, without microprocessors included, communications (and especially wireless) applications have created a lot of demand. The consumer market continues to provide healthy demand for logic as well.

Demand for notebook computers is continuing along an upward trend, and at least some vendors have made the most of opportunities in the emerging markets. All of the major PC vendors are reporting much higher growth in notebooks than in desktops. But notebook pricing will continue to be affected by the memory and flat panel displays markets. Vendors will have to continue reducing expenses in order to sustain profitability.

Most of the new growth in the communications market has been attributed to increasing wireless demand. While the computer market is still largest for semiconductors, wireless applications have been outperforming the rest of the field, the other major markets, in terms of semiconductor revenue growth, and this trend will continue to accelerate. Consider that for this year, unit shipments for handsets alone will reach 1.3 billion units. All evidence points to continuing high demand for mobile phones, especially from the emerging markets of the world.

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Publication Number: 08SemiProd-Logic

Research Analyst: Susie Inouye

✉ sinouye@databeans.net

Research Analyst: Myson Robles-Bruce

✉ myson@databeans.net
