

Document title:	Glossary of Semiconductor Terms GlobalFoundries
Capture URL:	https://gf.com/about-us/gf-in-the-community/stem-at-gf/glossary-of-terms/
Page loaded at (UTC):	Tue, 13 May 2025 20:54:55 GMT
Capture timestamp (UTC):	Tue, 13 May 2025 20:55:45 GMT
Capture tool:	10.55.0
Collection server IP:	54.145.42.72
Browser engine:	Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Linux x86_64) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/126.0.6478.234 Safari/537.36
Operating system:	Linux (Node 20.17.0)
PDF length:	4
Capture ID:	hZudMrnZ1duePWqKLndDJD
Display Name:	johnathon.mann

PDF REFERENCE #: 9qXzBFS3qMdeJ86HnZkiNV

Glossary of Semiconductor Terms

Advanced Manufacturing: "Manufacturing" is making things, whether it's food, paper, cars, or computer chips. "Advanced Manufacturing" means there is a lot of automation used to make things. The semiconductor industry is considered Advanced Manufacturing.

Bunny suit: The suits that people wear in the fab. They keep us from shedding lint and dust onto the wafers.

Chips or Computer Chips: The "brains" inside many of today's devices like smartphones, tablets, VR headsets, laptops, etc. Sometimes people call chips "semiconductors" or "integrated circuits".

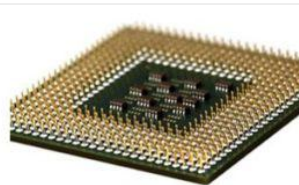
Die: Hundreds, or even thousands of chips, are built onto a single wafer. When the wafer is finished, we dice up the individual chips, also called die.



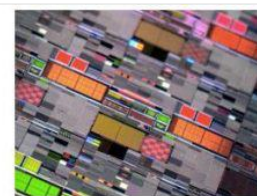
Advanced Manufacturing



Bunny Suit



Chips or Computer Chips



Die

Fab: Short for "fabrication", which means "manufacturing" or "making". The fab is where we the make semiconductors. Sometimes we refer to the fab as the "clean room"

Semiconductor: When people talk about "semiconductors" they are talking about computer chips, or simply "chips". The chips are built onto silicon, which is not a conductor or an insulator, but has properties in between – that's where we get the name semiconductor.

Silicon: An element (with the chemical symbol Si) that we can get from sand or quartz (which is Silicon Dioxide, chemical symbol SiO₂). When melted at high temperatures, pure silicon can be pulled into a solid cylindrical ingot and then sliced into thin wafers.



Semiconductor: When people talk about semiconductors they are talking about computer chips, or simply chips. The chips are built onto silicon, which is not a conductor or an insulator, but has properties in between – that's where we get the name semiconductor.

Silicon: An element (with the chemical symbol Si) that we can get from sand or quartz (which is Silicon Dioxide, chemical symbol SiO₂). When melted at high temperatures, pure silicon can be pulled into a solid cylindrical ingot and then sliced into thin wafers.



Transistors: The tiny devices built into the computer chips that do all of the calculations. There can be billions of transistors on a single computer chip! On GF chips, each transistor can be as small as 12 nanometers.

Wafer: The flat round disk of silicon, which chips are built on.

Explore STEM@GF

K-12 Activities

For K-12, we share fun, engaging hands-on activities that educate students about semiconductor concepts. The activities can be easily be connected to math and science topics in the classroom.

[Learn More >](#)

Pathways to Careers at GF

For High School and College, we show students what jobs are like in the field of semiconductors and what pathways to consider taking.

[Learn More >](#)

Where you Can Find GF Chips

GlobalFoundries chips are found inside smartphones, and in the infrastructure that makes everything work.

[Learn More >](#)

Glossary of Terms

Glossary of semiconductor terms

[Learn More >](#)

About GlobalFoundries

GlobalFoundries has four global manufacturing sites located in the U.S. (Malta, NY and Essex Junction, VT); Dresden, Germany; and Singapore.

[Learn More >](#)



For feedback, questions, or suggestions about this website please contact education@globalfoundries.com

Glossary of Terms

Glossary of semiconductor terms

[Learn More >](#)

About GlobalFoundries

GlobalFoundries has four global manufacturing sites located in the U.S. (Malta, NY and Essex Junction, VT); Dresden, Germany; and Singapore.

[Learn More >](#)

For feedback, questions, or suggestions about this website please contact education@globalfoundries.com

We shape what's essential

Join GF and help us shape what's essential

[Search Openings at GF](#)



GlobalFoundries (GF) is a leading manufacturer of essential semiconductors the world relies on to live, work and connect. We innovate and partner with customers to deliver more power-efficient, high-performance products for high-growth markets. With our global manufacturing footprint spanning the U.S., Europe, and Asia, we are a trusted and reliable source for customers around the world.

At GF, we shape what's essential.

Company

[About us](#)
[Careers](#)
[Newsroom](#)
[Investor relations](#)
[Contact us](#)

Quick links

[Technology platforms](#)
[Markets](#)
[Manufacturing services](#)
[GF communities](#)
[GF Connect](#)
[Supplier portal](#)

Connect with us



[Privacy policy](#) [CCPA](#) [Terms & conditions](#) [Intellectual property](#) © Copyright 2025