OhioMEMS Association

Contact:
Dr. Colin Drummond
Drummond@OhioMEMS.org
216-432-0655

Microsystems and Nano Economic Summit to Focus on Products and Profitability

Economic Summit part of NANO Week activities

CLEVELAND – (September 19, 2005) – MEMS (Micro-Electro-Mechanical Systems) and nano-enabled products and profitability will be the focus of the upcoming one-day *Microsystems and Nano Economic Summit: The Business Case* to be held October 21 at the Meyers University Club in Cleveland. The Summit is one of a series of events scheduled for NANO Week, the five-day nanotechnology conference that first debuted in 2004.

The Microsystems and Nano Economic Summit will explore general economic patterns in the MEMS and nanotechnology industries as well as ways to expand and grow this technology to increase revenue for businesses throughout Northeast Ohio. The event is being sponsored by the OhioMEMS Association, a Cleveland-based non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the commercialization of MEMS technology in Northeast Ohio.

The meeting is designed to increase awareness of emerging technology opportunities and leverage investments with companies in the region. Attendees will be business executives, investors, entrepreneurs, policy specialists and economic development leaders who want to learn more about the role of Microsystems and nanotechnology in businesses today.

Internationally renowned experts in the field will discuss industry developments and economic trends in the Microsystems industry. Summit speakers include:

- **John R. Brandt**, Editorial Director of *Inside Business Magazine*
- **Dr. Michael T. Postek**, Leader, Supervisory Physical Scientist, Nanoscale Metrology Group, Precision Engineering Division, Manufacturing Engineering Laboratory, NIST
- **Mike Huff**, Director and Director of the MEMS and Nanotechnology Exchange
- **Alan Epstein,** Professor of Aeronautics and Astronautics at Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- **Christopher Rizik**, Senior Vice President of Operations, Ardesta
- **Troy Prince,** JD, Intellectual Property Group, Thompson Hine LLP
- ASM International will be hosting a Special Panel Discussion "Nano & Microsystems Standards" featuring practitioners and policy specialists to provide views from around the industry.

Dr. Colin Drummond, conference co-chair and Director of Clinical Research for the Invacare Corporation believes the Summit corresponds with local and regional emphasis on innovation and entrepreneurship for technology-rich, high-growth companies.

“Start-up companies in the region are creating innovative devices that require investor support. MEMS technology ultimately helps companies looking to improve product offerings while improving financial viability,” said Dr. Drummond.

“Despite initial skepticism, we now have the technological ability to manufacture products lighter, smarter, cheaper, cleaner and more accurately using MEMS," said Dr. Drummond. “But we need to increase public awareness and bolster investments in order to get these exciting products out of the laboratories and into the commercial market. MEMS is a $2-$3 billion industry in the United States today, but nearly invisible to the average person.”

Current event sponsors include: ASM International, Invacare Corporation, and Orbital Research.

To register for this event or to inquire about sponsorship opportunities, please contact the OhioMEMS Association at 216-432-0655 or email Summit@OhioMEMS.org. The registration fee to attend the Summit is $95.

October 17-21 is NANO Week in Cleveland, a five-day exploration and celebration of how nanotechnology is changing our world. NANO Week is hosted by the Nano-Network, an Ohio-based nanotechnology educational, networking and advocacy group. For additional information on NANO Week activities, please visit www.nano-network.org.

About OhioMEMS Association:
Ohio MEMS Association, Inc. is a non-profit organization formed in October 2002, to advance the commercialization of MEMS technology in Ohio. Our mission and strategy are centered around fundamental commercialization issues such as industry-wide product launch barriers, workforce development, and inadequate public and investor awareness of MEMS technology.
www.OhioMEMS.org