



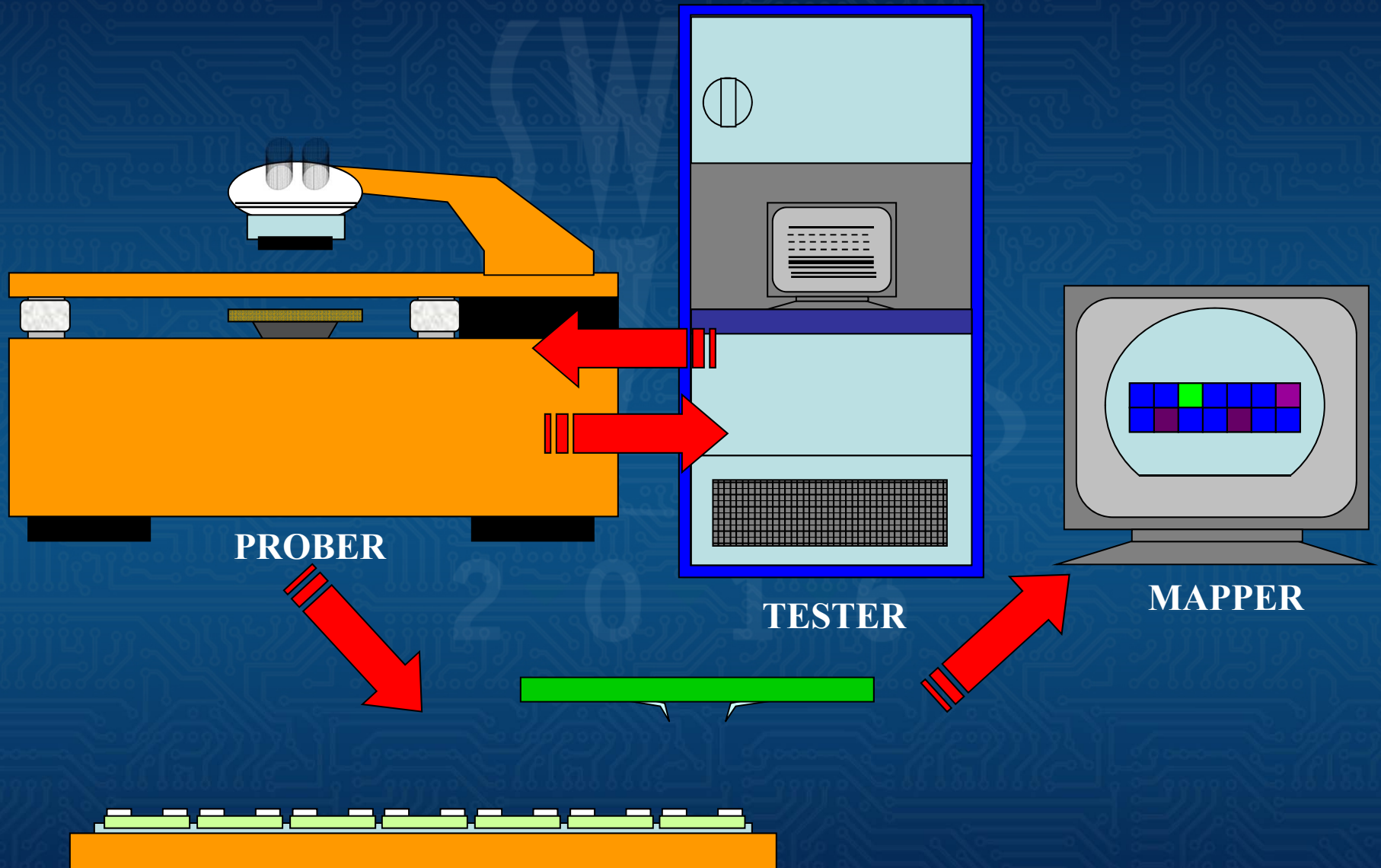
**SW Test Workshop**  
Semiconductor Wafer Test Workshop

# Understanding the Probe Damage Risk thru Determination of Minimum Bond Pad Opening Capability of Different Prober and Needle Type Set-up



