

Construction Analysis

Qlogic ISP1040B SCSI I/O Processor

Report Number: SCA 9710-557



INTEGRATED CIRCUIT ENGINEERING

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INTRODUCTION

This report describes a construction analysis of the QLogic ISP1040B SCSI I/O Processor. Six devices were supplied for the analysis which were packaged in 208-pin Plastic Quad Flat Packs (PQFPs) and date coded 9721.

MAJOR FINDINGS

Questionable Items:¹ None.

Special Features:

- Three metal, twin-well CMOS process.
- Sub-micron gate lengths (0.5 micron).

¹These items present possible quality or reliability concerns. They should be discussed with the manufacturer to determine their possible impact on the intended application.

TECHNOLOGY DESCRIPTION

Assembly:

- Devices were packaged in 208-pin Plastic Quad Flat Packs (PQFPs).
- Copper (Cu) gull-wing leadframe tinned with tin-lead (SnPb) solder.
- Dimpled paddle for added package strength, paddle was seated on a heat-spreader (Al). Paddle was attached to the heatspreader by a thermal adhesion. Heatspreader was not visible on x-ray (Figure 2).
- Paddle was constructed of copper (Cu) and internally plated with silver (Ag).
- Lead-locking provisions (anchors) at all pins. Lead-locking holes at paddle tie bars.
- Thermosonic ball bond method employing 1.1 mil O.D. gold wire.
- Sawn dicing (full depth).
- Silver-epoxy die attach.

Die Process

- Fabrication process: Selective oxidation CMOS process employing twin-wells, on a P-substrate.
- Overlay passivation: A layer of silicon-nitride over a multilayered glass over a thin layer of silicon dioxide.
- Metallization: Three levels of metal defined by dry-etch techniques. All levels consisted of aluminum with titanium-nitride caps and barriers and thin titanium adhesion layers. All metal levels utilized standard vias and contacts.

TECHNOLOGY DESCRIPTION (continued)

- Intermetal dielectrics (IMD2 and IMD1): Both interlevel dielectrics consisted of multiple layers of deposited glass with an SOG (spin on glass) between for planarization.
- Pre-metal glass: A single layer of CVD glass (BPSG) over various densified oxides. Reflow was done prior to contact cuts.
- Polysilicon: A single layer of dry-etched polycide (poly and tungsten-silicide). This layer was used to form all gates on the die.
- Diffusions: Standard implanted N+ and P+ diffusions formed the sources/drains of transistors. Oxide sidewall spacers were used to provide the LDD spacing and were left in place.
- Isolation: LOCOS (local oxide). A step was noted in the oxide at well boundaries.
- Wells: Twin-wells were employed on a P substrate (no epi was used). The step in the oxide indicates a twin-well process was employed.
- Memory cells: A 7T SRAM cell design consisting of three polycide select gates, two polycide storage gates, and two polycide pull-up transistors. Metal 3 was not directly used in the array. Metal 2 provided bit lines, word line B, and distributed GND and Vcc. Metal 1 provided cell interconnect and word lines A and C. Polycide formed all gates.
- Buried contacts: No buried (poly-to-diffusion) contacts were employed.
- No fuses were noted.
- Anti-dishing patterns were employed and power bus lines were slotted and beveled for stress relief.

ANALYSIS RESULTS I

Assembly:

Figures 1 - 8

Questionable Items:¹ None.

Special Features:

- Dimpled paddle on heatspreader.

General Items:

- Devices were packaged in 208-pin Plastic Quad Flat Packs (PQFPs).
- Overall package quality: Normal. No defects were found on the external or internal portions of the packages. The leadframe was constructed of copper (Cu) and tinned with tin-lead (SnPb). External pins were well formed and tinning of the leads was complete. No gaps were noted at lead exits. The paddle was plated with silver. Dimpled paddles were used for added package strength. The heatspreader (Al) was used below the paddle to distribute heat evenly in the package.
- Wirebonding: Thermosonic ball bond method using 1.1 mil O.D. gold wire. No bond lifts occurred and bond pull strengths were good (see page 10). Wire spacing and placement was also good; intermetallic formation was complete. All three metal levels formed the bond pad structure.
- Die attach: Silver-epoxy of normal quantity and quality.
- Die dicing: Die separation was by sawing (full depth) and showed normal quality workmanship. No large chips or cracks were present at the die surface.

¹These items present possible quality or reliability concerns. They should be discussed with the manufacturer to determine their possible impact on the intended application.

ANALYSIS RESULTS II

Die Process and Design:

Figures 9 - 30

Questionable Items:¹ None.

Special Features:

- Three metal, twin-well, CMOS process.
- Sub-micron gate lengths (0.5 micron P-channel).

General Items:

- Fabrication process: Selective oxidation CMOS process employing twin-wells in a P substrate (no epi).
- Design and layout: Die layout was clean and efficient. Alignment was good at all levels.
- Die surface defects: None. No contamination, toolmarks, or processing defects were noted.
- Overlay passivation: A layer of silicon-nitride over a multilayered glass over a layer of silicon-dioxide. Overlay integrity tests indicated defect-free passivation. Edge seal was good.
- Metallization: Three levels of metal defined by dry-etch techniques. All levels consisted of aluminum with titanium-nitride caps and barriers and thin titanium adhesion layers. All metal levels utilized standard vias and contacts.

¹These items present possible quality or reliability concerns. They should be discussed with the manufacturer to determine their possible impact on the intended application.

ANALYSIS RESULTS II (continued)

- Metal patterning: All metal layers were defined by a dry etch of good quality. Contacts and vias were completely surrounded by aluminum. Metal 1 and 2 lines were widened around contacts.
- Metal defects: None. No voiding or notching of the metal layers was found. No silicon nodules were observed following removal of the metal layers.
- Metal step coverage: Metal 3 aluminum thinning up to 25 percent. Metal 2 aluminum thinning up to 65 percent thinning. Metal 3 aluminum thinning up to 60 percent. No problems foreseen.
- Intermetal dielectrics (IMD2 and IMD1): Both interlevel dielectrics consisted of multiple layers of deposited glass with an SOG (spin on glass) between for planarization.
- Contacts: Via and contact cuts appeared to be defined by a dry-etch process. No significant over-etching was found. The cap metals were cleared on metals 1 and 2 at vias for better adhesion. Contact cuts were sloped at all levels to aid in metal coverage.
- Pre-metal glass: A single layer of CVD glass (BPSG) over various densified oxides. Reflow was done prior to contact cuts.
- Polysilicon: A single layer of dry-etched polycide (poly and tungsten-silicide). This layer was used to form all gates on the die. Definition and coverage was good.
- Isolation: Local oxide (LOCOS). No problems were present at the birdsbeaks or elsewhere.
- Diffusions: Standard implanted N+ and P+ diffusions formed the sources/drains of transistors. An LDD process was used employing oxide sidewall spacers. The spacers were left in place. Diffusions were not silicided. No problems were found in these areas.

ANALYSIS RESULTS II (continued)

- Wells: Twin-wells in a P substrate. Definition was normal. The P-well could not be delineated; however the step in the oxide at the well boundaries indicates a twin-well process was employed.
- Buried contacts: No buried contacts were used.

Special Items:

- ESD sensitivity: Two samples were subjected to ESD tests which revealed all pins passed following pulses of $\pm 4000\text{V}$.

PROCEDURE

The devices were subjected to the following analysis procedures:

External inspection

ESD sensitivity test

X-ray

Package section and material analysis

Decapsulation

Internal optical inspection

SEM inspection of assembly features and passivation

Passivation integrity test

Wirepull test

Passivation removal and inspect metal 3

Delayer to metal 2 and inspect

Delayer to metal 1 and inspect

Delayer to poly and inspect poly structures and die surface

Die sectioning (90° for SEM)*

Measure horizontal dimensions

Measure vertical dimensions

Die material analysis

WDX analysis

**Delineation of cross-sections is by silicon etch unless otherwise indicated.*

OVERALL QUALITY EVALUATION: Overall Rating: Normal

DETAIL OF EVALUATION

Package integrity	G
Package markings	G
Die placement	N
Die attach quality	N
Wire spacing	N
Wirebond placement	G
Wirebond quality	G
Dicing quality	G
Wirebond method	Thermosonic ball bonds using 1.1 mil gold wire.
Die attach method	Silver-epoxy
Dicing method	Sawn (full depth)
Die surface integrity:	
Toolmarks (absence)	N
Particles (absence)	N
Contamination (absence)	G
Process defects (absence)	G
General workmanship	N
Passivation integrity	G
Metal definition	N
Metal integrity	N
Contact coverage	G
Contact registration	G
Contact defects	G

G = Good, P = Poor, N = Normal, NP = Normal/Poor

DIE MATERIAL ANALYSIS

Passivation:	A layer of silicon-nitride over a multilayered glass over a layer of silicon-dioxide.
Metal 3:	Aluminum titanium-nitride cap and barrier. A thin titanium adhesion layer under the barrier.
Intermetal dielectrics (IMD2 and IMD1):	Multiple layers of silicon-dioxide with an SOG between.
Metal 2:	Aluminum with a nitride cap and barrier. A thin titanium adhesion layer under the barrier.
Metal 1:	Aluminum with a nitride cap and barrier. A thin titanium adhesion layer under the barrier.
Pre-metal glass:	A borophosphosilicate glass (BPSG) containing 7.6 wt. percent phosphorous and 3.3 wt. percent boron, over a layer of densified oxide.
Polycide:	Tungsten-silicide on polysilicon.

PACKAGE MATERIAL ANALYSIS

Leadframe:	Copper (Cu)
Internal plating:	Silver (Ag)
External plating:	Tin-solder (SnPb)
Die attach:	Silver-epoxy (Ag)

VERTICAL DIMENSIONS

Die thickness: 0.4 mm (16.5 mils)

Layers

Passivation 3:	0.45 micron
Passivation 2:	0.35 micron
Passivation 1:	0.08 micron
Metallization 3 - cap:	0.02 micron (approximate)
- aluminum:	0.75 micron
- barrier:	0.04 micron
Intermetal dielectric 2 (IMD2) - glass 2:	0.45 micron
- glass 1:	0.2 micron
Metallization 2 - cap:	0.02 micron (approximate)
- aluminum:	0.55 micron
- barrier:	0.07 micron
Intermetal dielectric 1 (IMD1) - glass 3:	0.45 micron
- glass 2:	0.12 micron
- glass 1:	0.1 micron
Metallization 1 - cap:	0.03 micron (approximate)
- aluminum:	0.6 micron
- barrier:	0.1 micron
Pre-metal glass:	0.5 micron
Polycide - silicide:	0.15 micron
- poly:	0.1 micron
Local oxide:	0.4 micron
N+ diffusion:	0.2 micron
P+ diffusion:	0.25 micron
N-well:	4 microns (approximate)

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COLOR DRAWING OF DIE STRUCTURE	Figure 27a
CELL STRUCTURE	Figures 28 - 30

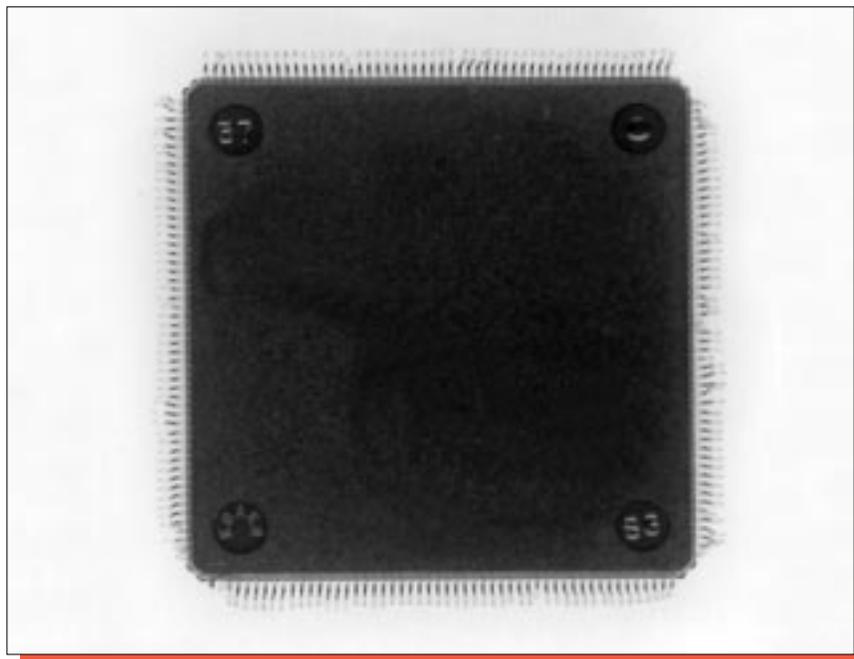


Figure 1. The QLogic ISP1040B package. Mag. 2.5x.

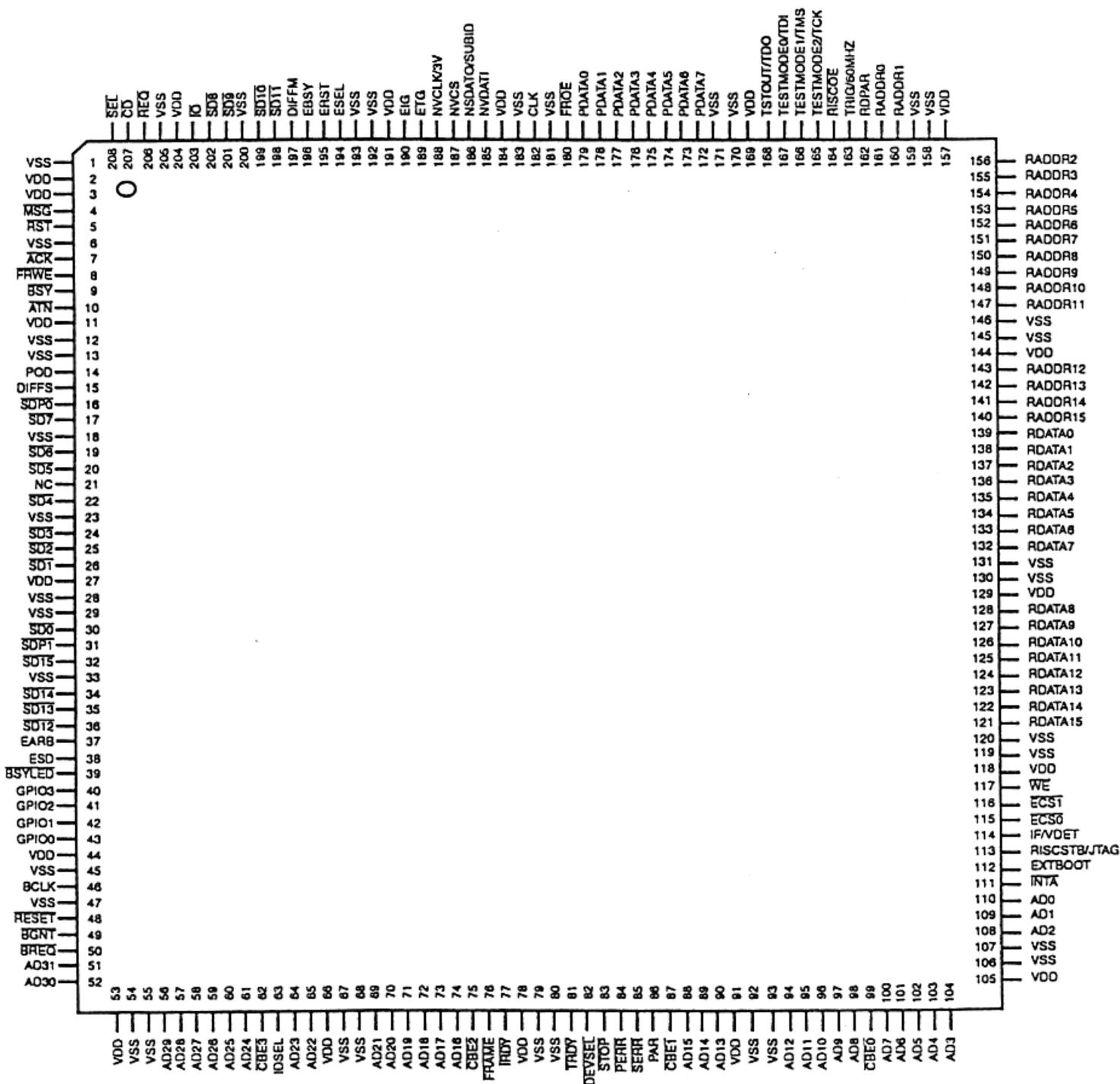


Figure 2. The QLogic ISP1040B pinout.

