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US-TAIWAN BUSINESS COUNCIL RELEASES Q1 2004 SEMICONDUCTOR REPORT, ANNOUNCES US-TAIWAN-CHINA TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATION SEMINAR SERIES

The US-Taiwan Business Council today announced the availability of "Semiconductor Report – First Quarter 2004", the latest in a series of reports analyzing developments and emerging trends in the integrated relationship between the U.S., Taiwan, and China in the semiconductor industry. This report is part of a suite of products and services available to Council members in the technology community, including weekly sector-specific news eBulletins, quarterly and annual analysis reports, strategic consulting, relationship building, and an ongoing series of technology events.

This report analyzes the impact of Taiwan President Chen Shui-bian's re-election on the nation's semiconductor industry, the significance of Semiconductor Manufacturing International Corporation's (SMIC) IPO in March, and the consequences for China's decision not to implement the WAPI standard for wireless products sold in China.

The report also highlights the pending WTO case against China's discriminatory Value-Added-Tax (VAT) on semiconductors. In particular the report states, "The damage to Taiwan chipmakers...is that the VAT encourages overseas semiconductor designers to use Chinese foundries for chip production" and "the pain for Taiwan is precisely in the lost chip orders."

The Council also announced today it will host a quarterly seminar series with the Center for Strategic & International Studies (CSIS) focusing on the challenges and opportunities the global technology industry faces with the growing economic integration of the U.S., Taiwan, and China markets. In addition, the seminar series will closely examine the impact integration has on the wireless communications, consumer electronics, and semiconductor industries, the three largest technology growth areas in the US-Taiwan-China economic relationship. The first seminar will take place on May 27, 2004 in Washington, D.C.

Please contact Judson Payne, Director of Corporate Affairs, at JPayne@us-taiwan.org or (703) 465-2930 for further information on the seminar series and how to obtain a copy of the report.

About the US-Taiwan Business Council: The US-Taiwan Business Council is a membership-based non-profit association, founded in 1976 to foster trade and business relations between the United States and Taiwan. The Council provides its members with business intelligence, access to an extensive network of relationships, and serves as an effective representative in dealing with business, trade, and investment matters.

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