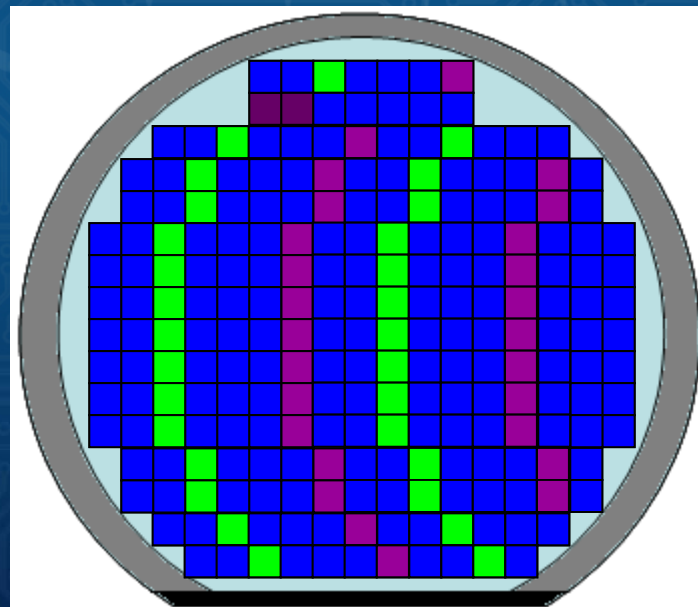
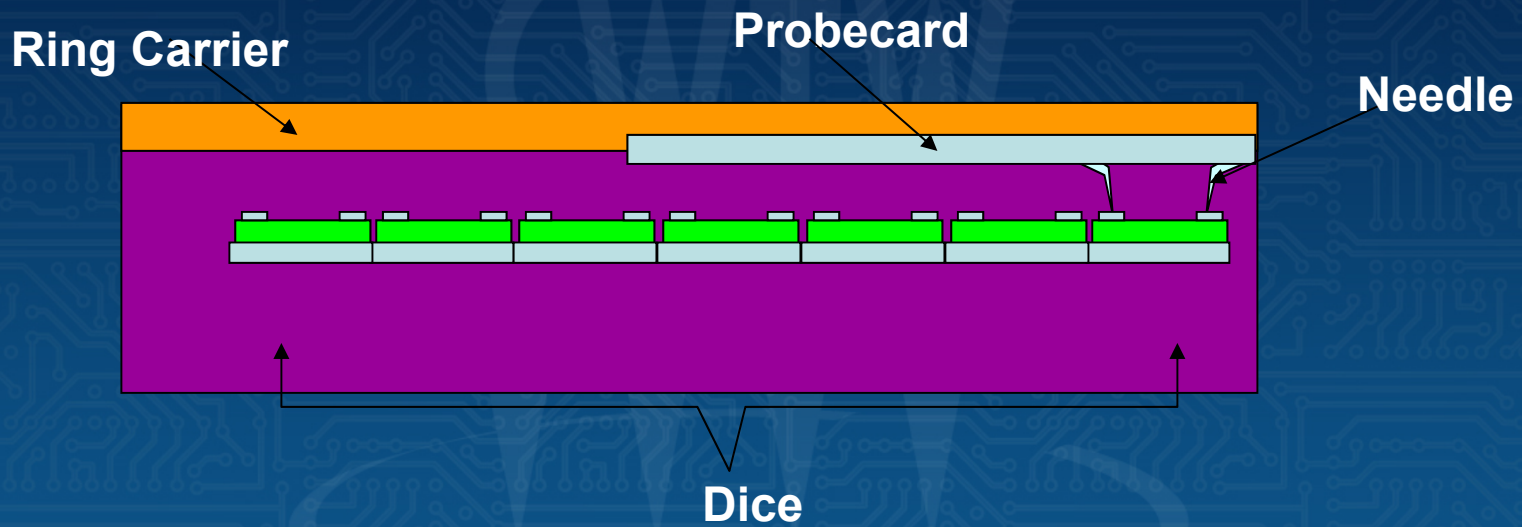
**Wiljelm Carl K. Olalia**  
Process Engineer II  
Probe and Die Sales Department  
ON Semiconductor Philippines  
June 5-8, 2016