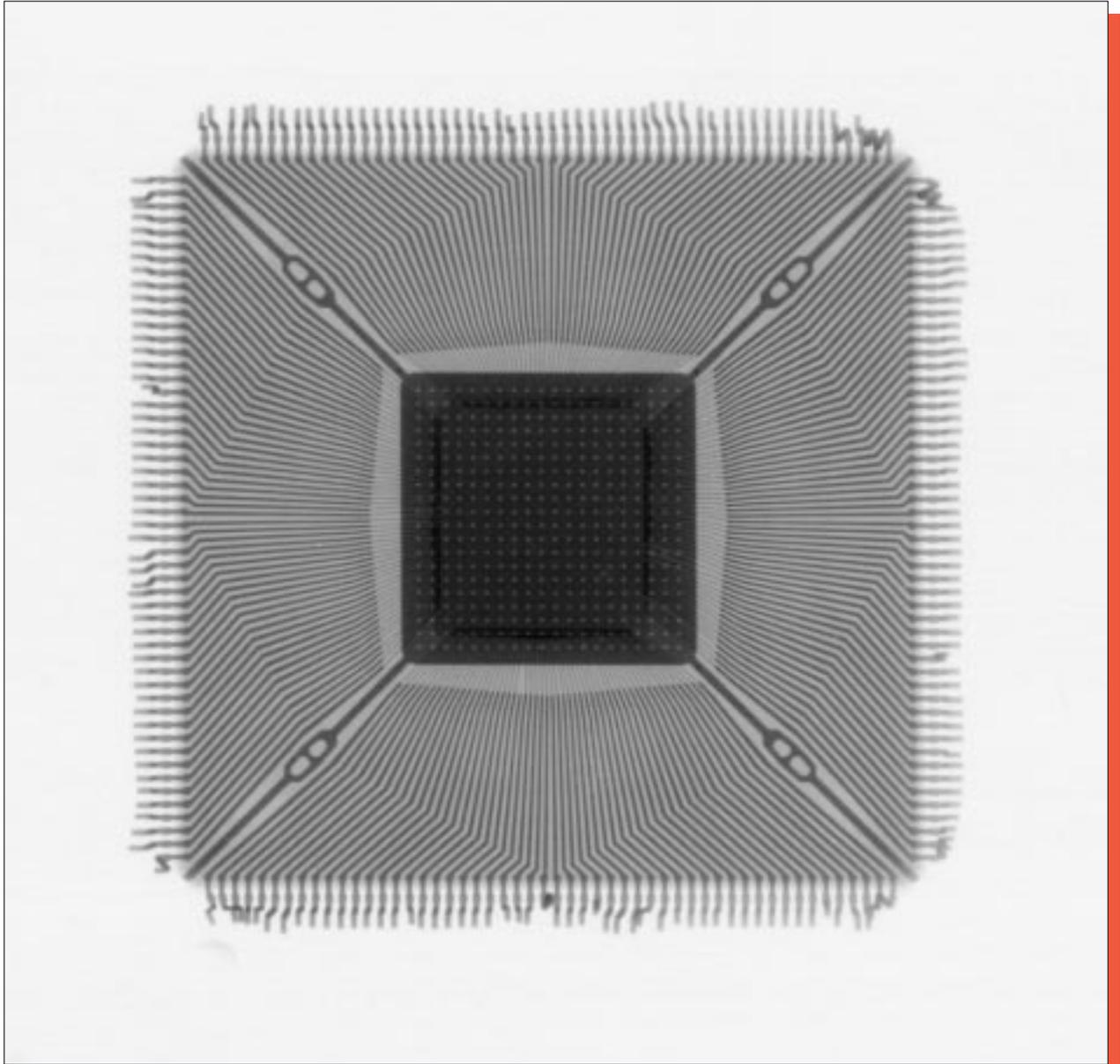


Figure 3. X-ray view of the package. Mag. 4x.

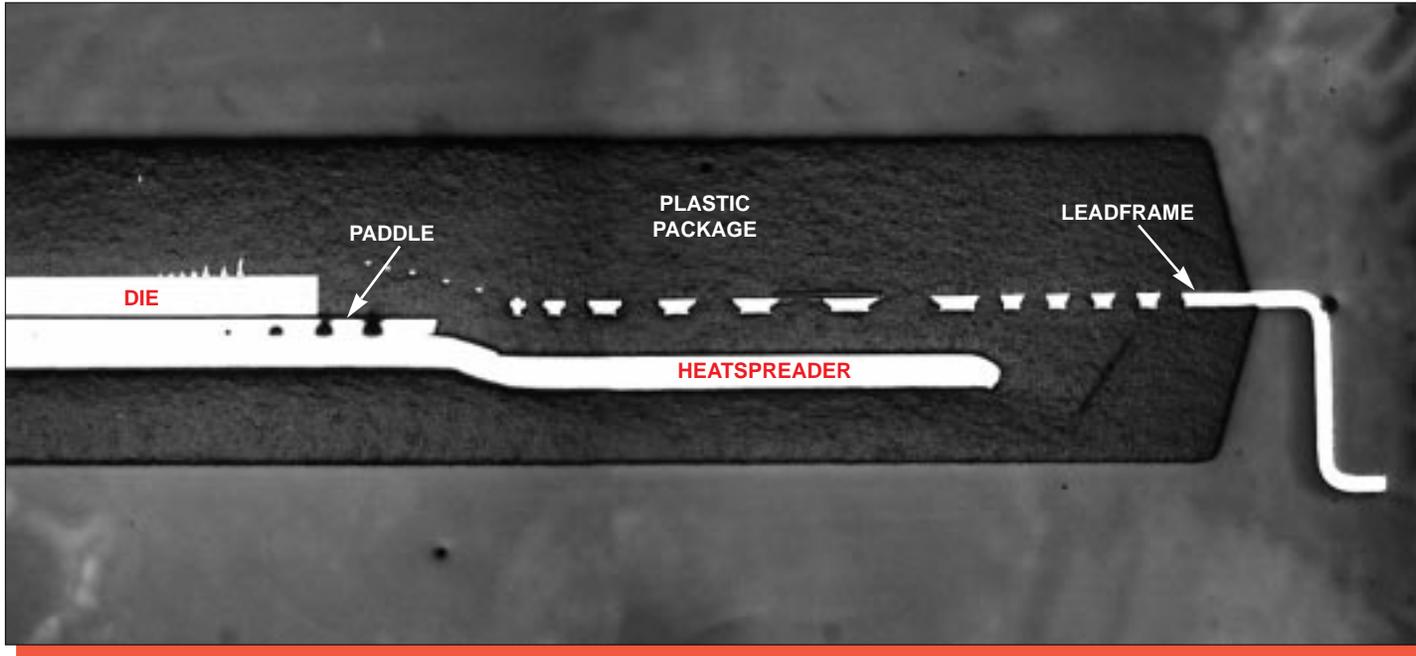
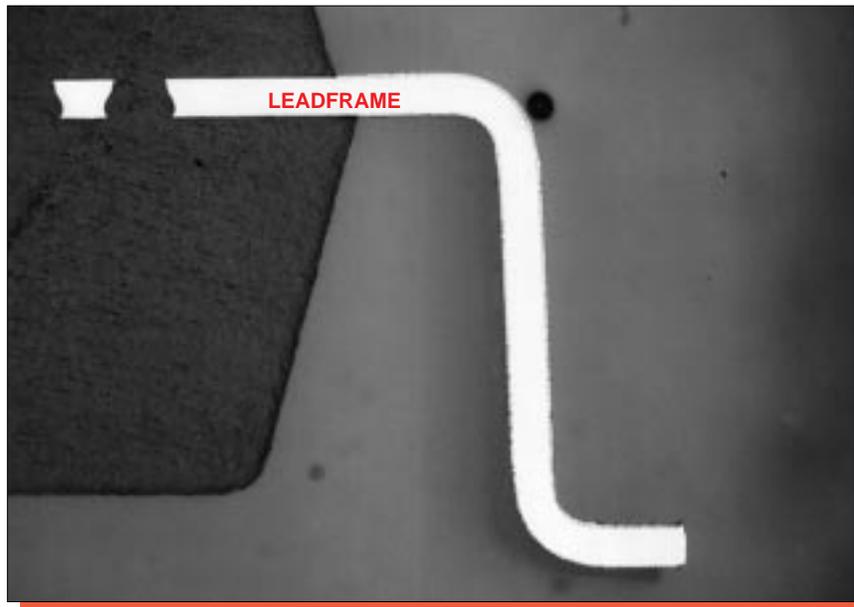
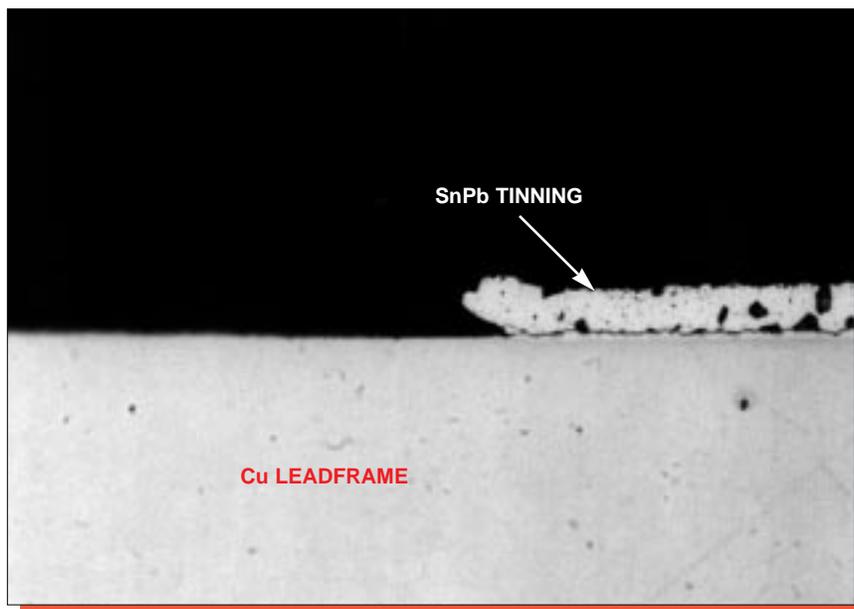


Figure 4. Optical view of the package illustrating general construction. Mag. 20x.

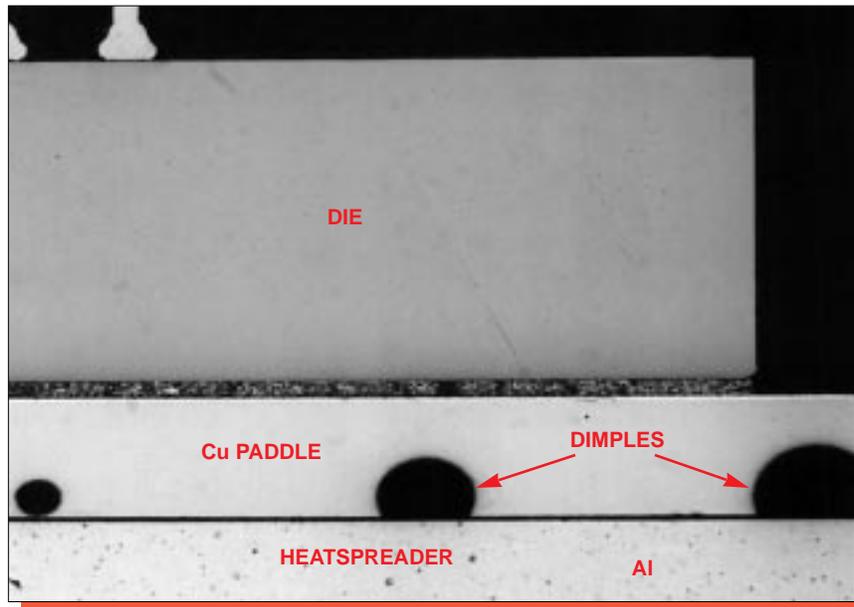


Mag. 80x

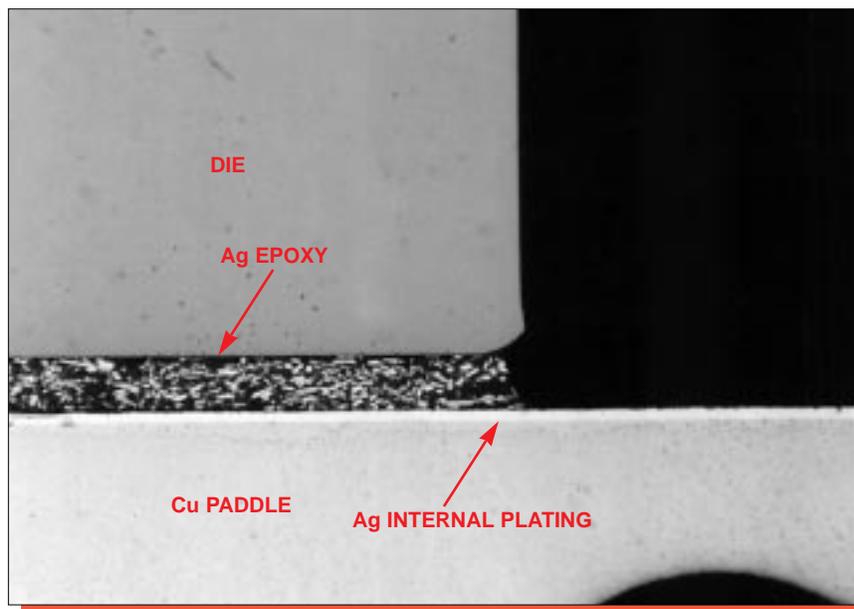


Mag. 800x

Figure 5. Optical views of lead forming and lead exit.

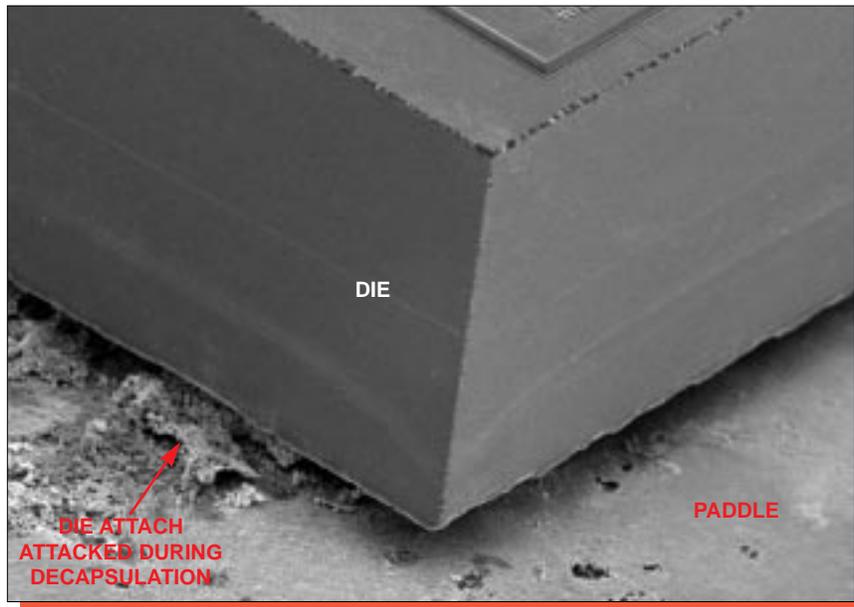


Mag. 100x

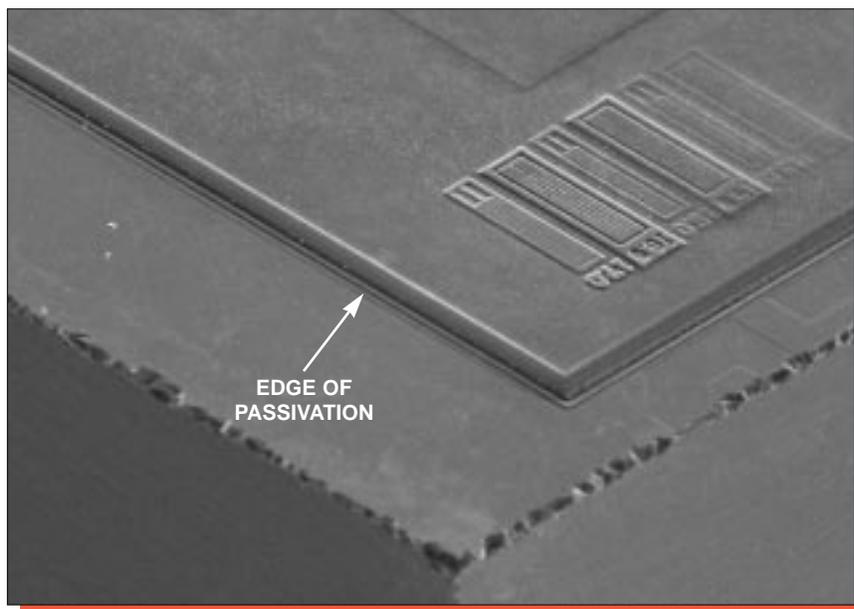


Mag. 320x

Figure 6. Optical views of dicing and die attach.

