

Dutch firm ASML clinches 1.1 bn euro deal with Taiwan's TSMC

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Dutch-based ASML, a key global supplier of computer chip-making systems, said Sunday it has clinched an investment deal with Taiwanese semiconductor giant TSMC worth over a billion euros (\$1.24 billion).

"[ASML](#) Holding announces that TSMC has joined (ASML's) customer co-investment programme for innovation, committing to invest 276 million euros in research and development," the Dutch company said in a statement.

The Taiwanese firm will invest a further "838 million euros in a five percent ASML [equity stake](#)," the Dutch firm added.

The deal is part of a five-year programme in which companies are invited to invest in ASML's research and development to help speed up advances in tools for making [computer chips](#).

As part of the programme, ASML may also issue shares to clients reaching a total of a 25 percent stake in the company, which is based in Veldhoven in southern Netherlands.

Last month, US-based Intel Corporation announced it was putting in around 3.3 billion euros in ASML and buying up to a 15 percent equity stake in the Dutch firm, to speed up the development of technology for chips made on 450-millimeter diameter semiconductor wafers.

"TSMC is now our second partner," ASML spokesman Lucas van

Grinsven told AFP, adding "with a 15 percent going to Intel and five percent going to TSMC, five percent is still available."

ASML operates in 16 countries and manufactures machines used to make [integrated circuits](#) and semiconductors. It has some 8,000 full-time employees.

Headquartered in northwestern Taiwan's Hsinchu, the Taiwanese Semiconductor Manufacturing Company ([TSMC](#)) is the world's first dedicated semiconductor foundry and employs more than 33,000 people world-wide.

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