# Introduction



SW Test Workshop - June 5-8, 2016

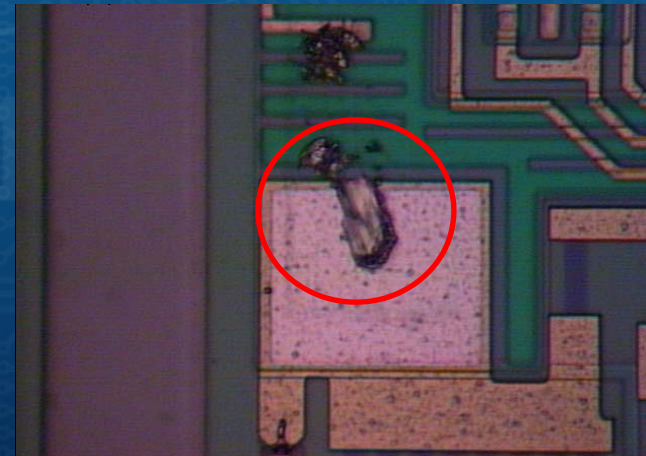
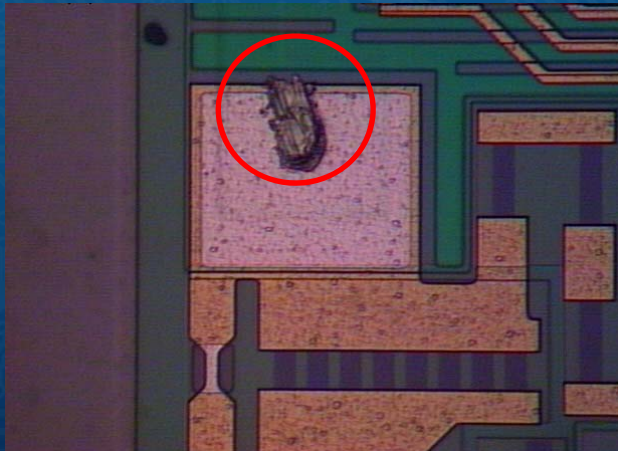
# Introduction



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# Introduction

What happen when Probe Needle is off-center?



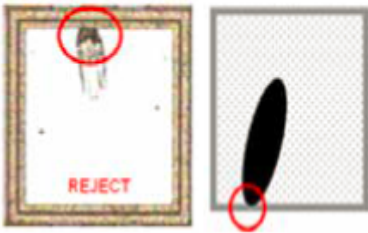
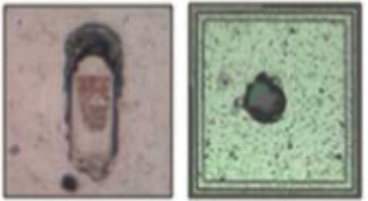
This will result to off-center probe-marks leading to Probe Damage.