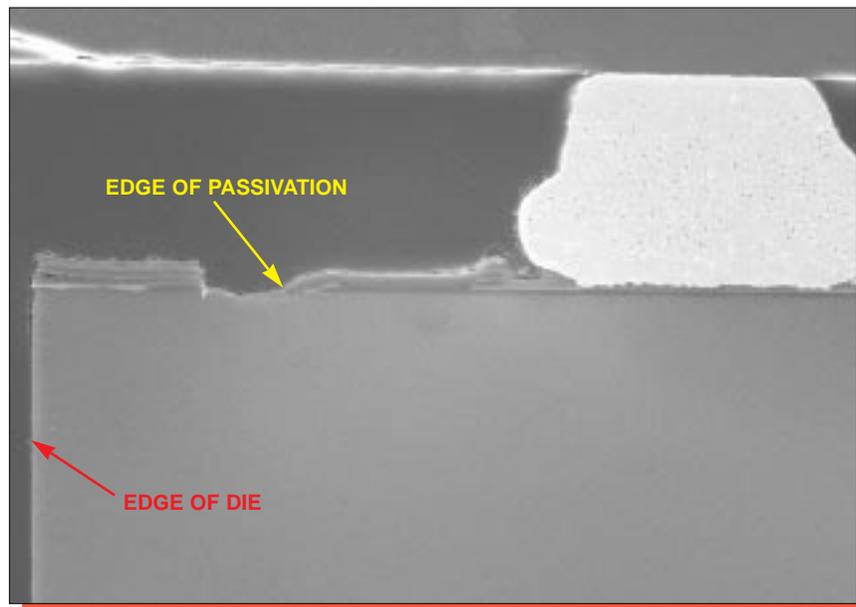


Mag. 140x

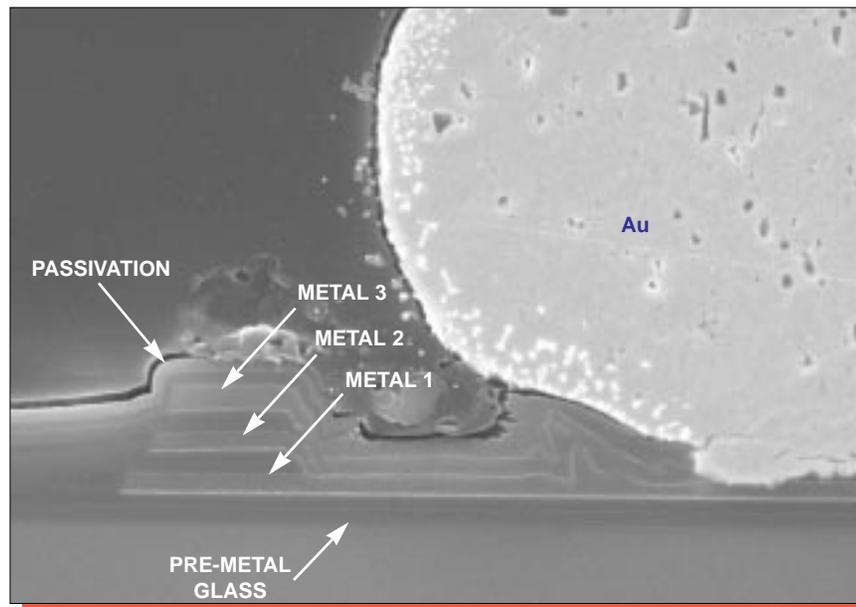


Mag. 280x

Figure 7. SEM views of die corner and edge seal. 60°.

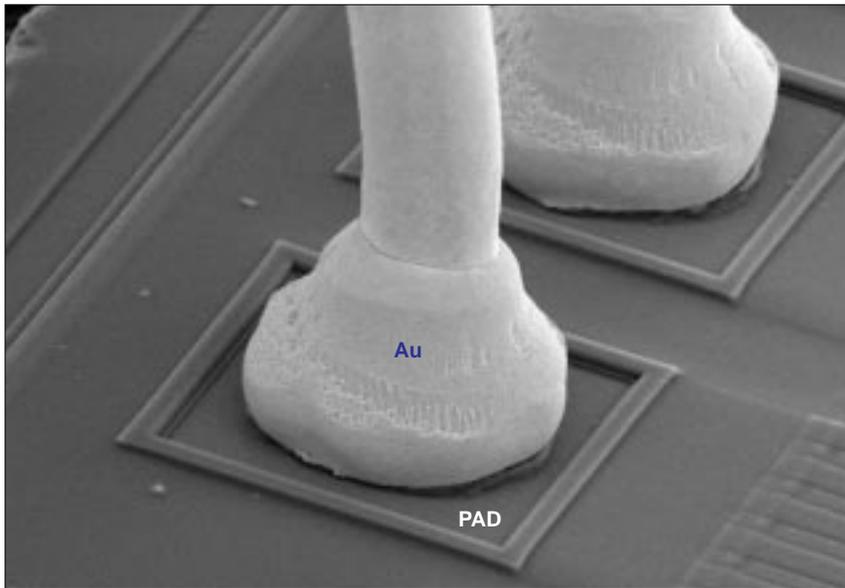


Mag. 350x



Mag. 6800x

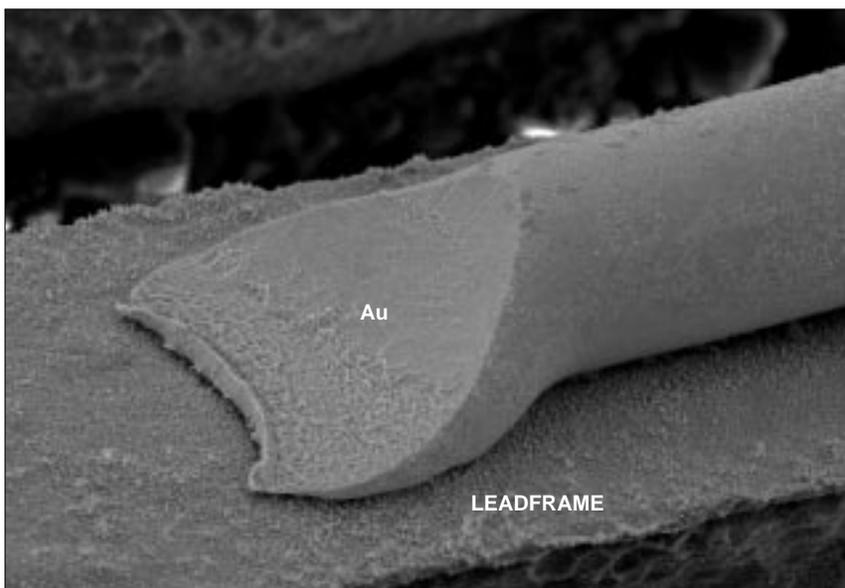
Figure 7a. SEM section views of the bond pad and edge seal structure.



Mag. 600x, 60°



Mag. 800x



Mag. 925x, 60°

Figure 8. Optical and SEM views of typical wirebonds.

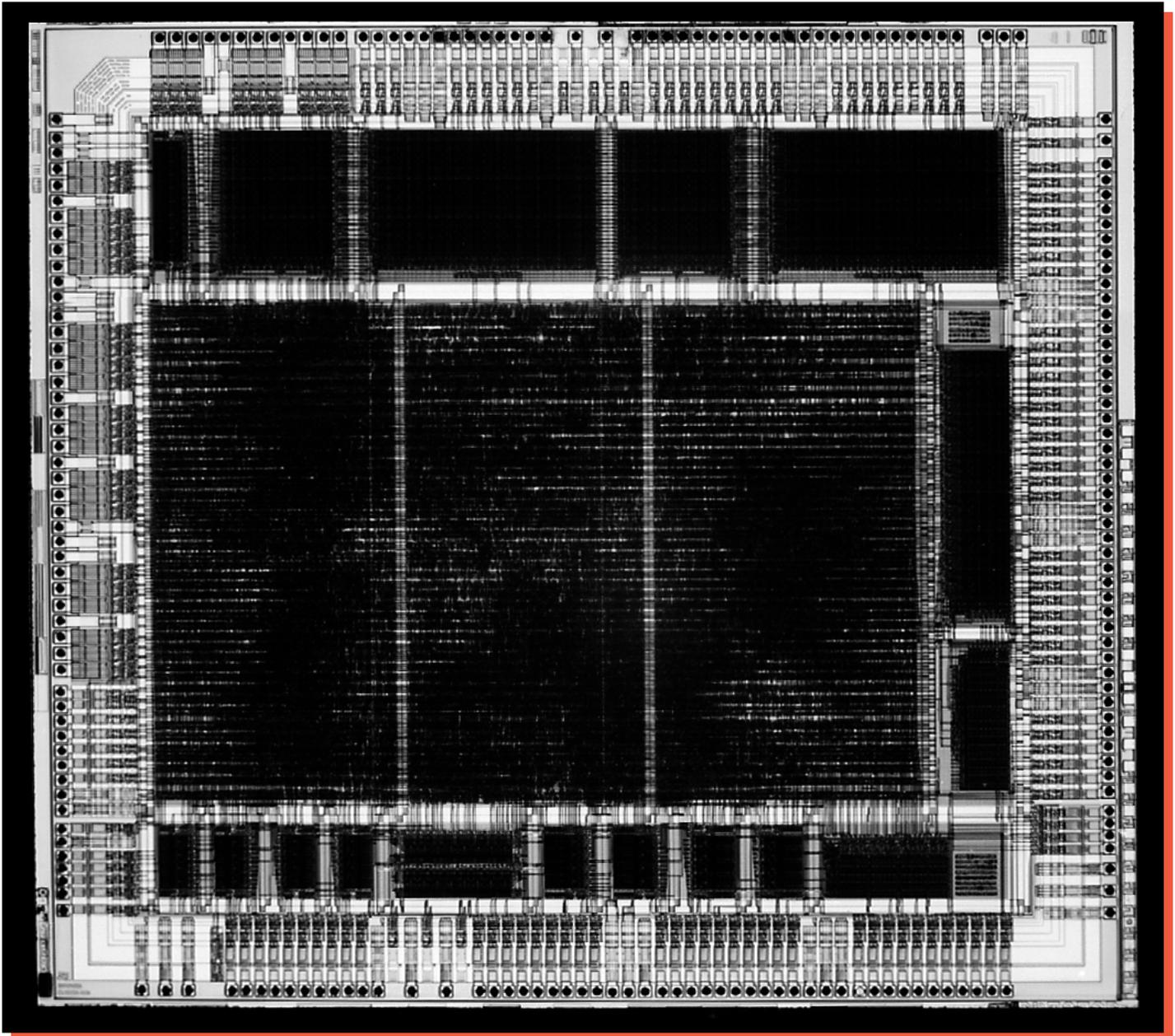


Figure 9. The QLogic ISP1040B intact circuit die. Mag. 18x.



Figure 9a. Optical view of markings from the surface of the die. Mag. 300x.

