

Factbox: Chinese chipmaking equipment manufacturers filling void left by U.S. export restrictions

SHANGHAI, March 6 (Reuters) - The United States is working to expand its restrictions on the export of chipmaking equipment to China by securing cooperation with the Netherlands and Japan, forcing Chinese chipmakers to turn to domestic suppliers such as those listed below.

SHANGHAI MICRO ELECTRONICS EQUIPMENT (SMEE)

SMEE is China's only producer of lithography machines used in semiconductor manufacturing, making it the country's only potential competitor to the Netherlands' world-leading lithography machine maker ASML Holding NV (ASML.AS). However, it remains well behind ASML and Japanese peers.

It has developed machines capable of producing chips at the 90 nanometre node standard, its website showed. That technology was perfected roughly 20 years ago and is sufficient for low-end chips useful for some power-management purposes.

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