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# Introduction

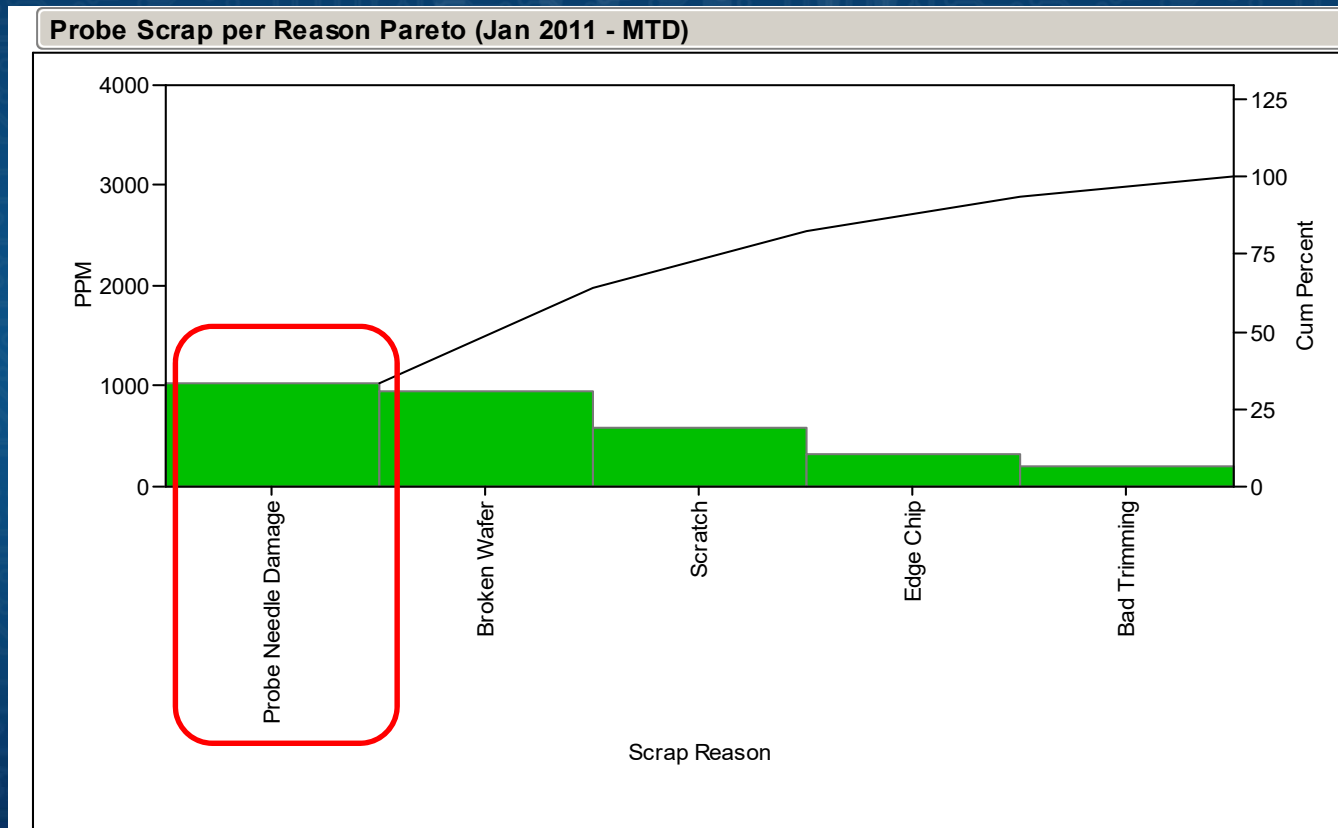
## What is Probe Damage ?

- Is a phenomena when a part of a die specifically at the Pad Area such as Seal Ring or other metallization has been damage by the Probe Needle during Testing.
- Probe damage is the number one visual defect contributor at wafer sort process having a direct impact on yield and cycle time.

No	Defect visual aid	Remarks
1		Probe marks touching the seal ring of the bond pad
2		Expose oxide on the bonding pad