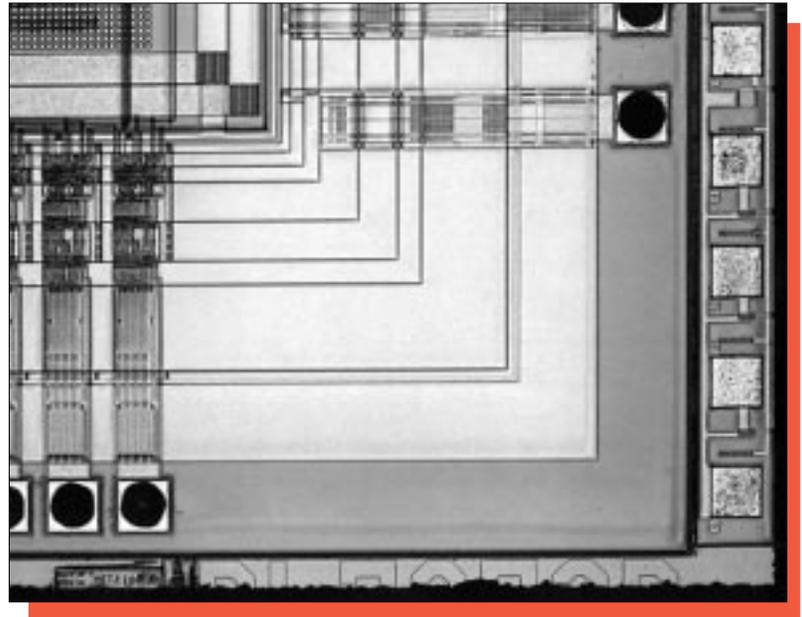
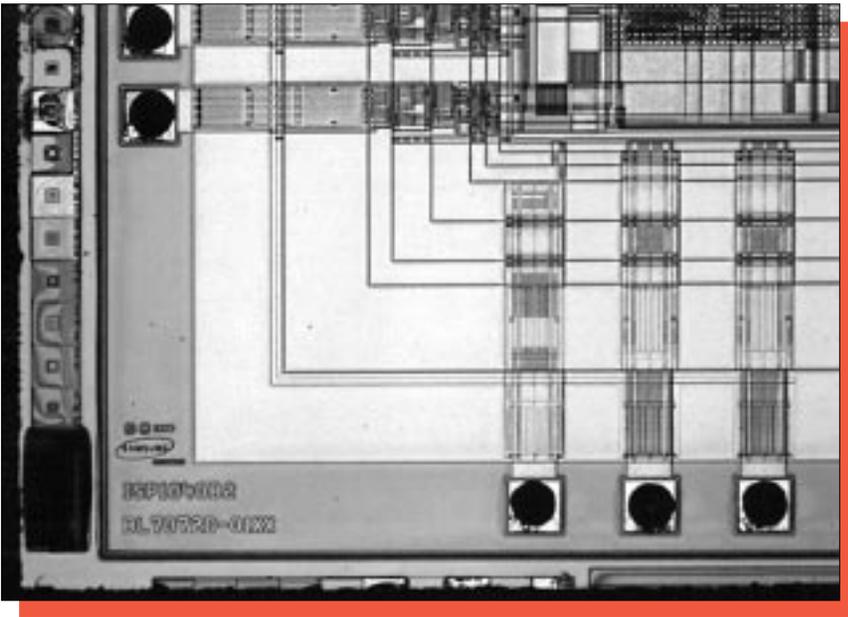
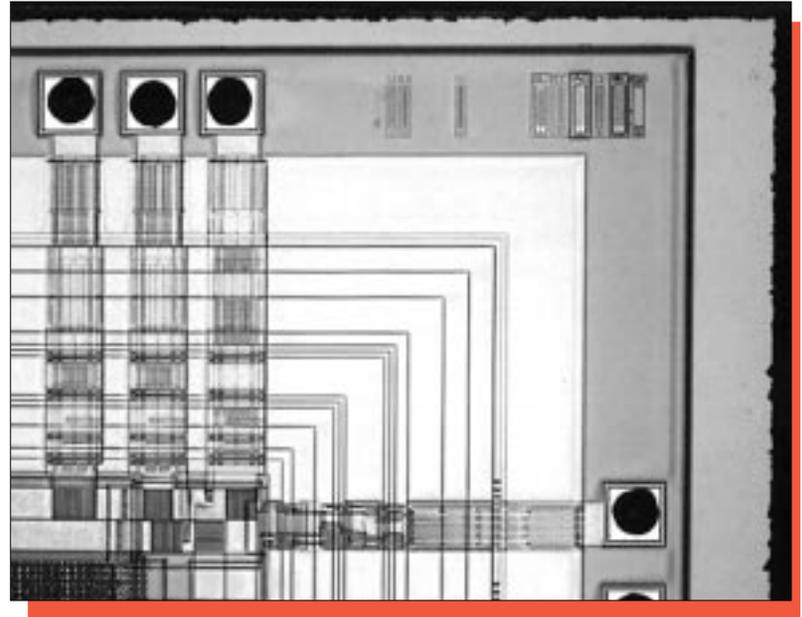
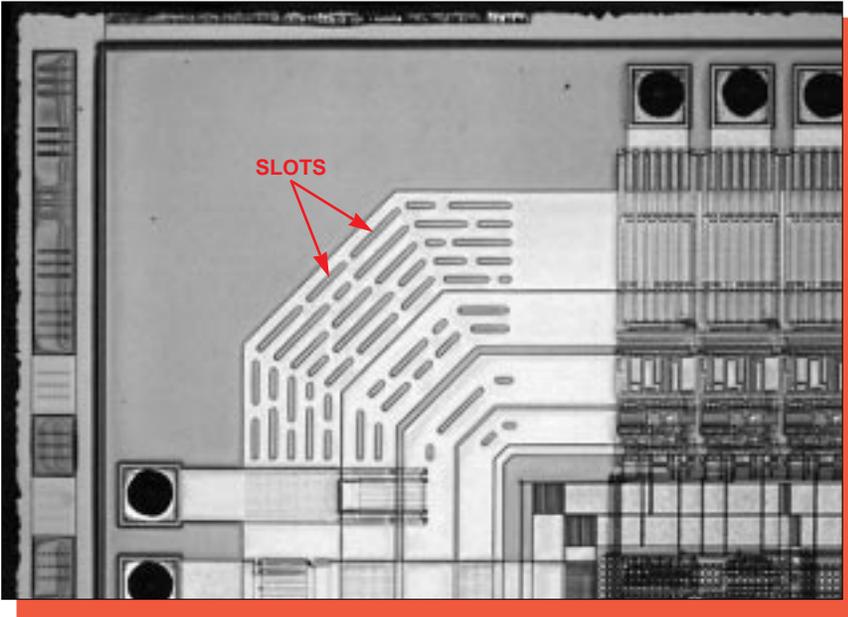
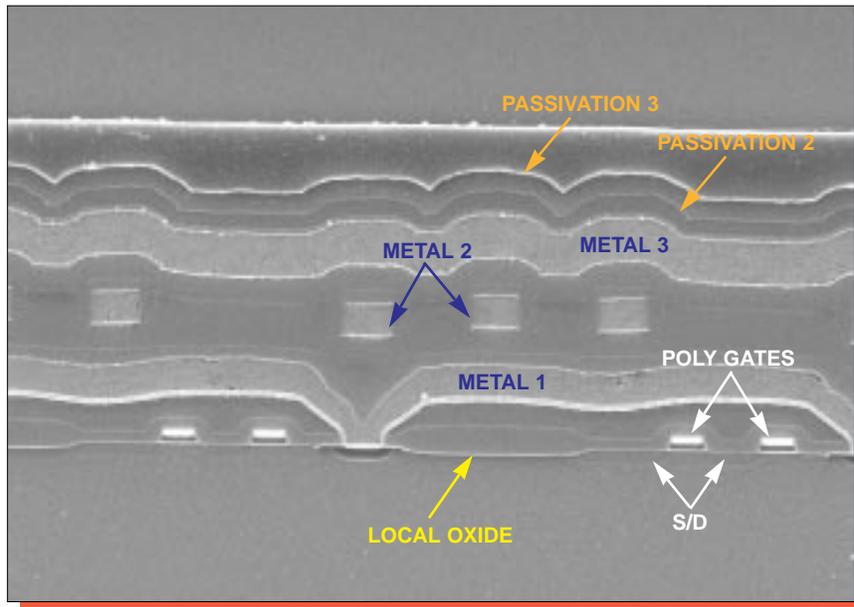
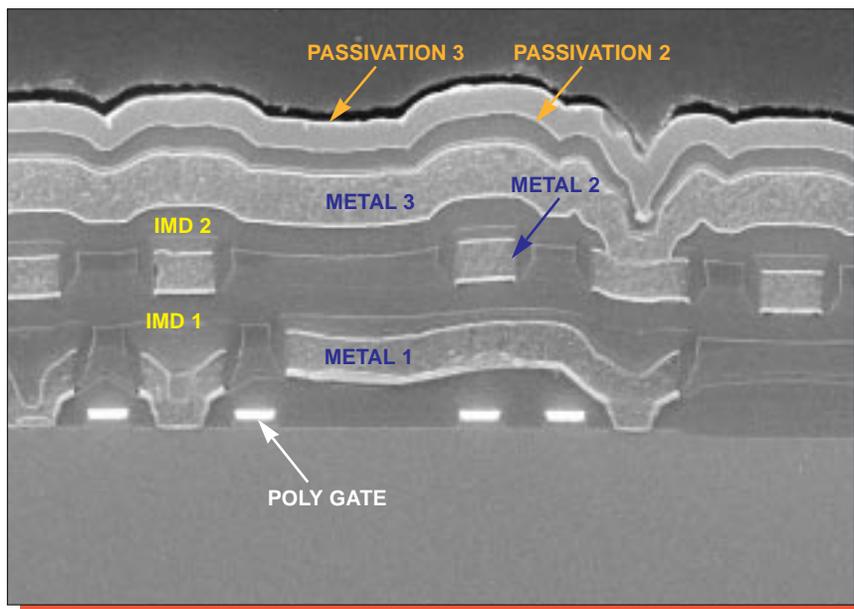


Figure 10. Optical views of die corners. Mag. 100x.

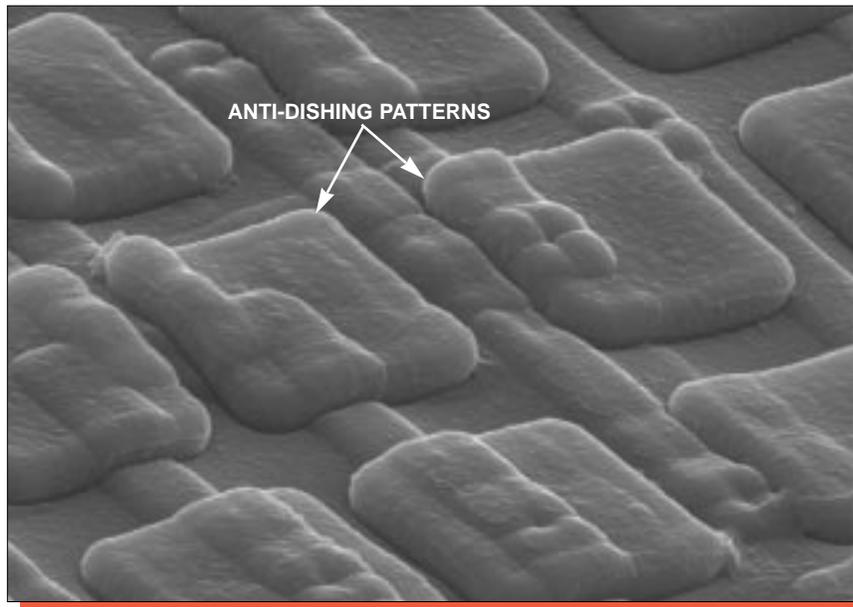


Mag. 6500x

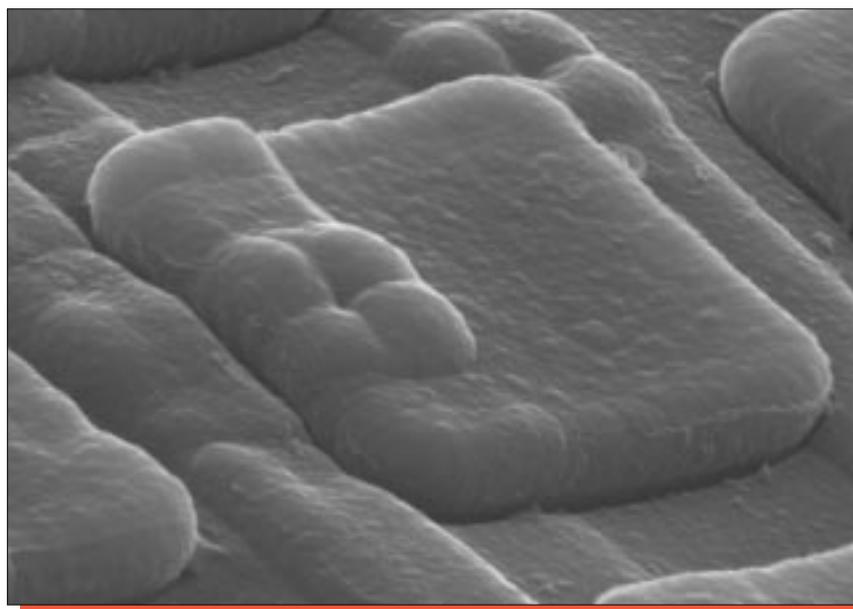


glass etch, Mag. 7700x

Figure 11. SEM section views illustrating general construction.

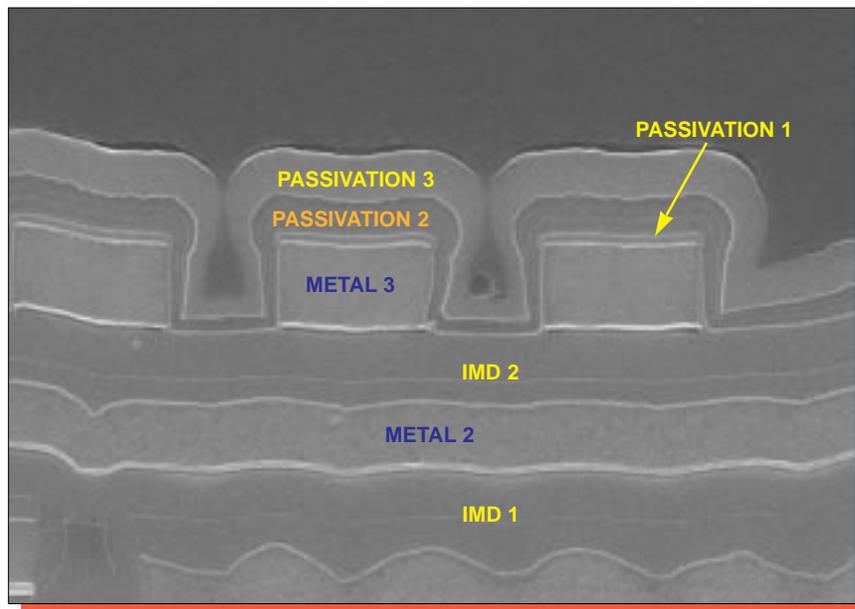


Mag. 4400x

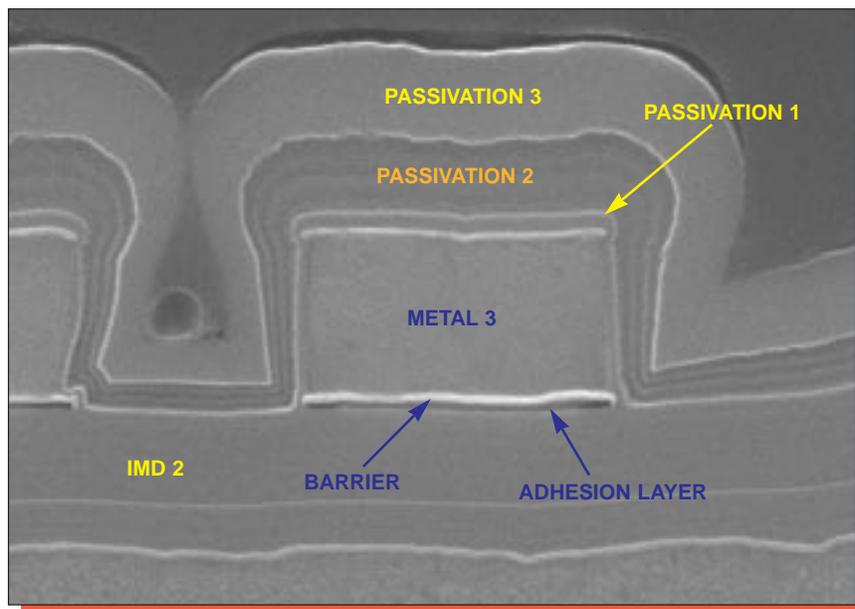


Mag. 8800x

Figure 11a. SEM views illustrating passivation coverage. 60°.

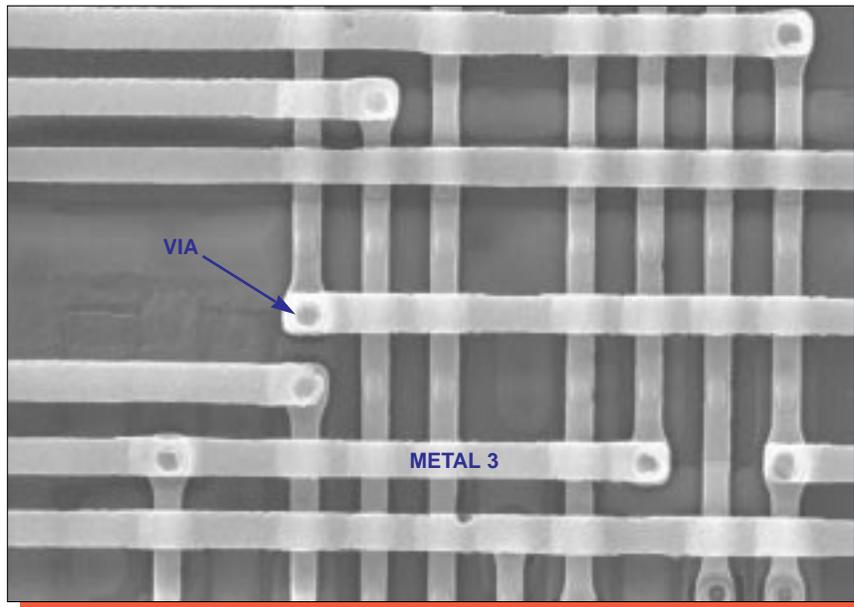


Mag. 13,000x

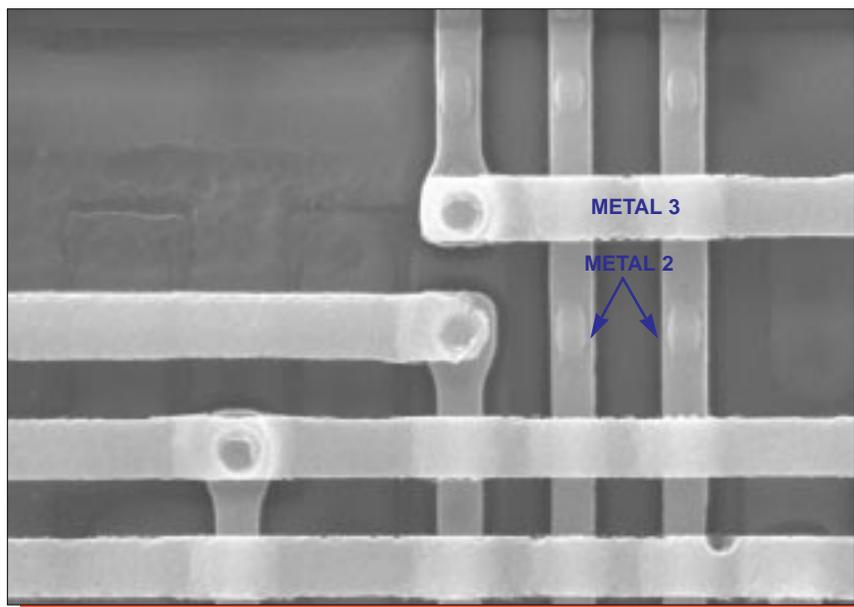


Mag. 26,000x

Figure 12. SEM section views of metal 3 line profiles.

