



## PRESS RELEASE

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### Plessey EPIC Sensor wins IET Award

**Plymouth, ENGLAND – 11 November 2011 –** Plessey Semiconductors' Electric Potential Integrated Circuit (EPIC) sensor won the IET "Measurement In Action" Award at the IET Innovation Awards Gala Dinner held on 9th November 2011 at the Intercontinental Hotel, London. Organised by the IET (The Institute of Engineering and Technology), the award was presented to Plessey Semiconductors and the Department of Engineering and Design at the University of Sussex, who did the original research.

The awards recognise the most innovative companies operating within a wide variety of engineering and technology disciplines, with winners announced in 15 categories including Asset Management, Measurement in Action, Emerging Technologies, Transport, and Telecommunications. Entries were assessed for the level of innovation shown, the thoroughness with which ideas have been pursued, the economic or social benefits involved, and the degree to which the work has pioneered a significant new field or activity.

According to the judges, "This entry has been chosen as the winner for its development of an electrical measurement technique for exploitation in a wide range of markets. Thanks to its high sensitivity, this sensor can be used to detect electric charge through an insulating layer. It has application in healthcare, materials testing, security and forensics and has already received several awards for innovation in sensor technologies. The technology has been commercialised with several industrial partners and products are now on the market."

Dr Paul James, Plessey Semiconductors' EPIC Programme Director, added, "We are delighted that EPIC has won another prestigious award. To receive so many awards from our peers is a tremendous testament to this innovative technology."

Professor Mike Short, President of the IET, commented: "These awards are a great way to showcase some fantastic innovations taking place in engineering and technology worldwide. The winners this year come from a wide variety of backgrounds and many have aimed to solve issues that impact our society; from saving lives to helping deliver a brighter and greener future. The IET Innovation awards offered are an important annual landmark for the IET, illustrating some of the latest and best ideas and designs that align with our core vision of advancing knowledge to enhance and improve people's lives."





*From left to right: actor Robert Llewellyn, who hosted the event; Dr Keith Strickland, Plessey's Technology Director; Dr Paul James, Plessey's EPIC Programme Director; Professor Robert Prance, Professor of Sensor Technology University of Sussex; Robin Hart, Director of Programmes at NPL who sponsored the Award.*

Video demos of EPIC can be found at [http://www.plesseysemiconductors.com/media\\_video.html](http://www.plesseysemiconductors.com/media_video.html)

#### **About Plessey Semiconductors Limited**

Plessey Semiconductors are the leading experts in the development and manufacture of semiconductor products used in sensing, measurement and controls applications. Plessey's products are found in a wide range of markets including communications, manufacturing, medical, defence, aerospace and automotive. Plessey designs their products specifically for high performance applications and its range of integrated sensing products includes electric potential sensors, CMOS image sensors and Hall Effect devices. These products all benefit from Plessey's high precision, high temperature and radiation tolerant technologies. Further details at [www.plesseysemi.com](http://www.plesseysemi.com). Enquiries to [sales@plesseysemi.com](mailto:sales@plesseysemi.com)

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