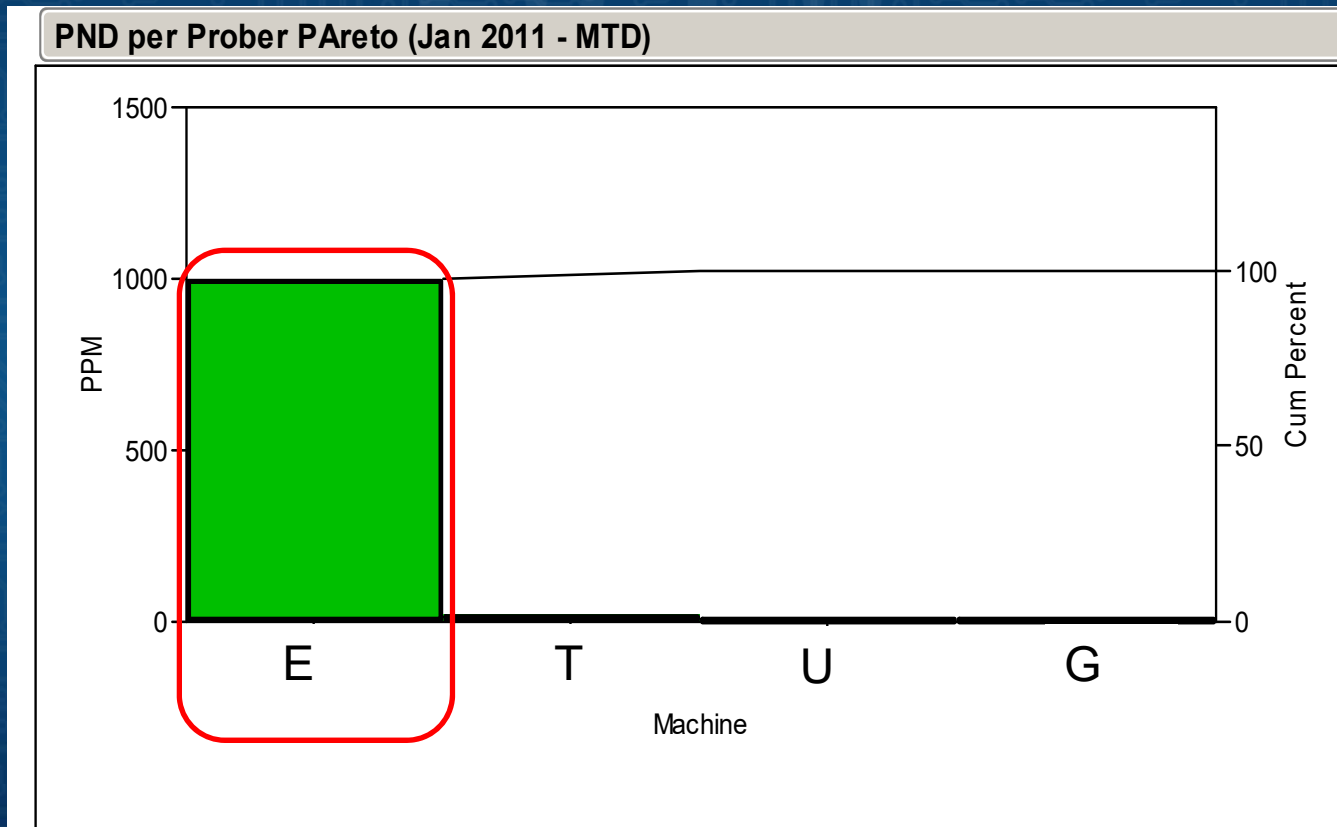
# Introduction

At 1000 ppm, Probe Damage related to Probe Needle is on top of Pareto in terms of wafer scrappage reason.