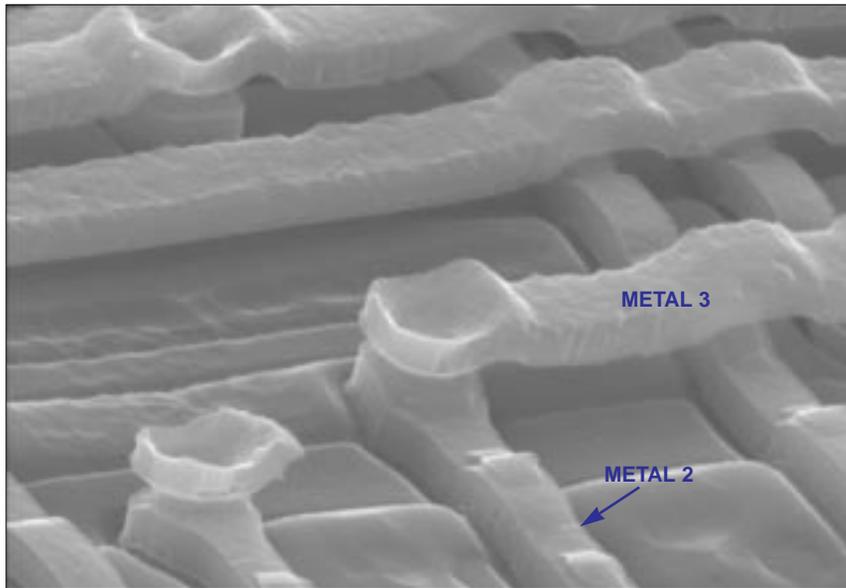


Mag. 3700x

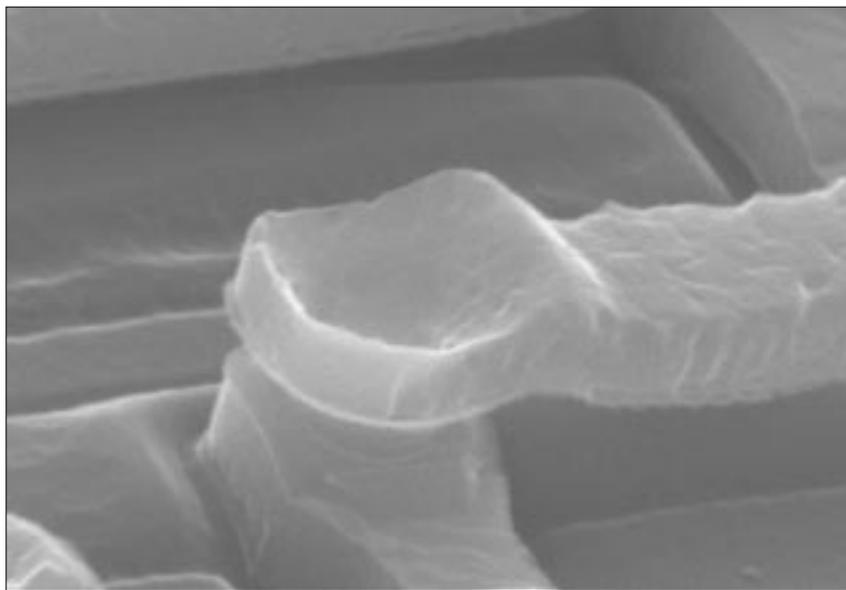


Mag. 5900x

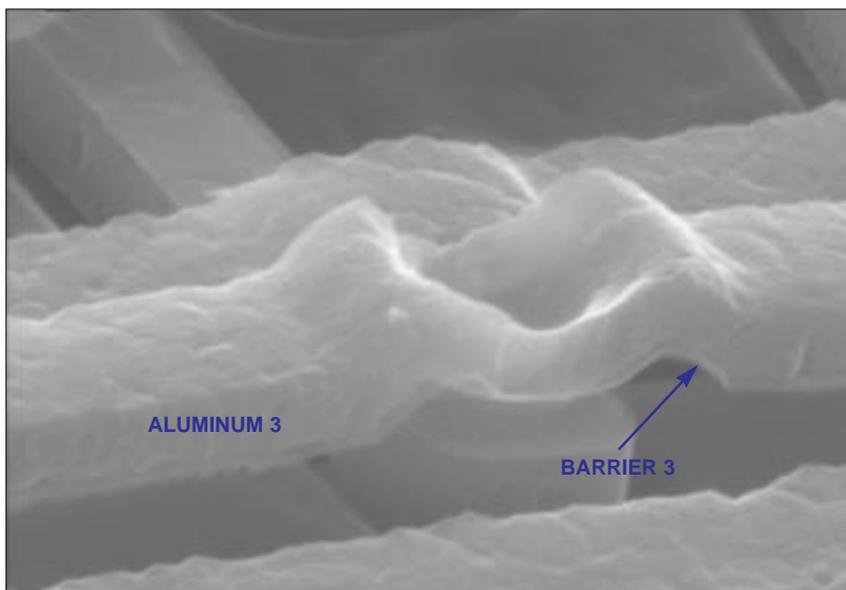
Figure 13. Topological SEM views of metal 3 patterning. 0°.



Mag. 9100x



Mag. 20,000x



Mag. 20,000x

Figure 14. Perspective SEM views of metal 3 integrity. 60°.

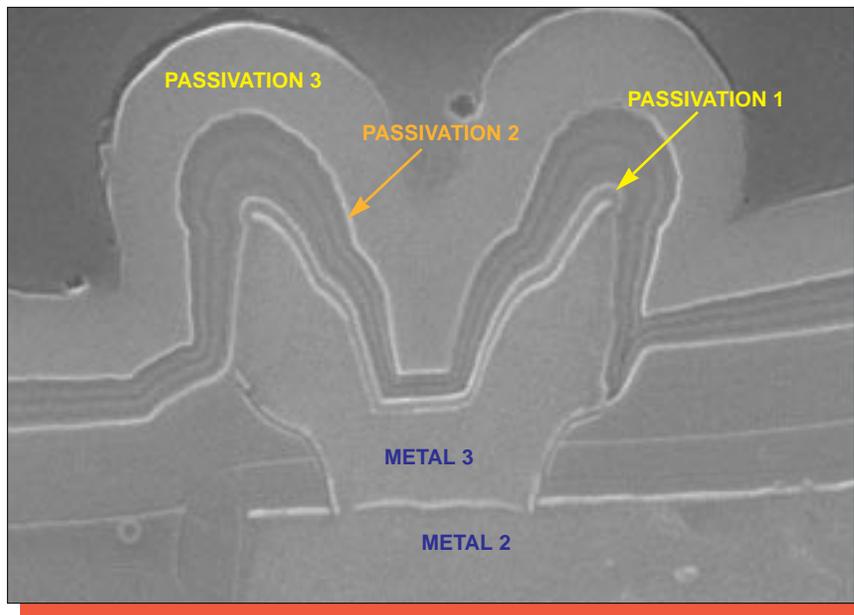
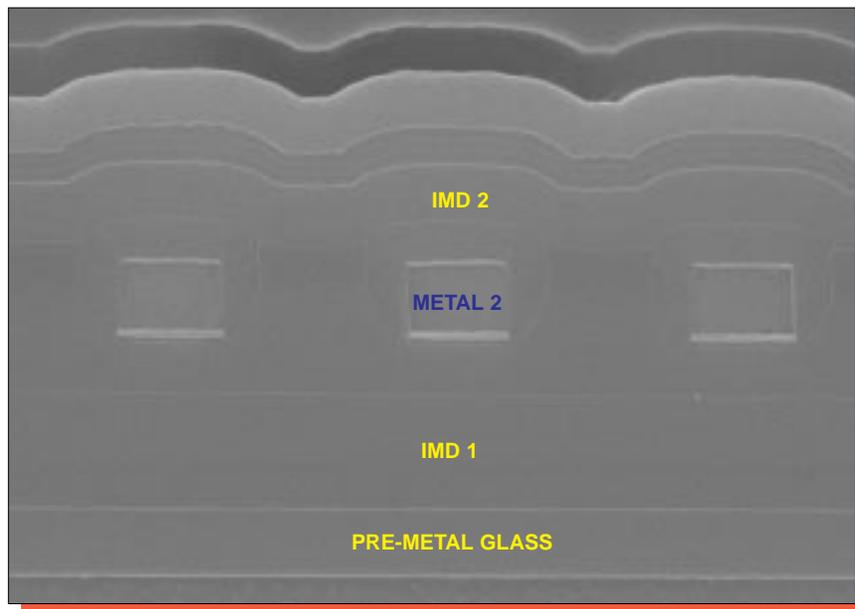
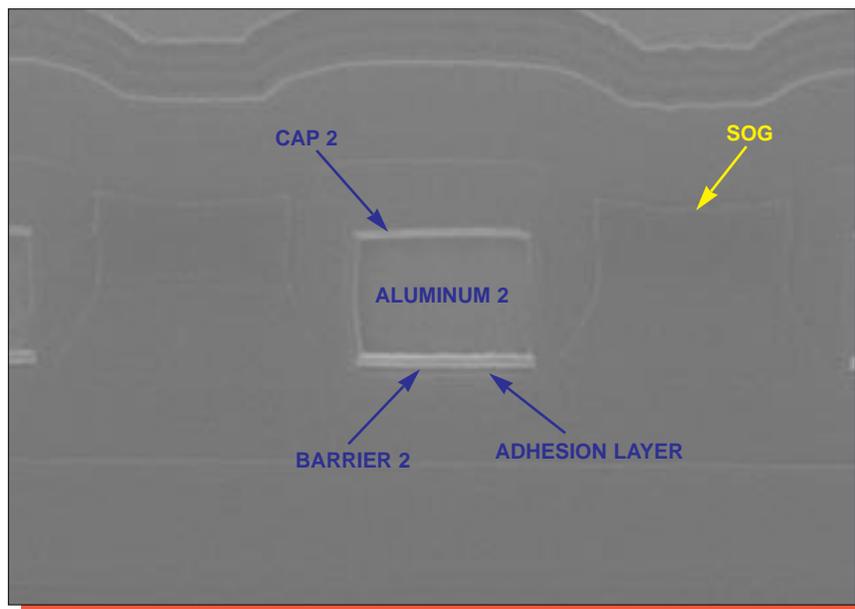


Figure 15. SEM section view of metal 3-to-metal 2 via. Mag. 26,000x.

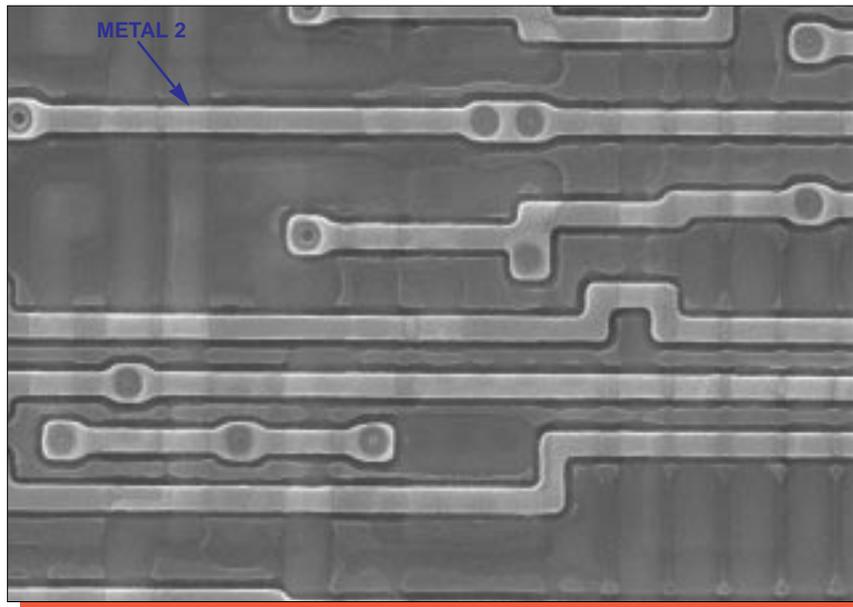


Mag. 14,800x

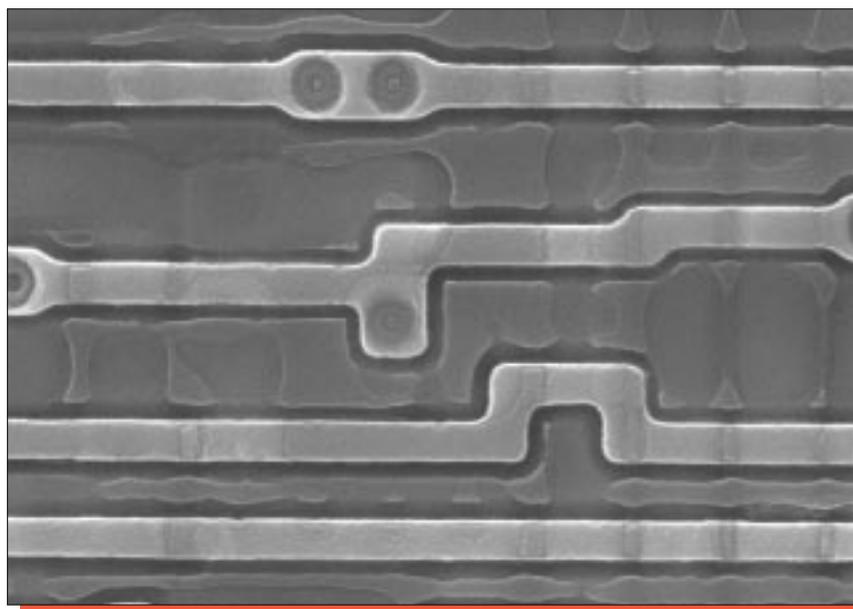


Mag. 26,000x

Figure 16. SEM section views of metal 2 line profiles.

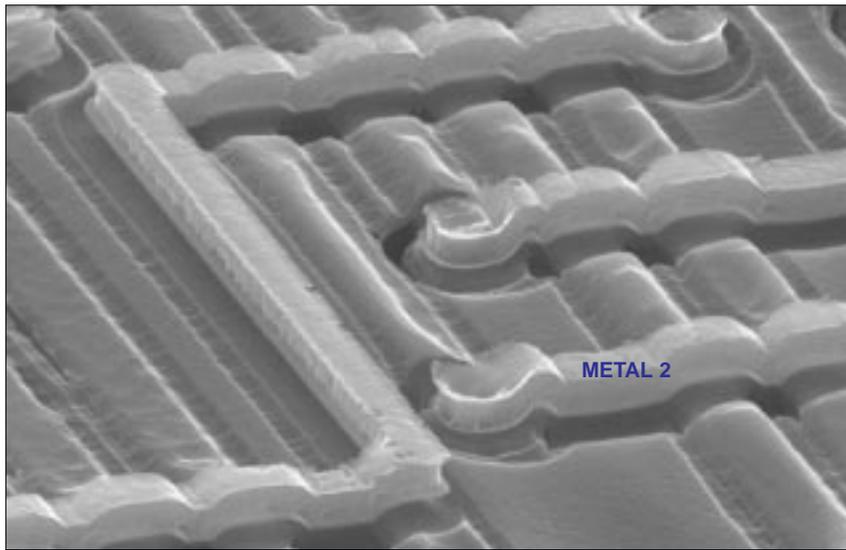


Mag. 2700x

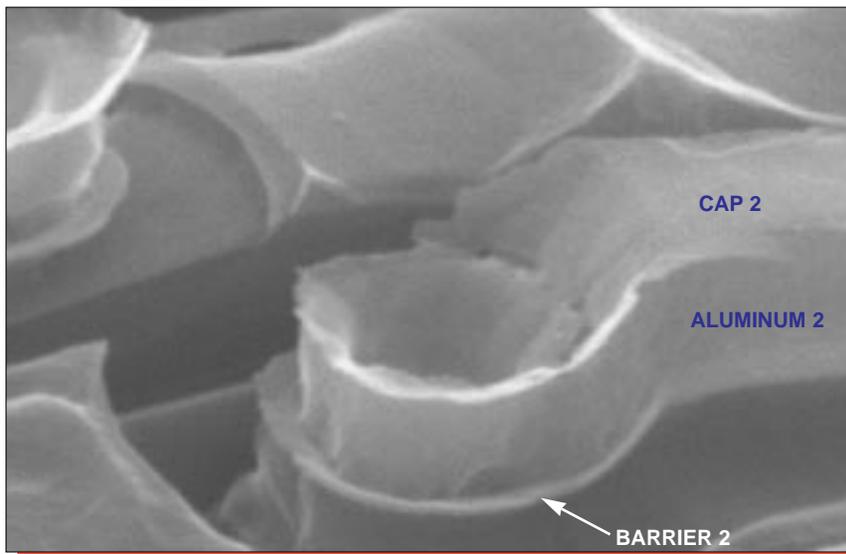


Mag. 5000x

Figure 17. Topological SEM views of metal 2 patterning. 0°.



Mag. 7700x



Mag. 29,600x

Figure 18. Perspective SEM views of metal 2 integrity. 60°.

