

Ensuring your equipment arrives Automation Ready

Service Overview

To assist IC manufacturers with complex automation and integration requirements, PEER Group offers complete Automation Capabilities Management (ACM) services. These services are targeted at improving newly purchased equipment that lacks a high quality SEMI® standards implementation, or that does not meet their unique fab automation needs.

Our ACM services provide the rigorous process, experienced supplier guidance, and solid industry relationships to expertly identify and resolve automation issues with new equipment. This lets manufacturers integrate equipment into their fab faster, reducing time to full automated production.

How does the ACM process work?

PEER Group starts by understanding your fab's automation strategy. We then translate those needs into a specific set of requirements for all tools. The results are clear technical specifications that you and your suppliers can use to develop testable compliance metrics.

We also provide the skilled resources to communicate your requirements to suppliers, assess and test their equipment for compliance, and provide expert guidance for needed changes.

With ACM, the capabilities delivered with each piece of equipment should comply with the applicable SEMI standards and your specific automation needs. This helps ensure that newly purchased equipment arriving in your fab is ready for automation.

Why would ACM benefit you?

IC manufacturers invest considerable effort specifying, evaluating, and negotiating for semiconductor equipment based on their fab's unique process and production requirements. Equipment typically arrives at the fab ready to process wafers, but not ready for automated production.

With ACM, PEER Group helps you specify, qualify, and communicate automation needs to your supplier community.

- ▶ With clear, testable requirements, your suppliers have a better chance of understanding your unique automation needs.
- ▶ Our extensive experience with equipment automation integration helps us to better communicate your unique requirements to your equipment suppliers.
- ▶ Early communication and testing means you can identify automation shortfalls before the equipment ships to your fab.
- ▶ Automation deficiencies can be corrected on the equipment, rather than in fab equipment interfaces, avoiding costly work-arounds.
- ▶ Past ACM projects have resulted in significantly shorter equipment interface cycle times.

What does PEER Group provide?

PEER Group supplies the experience, the global resources, the methodology, and tools to implement a total ACM solution.

- ▶ Senior Supplier Technical Managers direct all ACM phases: identifying automation needs, working closely with suppliers, and ensuring necessary improvements are made.
- ▶ A dedicated team of Test Engineers verify equipment conformance, both at the suppliers' facilities and at the fab.
- ▶ The largest base of experienced semiconductor and 300mm software engineering resources of any systems integrator in the industry.
- ▶ Proprietary software for evaluating and tracking automation requirements, equipment performance, and supplier action items.
- ▶ Complete testing for correctly implemented SEMI standards compliance, using industry accepted software tools.
- ▶ A thorough testing process, based on International SEMATECH® 300mm equipment software conformance tests and methodology.

About ACM

Automation Capabilities Management is a proven methodology and process that

- ▶ Assists in the development and definition of your equipment automation requirements
- ▶ Communicates those requirements to the supplier community
- ▶ Establishes an equipment's automation capabilities and limitations, early enough to protect your automation deployment plan
- ▶ Ensures that suppliers' automation deliverables conform to your technical procurement requirements

PEER Group's ACM process and deliverables

Our ACM process is established yet flexible process, with concrete deliverables. The entire process, including test results and supplier communication, is tracked in a comprehensive database application.



About ACT

The complementary Professional Service offering for equipment suppliers is Automation Compliance Testing. ACT is a proven methodology and process that

- ▶ Evaluates equipment performance against the SEMATECH 300mm automation baseline requirements.
- ▶ Assists in the development and planning of equipment automation improvements.
- ▶ Ensures you have correctly implemented your customer's specific automation requirements.
- ▶ Provides an objective, third-party analysis of your equipment's automation capability

By requesting SEMATECH's 300mm automation conformance tests in your equipment purchase specifications, you can reduce the ACM cycle time and cost.

For more information

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