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## PRESS RELEASE

### **Xycarb Ceramics wins Supplier of the Year 2008 from SUMCO USA**

**Helmond, The Netherlands and Phoenix, AZ, USA, March 4, 2009**, SUMCO USA awards Xycarb Ceramics B.V. as Supplier of the Year 2008 for graphite products. A thorough supplier evaluation on costs, quality, delivery, service and technology revealed that Xycarb is the best performing supplier. "SUMCO appreciates Xycarb Ceramics' efforts to provide on-going communications regarding product life continuous improvement plans, product variability reduction plans, business continuity plans, technological roadmaps and change horizon forecasts", according to James K. Fortman, Corporate Director of Purchasing. "Our entire company is proud on this achievement. In these tough times this is a great morale boost." according Mr. Michiel Festen, Business Manager of the concerning Graphite Business Unit at Xycarb Ceramics. Mr. Peter Spit, General Sales and Marketing Manager at Xycarb Ceramics, enthusiastically explains "This recognition shows our continuous commitment to our customer base to improve their competitiveness and our technology leadership".

#### **About SUMCO Corporation:**

SUMCO Corporation (SUMCO) is an international leader in the production of ultra-pure, defect-free, single crystal silicon wafers for the global semiconductor industry. SUMCO provides state-of-the-art products, high-tech solutions and technologies to customers worldwide, and offers the broadest technology base in the wafering industry. SUMCO operates 12 manufacturing facilities located in Asia, Europe and the United States.

Website: [www.sumcousa.com](http://www.sumcousa.com)

#### **About Xycarb Ceramics B.V.:**

Xycarb Ceramics is a leading company providing a complete range of Graphite, Quartz and Ceramic consumable parts and complementary products for the wafer processing industry. Xycarb solutions are used by a by a worldwide range of customers to produce advanced devices for the electronic, opto-electronic and solar applications. Xycarb has its headquarters in Helmond, The Netherlands and is a division of the Schunk Group. Xycarb products and services are supported by a Global Sales and distribution network providing cost effective logistics. Our operations and subsidiaries are in Helmond (NL), Hapert (NL), Georgetown (TX, USA), Hsin Chu (TWN) and Singapore plus Sales offices in Japan, Korea and Germany.

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# 2008 Supplier of Year Awards



## Gases & Chemicals

*Nissan Chemical*

## Graphite

*Xycarb Ceramics*

## Mid-Process

*JH Rhodes*

## Packaging

*Entegris*

## Quartz Crucibles

*None\**

## Polysilicon

*Hemlock Semiconductor*

*\* Scoring of 80 or Higher*