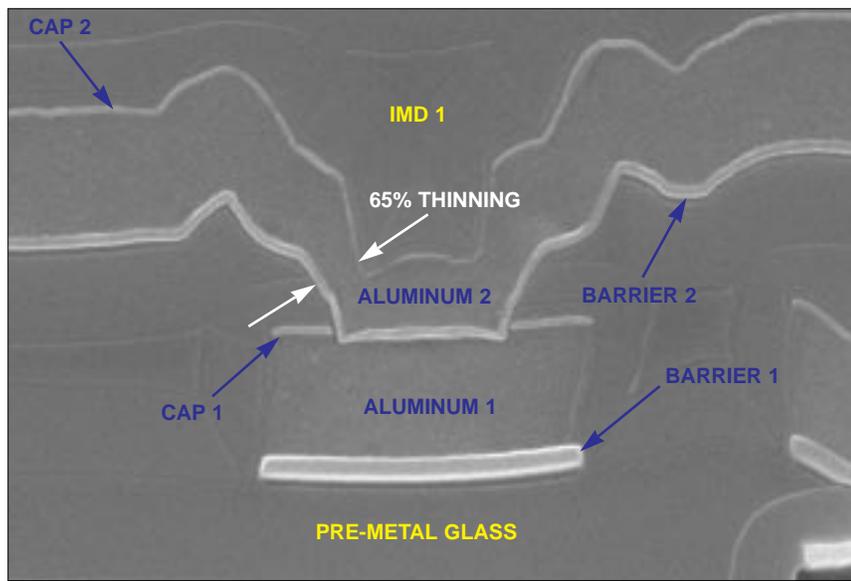
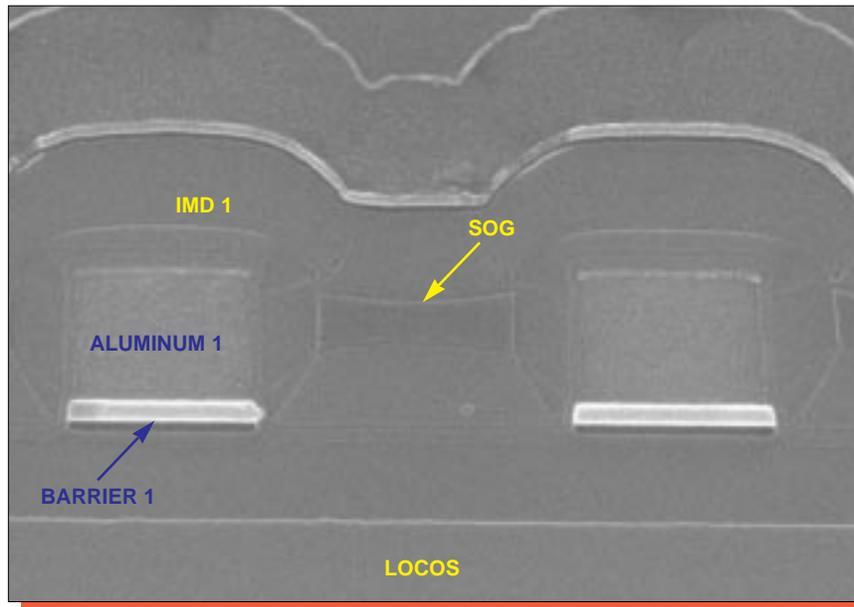
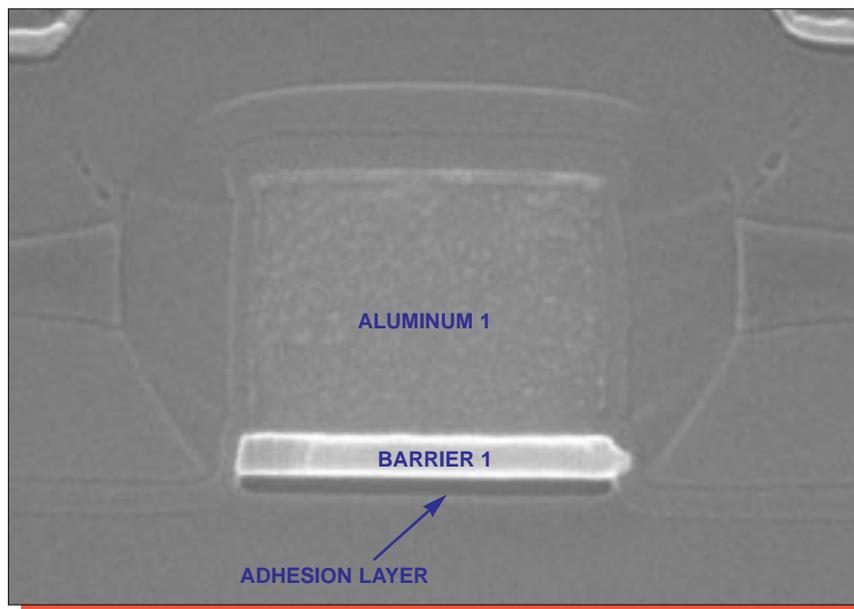


Figure 18a. SEM section view of a metal 2-to-metal 1 via. Mag. 26,000x

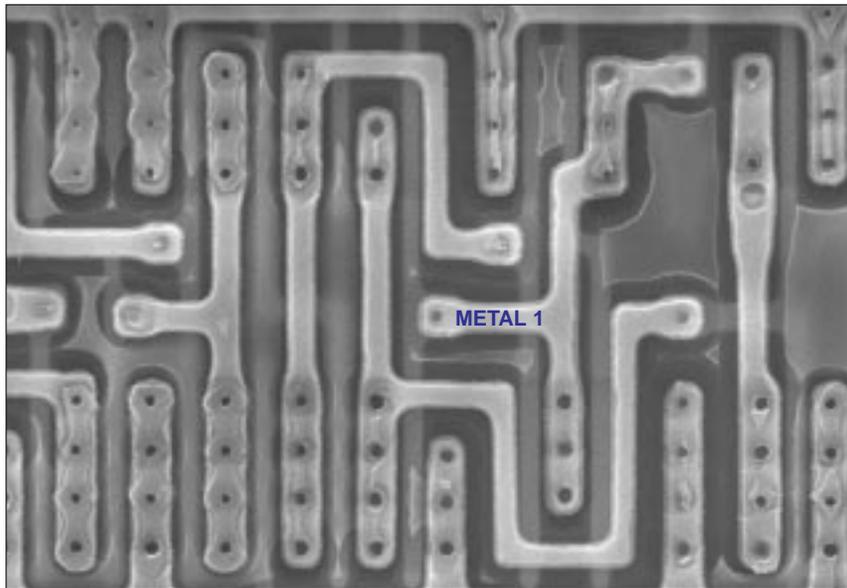


Mag. 26,000x

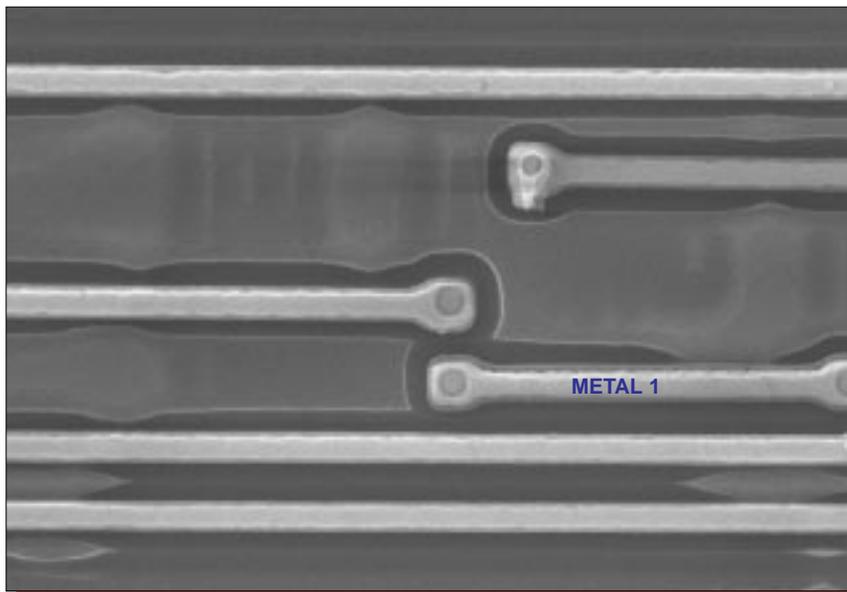


Mag. 52,000x

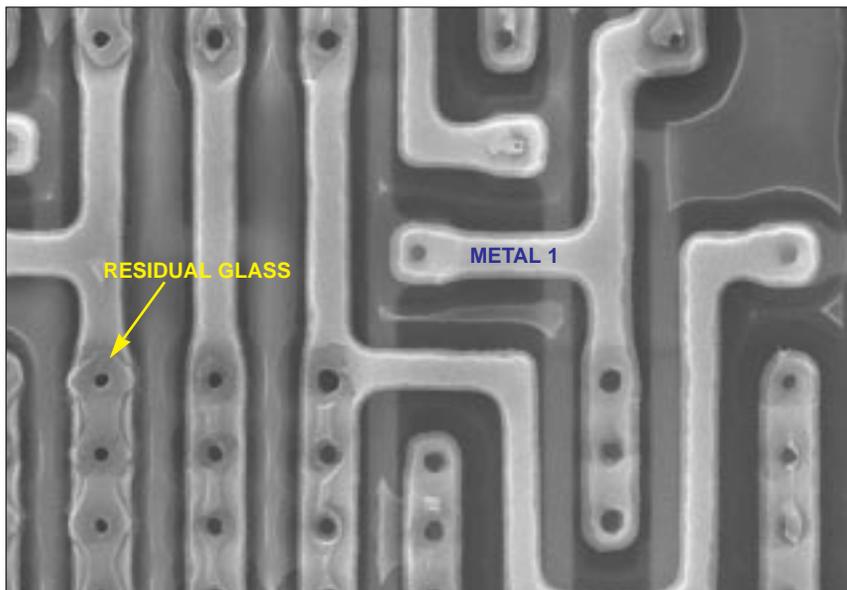
Figure 19. SEM section views of metal 1 line profiles.



Mag. 4200x

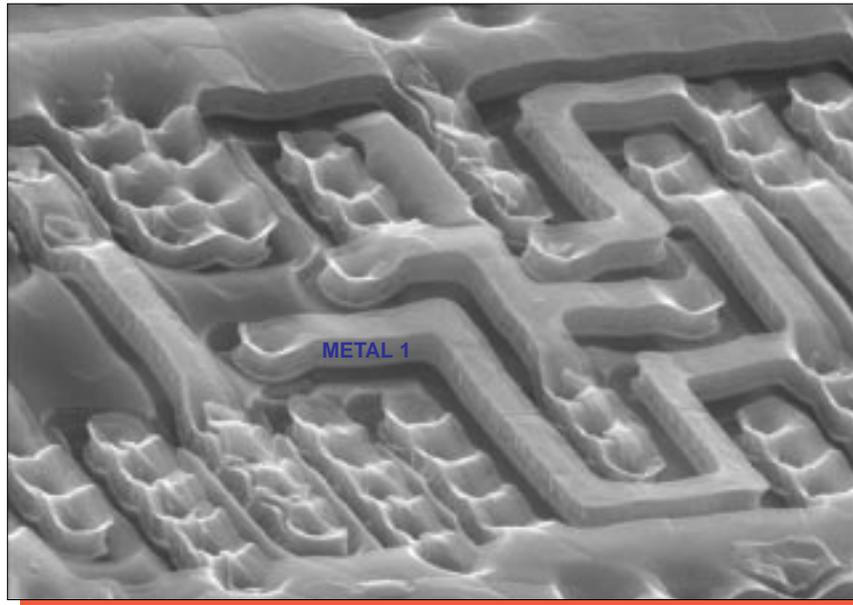


Mag. 4400x

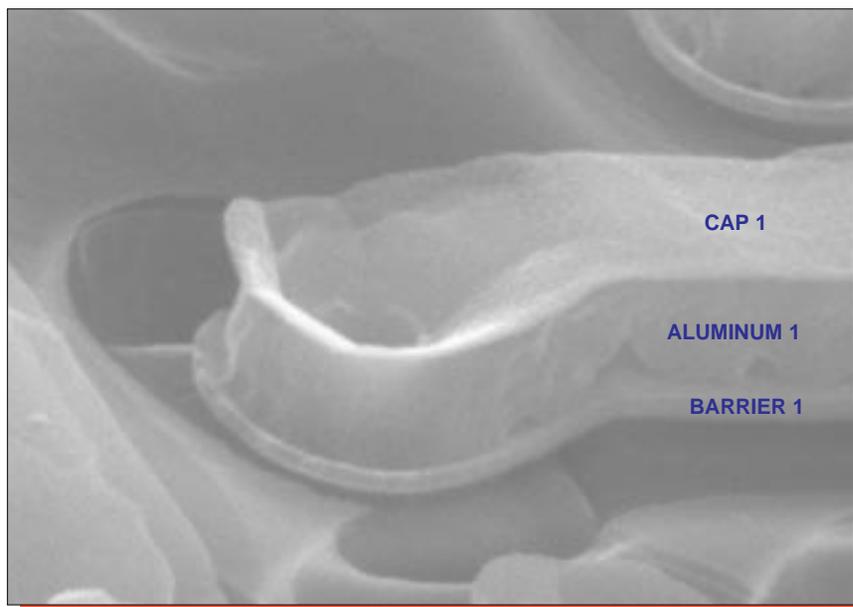


Mag. 6200x

Figure 20. Topological SEM views of metal 1 patterning. 0°.



Mag. 6500x



Mag. 32,200x

Figure 21. Perspective SEM views of metal 1 integrity. 60°.

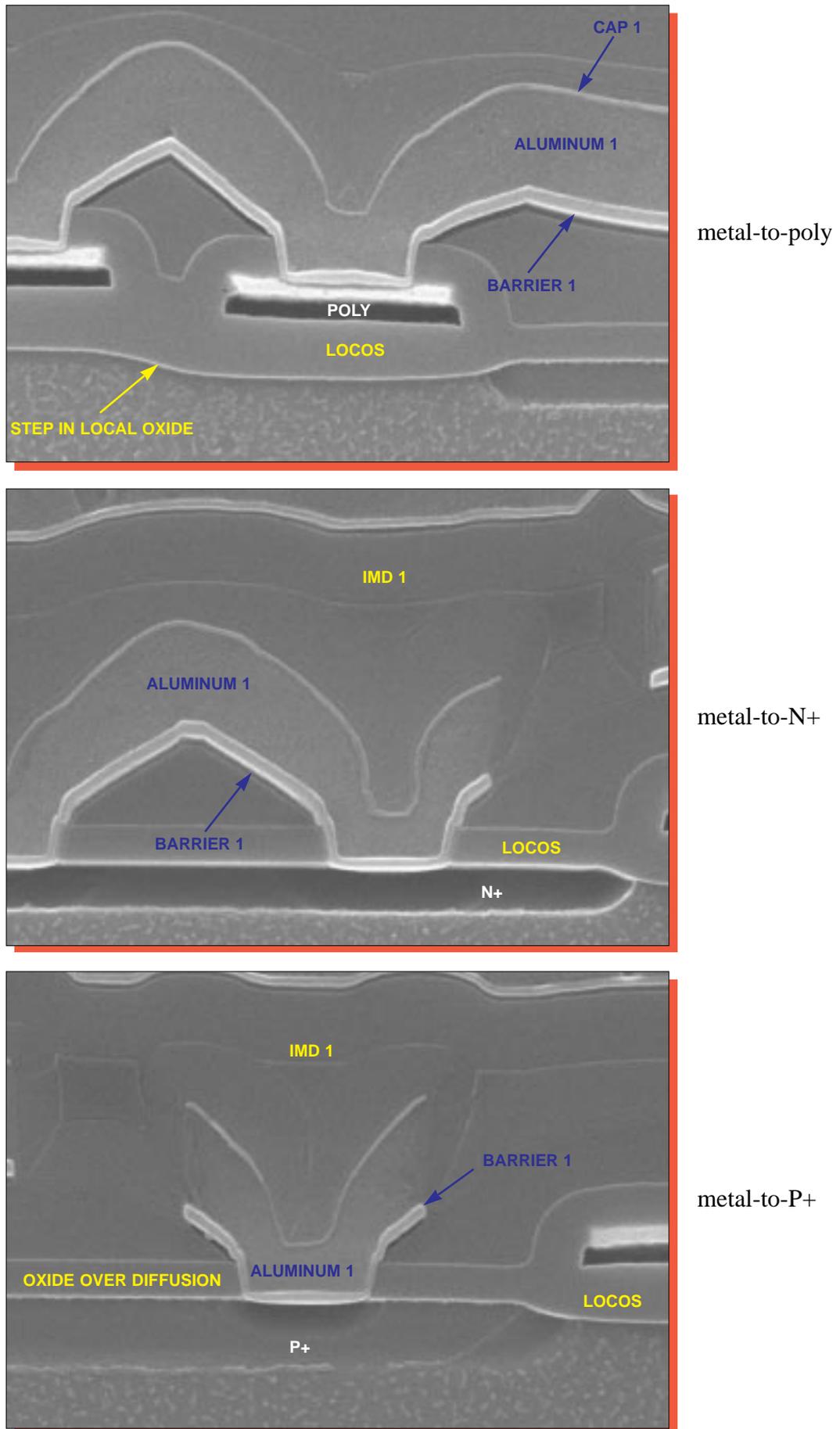
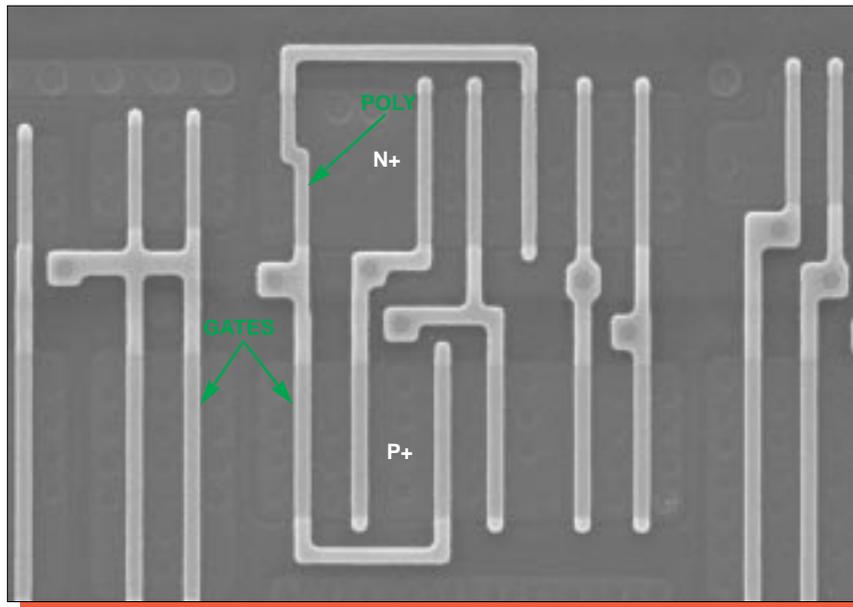
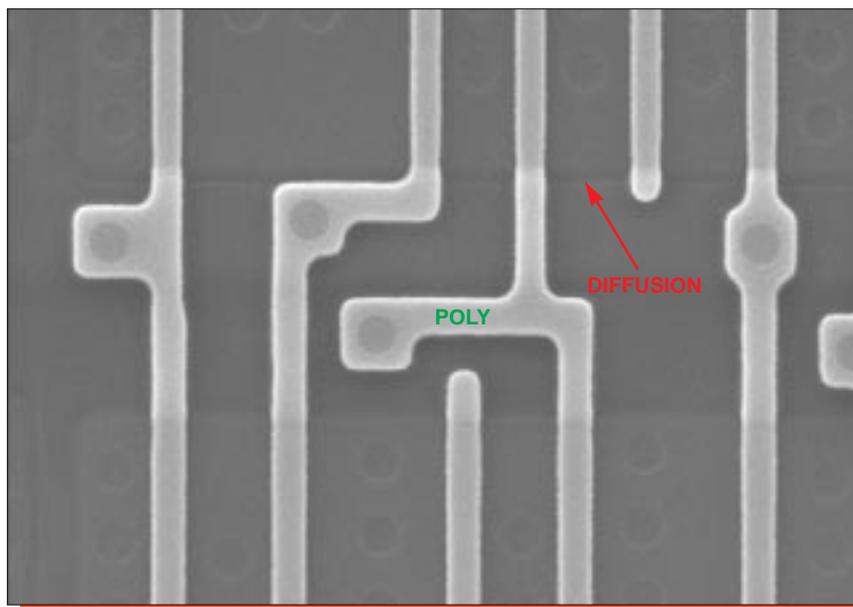


Figure 22. SEM section views of typical contacts. Mag. 26,000x.

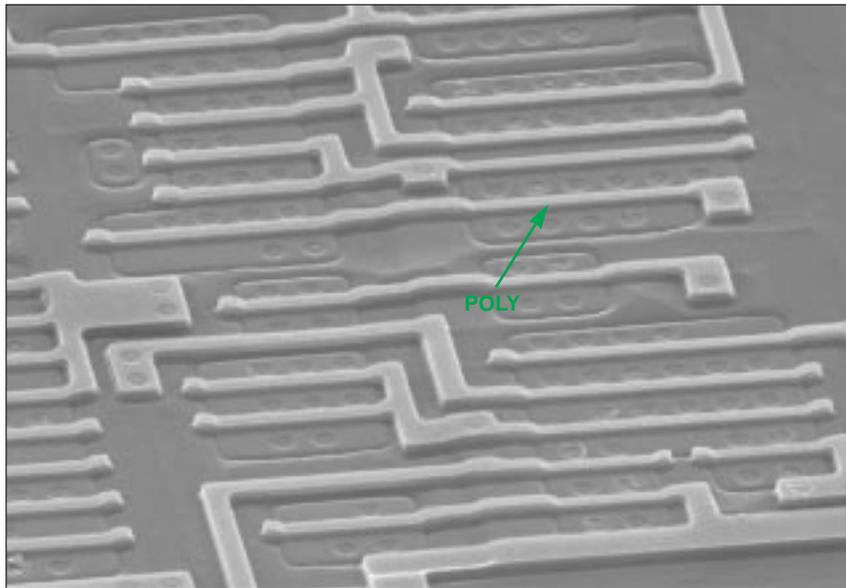


Mag. 3100x

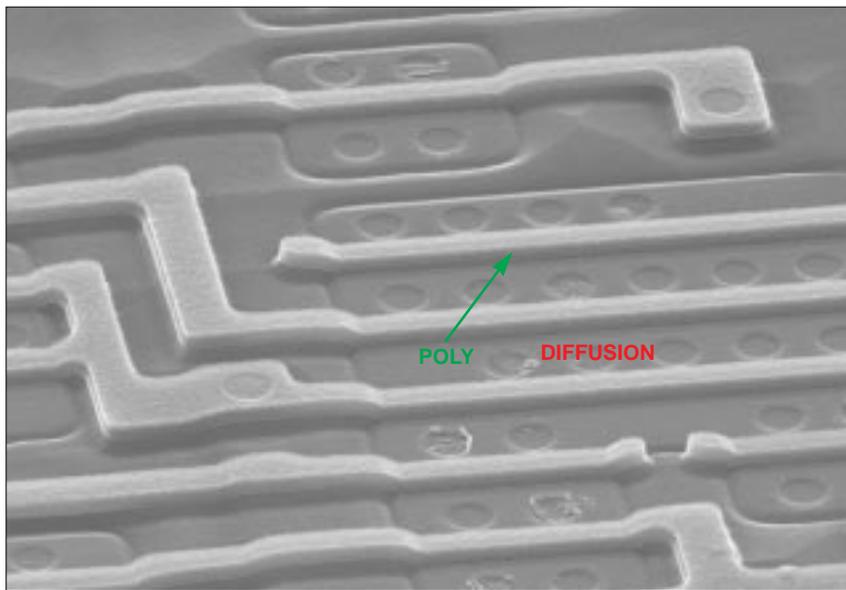


Mag. 6500x

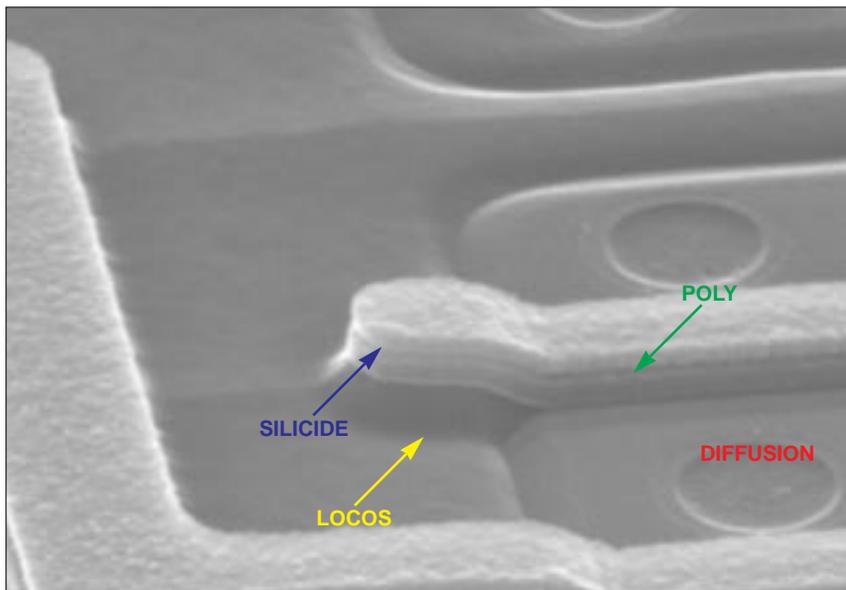
Figure 23. Topological SEM views of polycide patterning. 0°.



Mag. 4000x



Mag. 8000x



Mag. 26,000x

Figure 24. SEM views of polycide coverage. 60°.

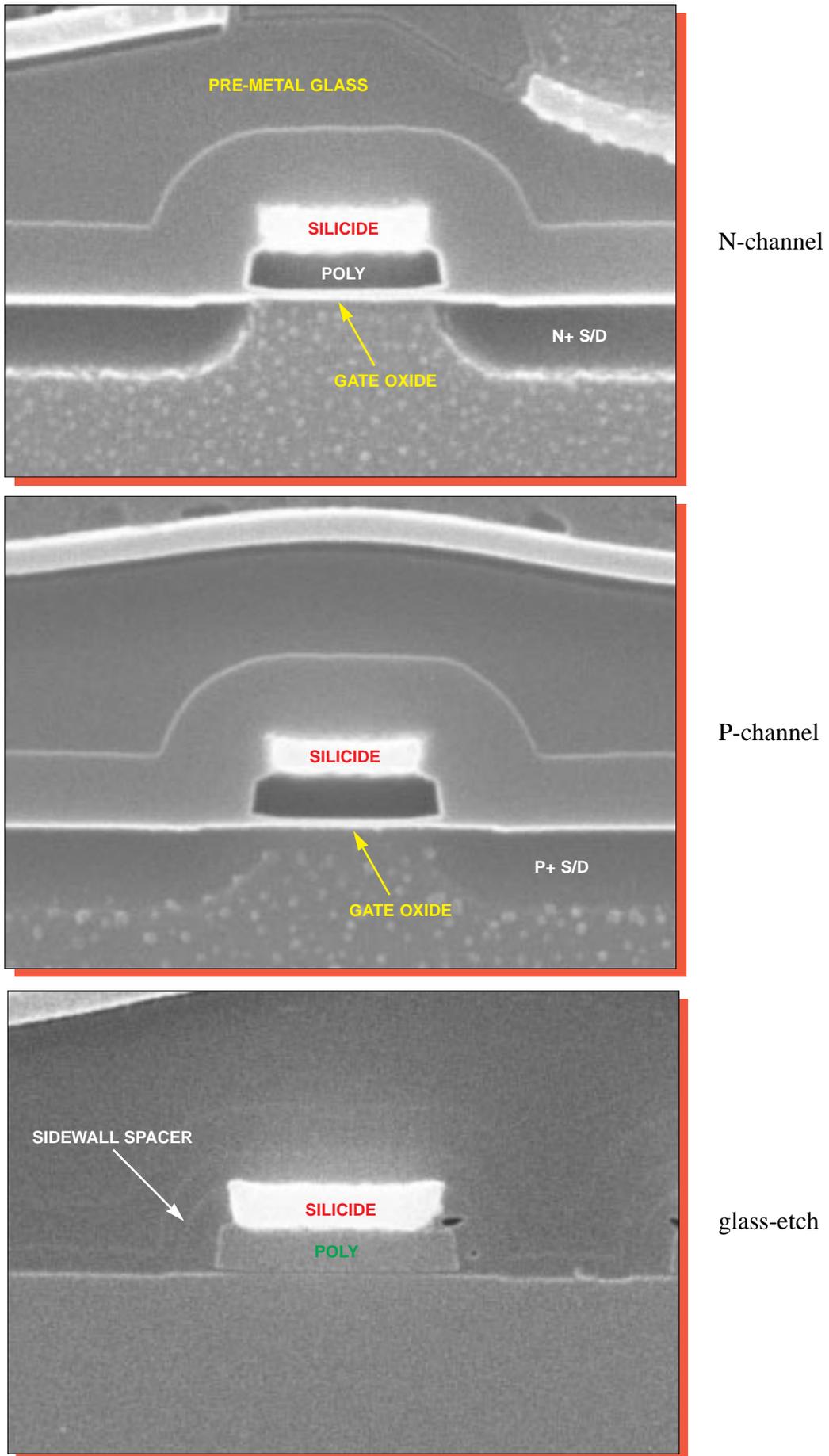


Figure 25. SEM section views of typical transistors. Mag. 52,000x.

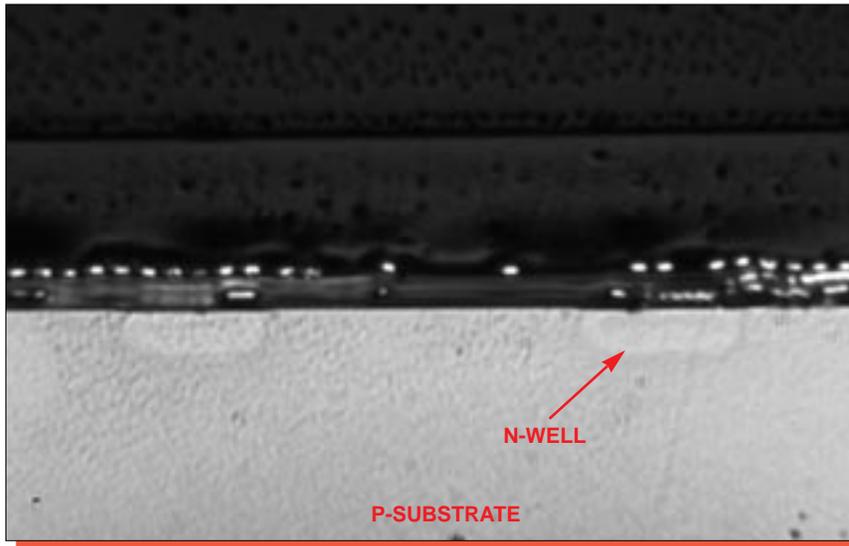
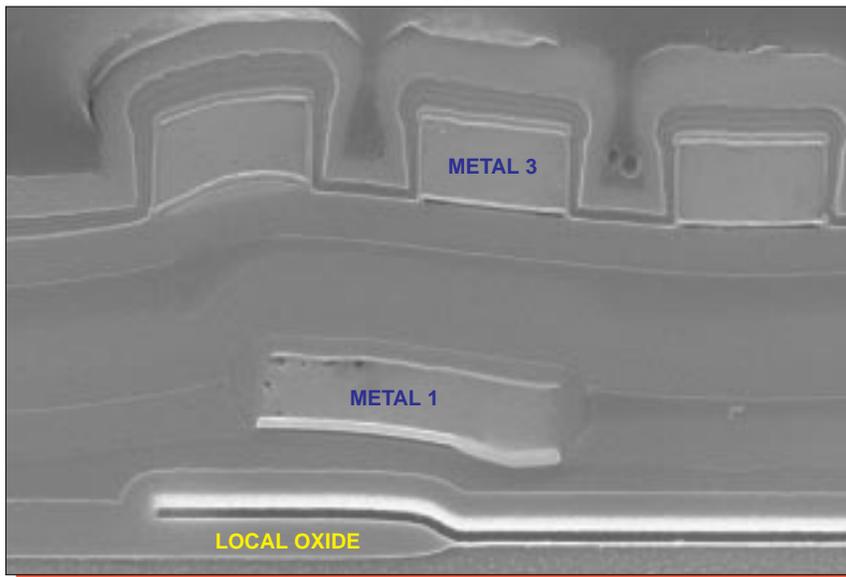
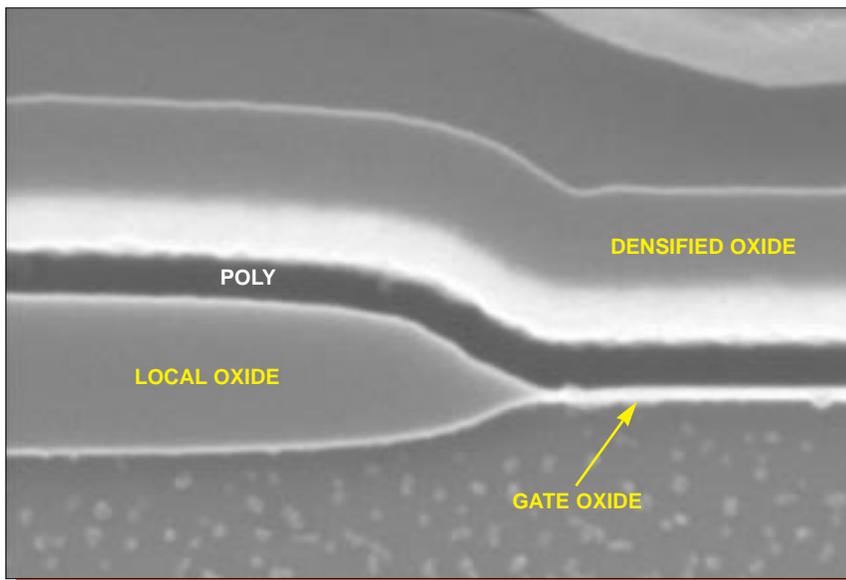


Figure 26. Optical view of well structure. Mag. 1240x.

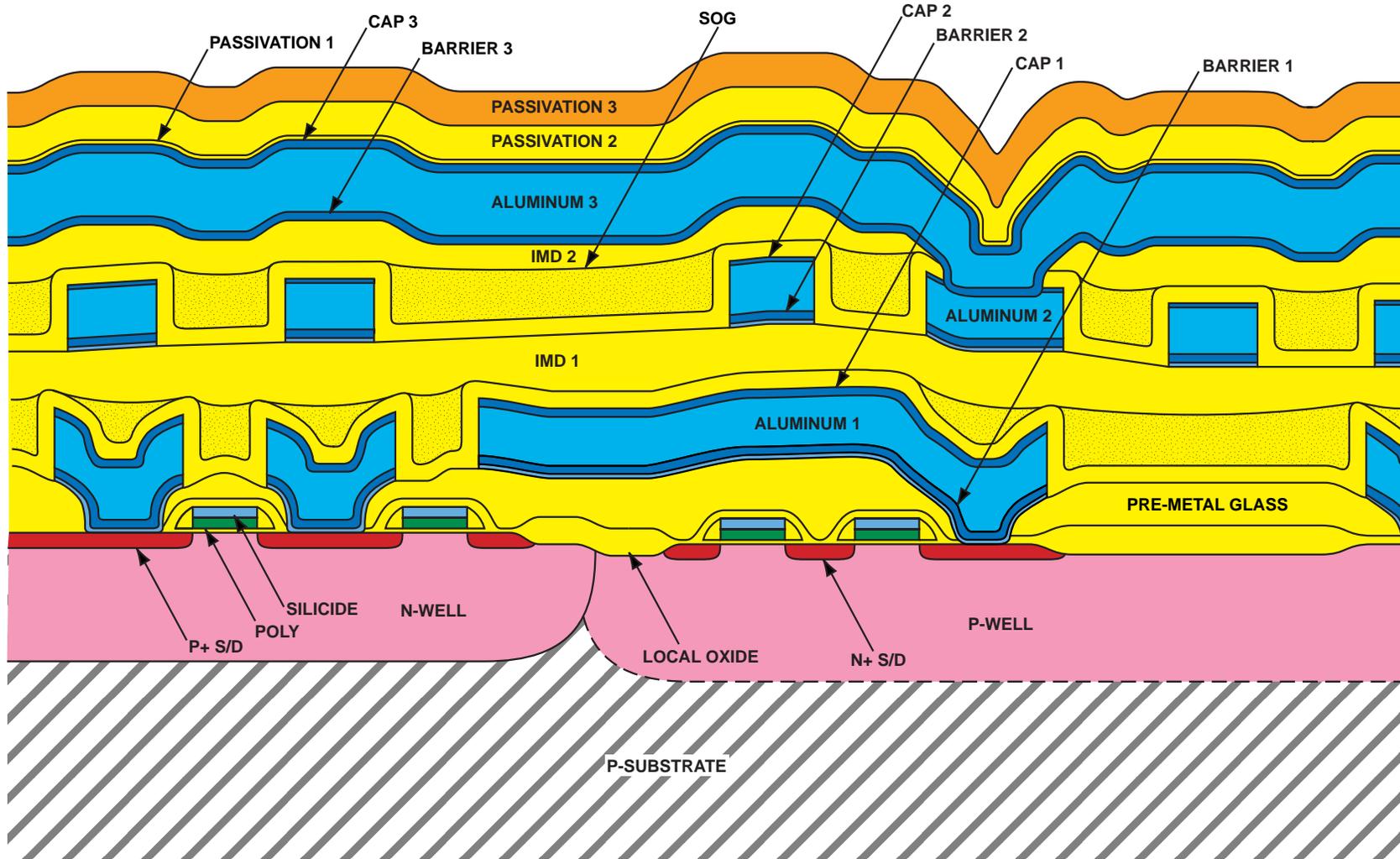


Mag. 13,000x



Mag. 52,000x

Figure 27. SEM section views of a typical birdsbeak.



Orange = Nitride, Blue = Metal, Yellow = Oxide, Green = Poly,
 Red = Diffusion, and Gray = Substrate

Figure 27a. Color cross section drawing illustrating device structure.

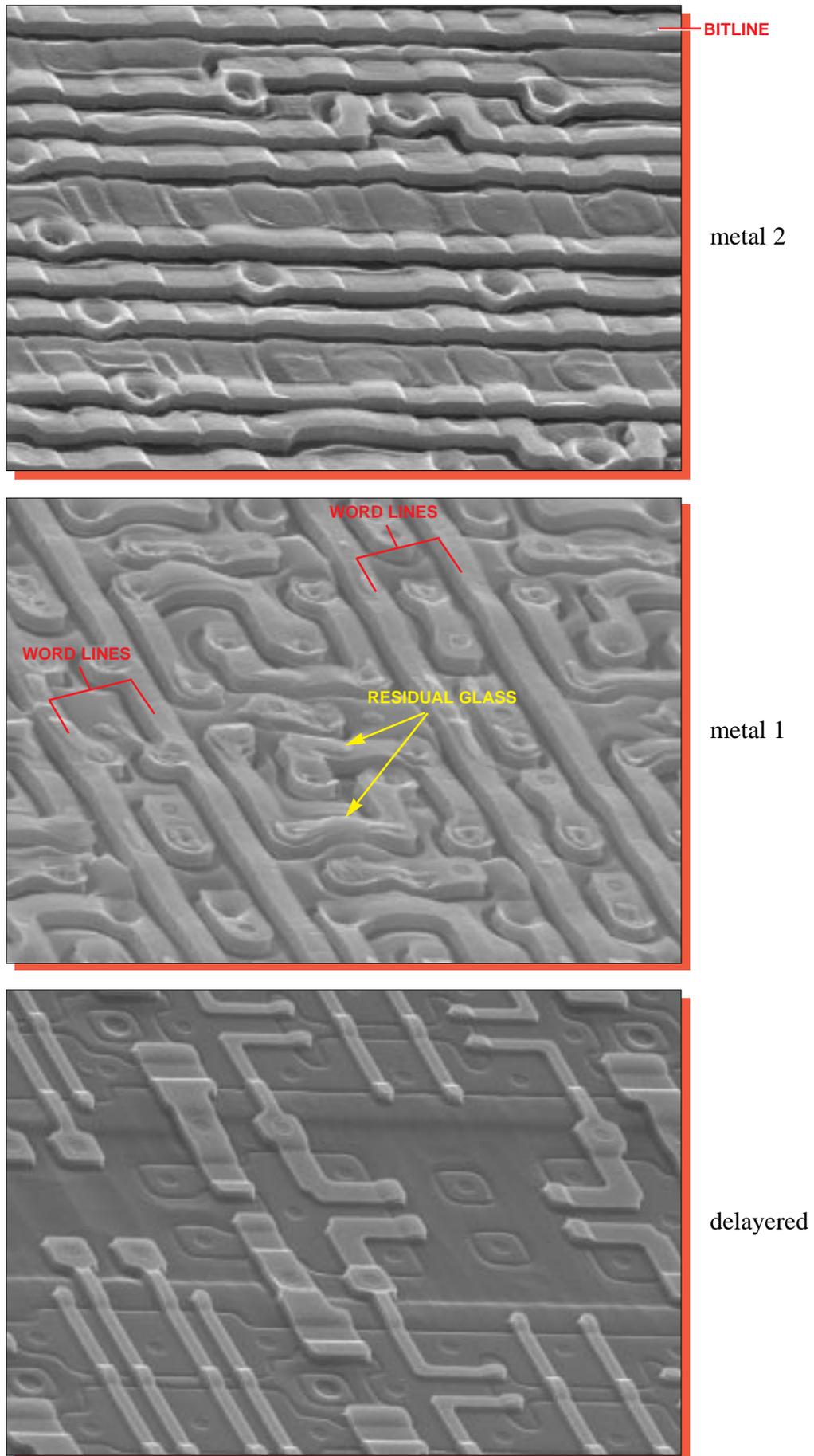
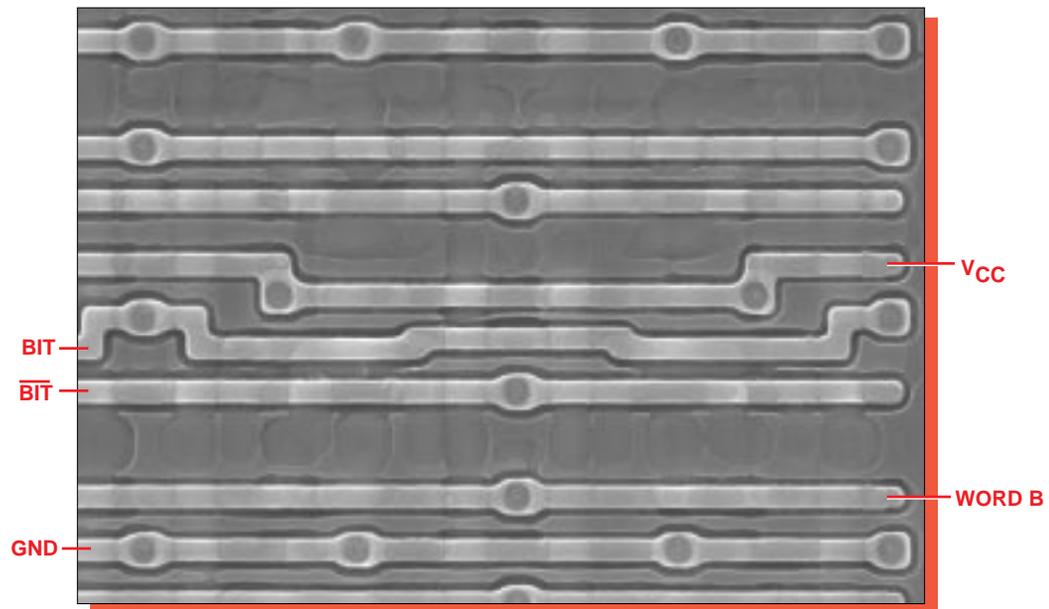
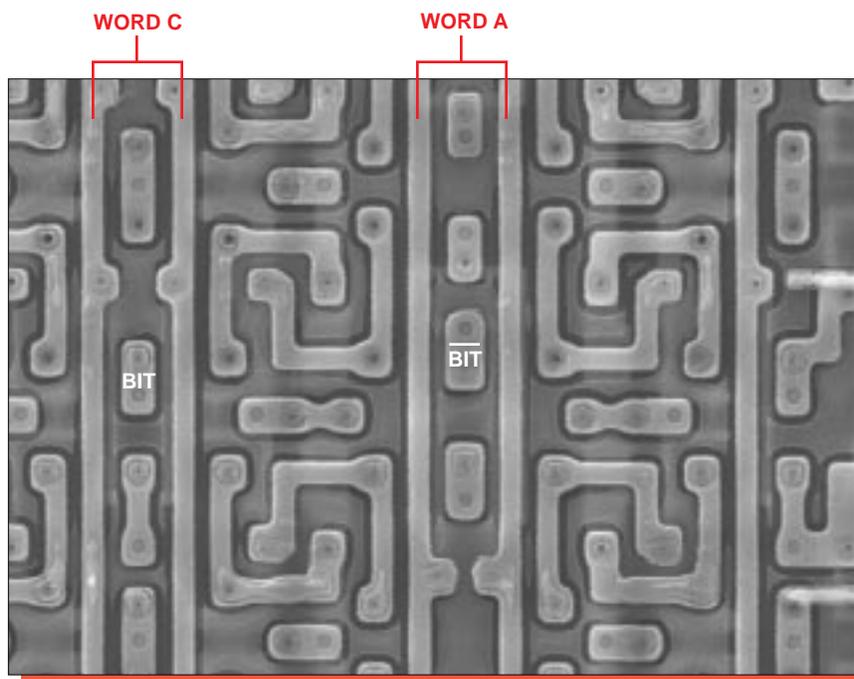


Figure 28. Perspective SEM views of the SRAM cell array. Mag. 4200x, 60°.

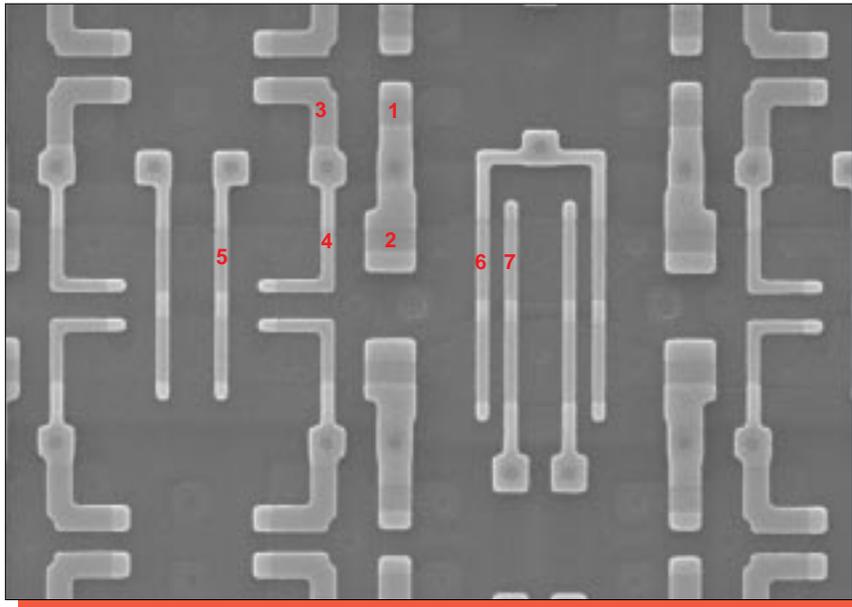


metal 2



metal 1

Figure 29. Topological SEM views of SRAM cell. Mag. 2400x, 0°.



Mag. 2400x, 0°

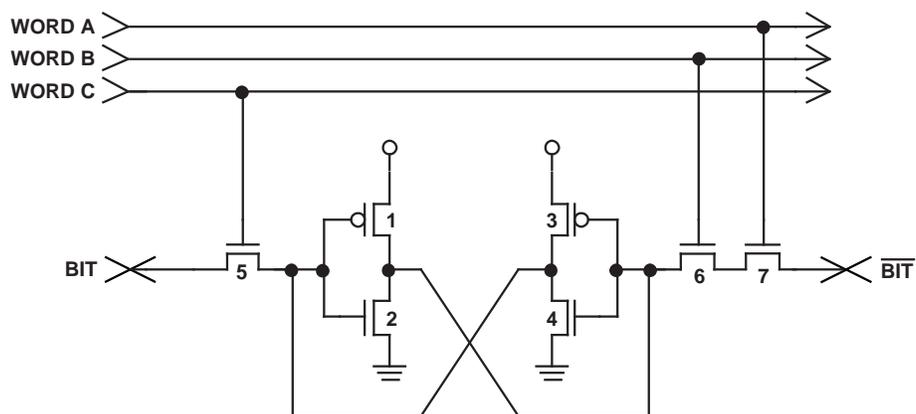


Figure 30. Topological SEM view and schematic of SRAM cell.