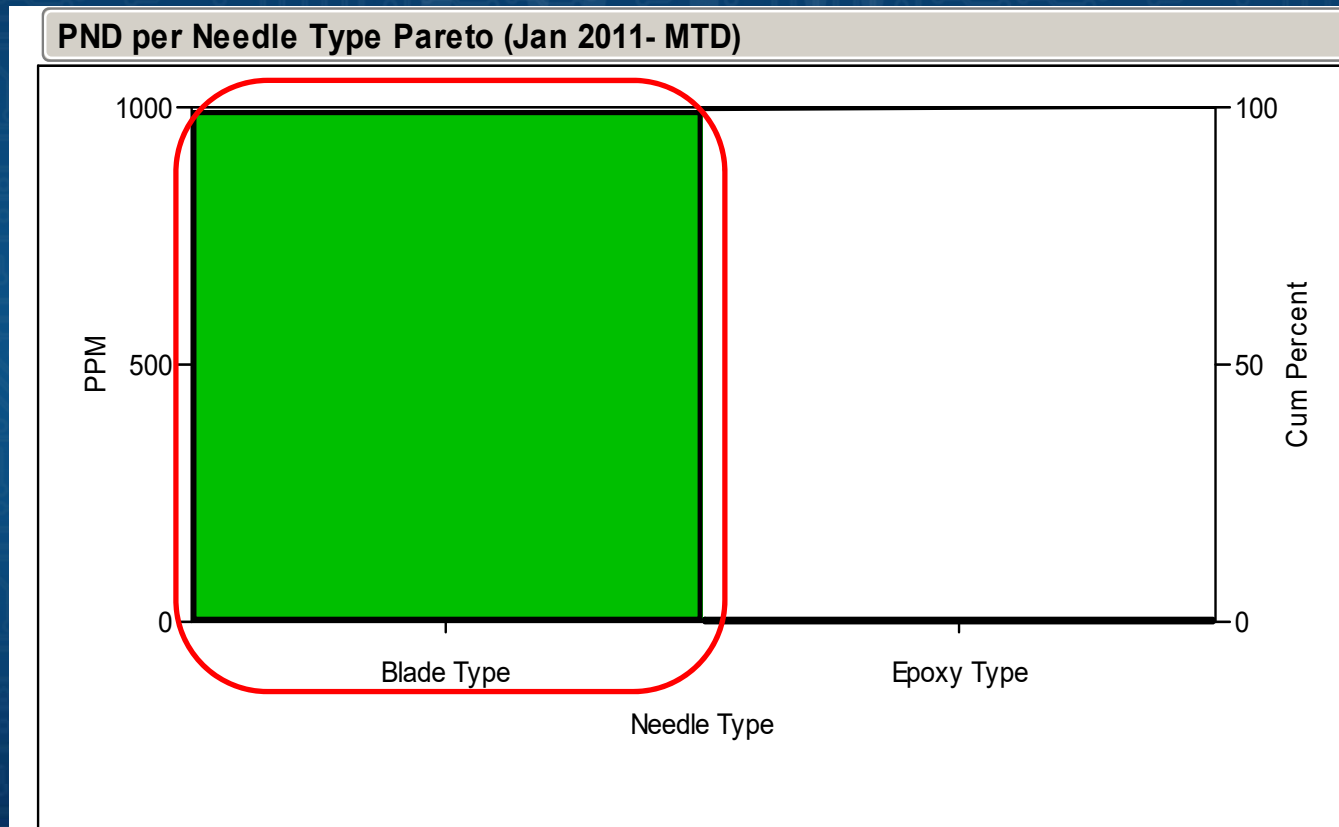
# Introduction

100% of those 1000 ppm have been contributed by the Prober E which uses a Blade Type Needle for Probing.



# Introduction

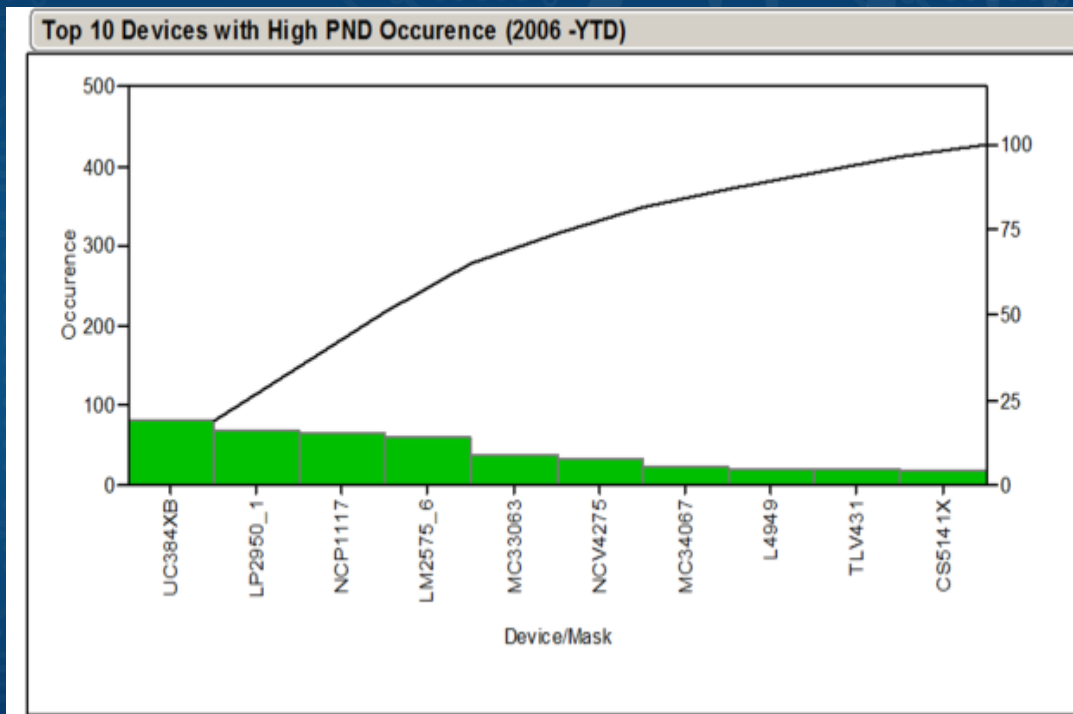
100% of those 1000 ppm have been contributed by the Prober E which uses a Blade Type Needle for Probing.





# Introduction

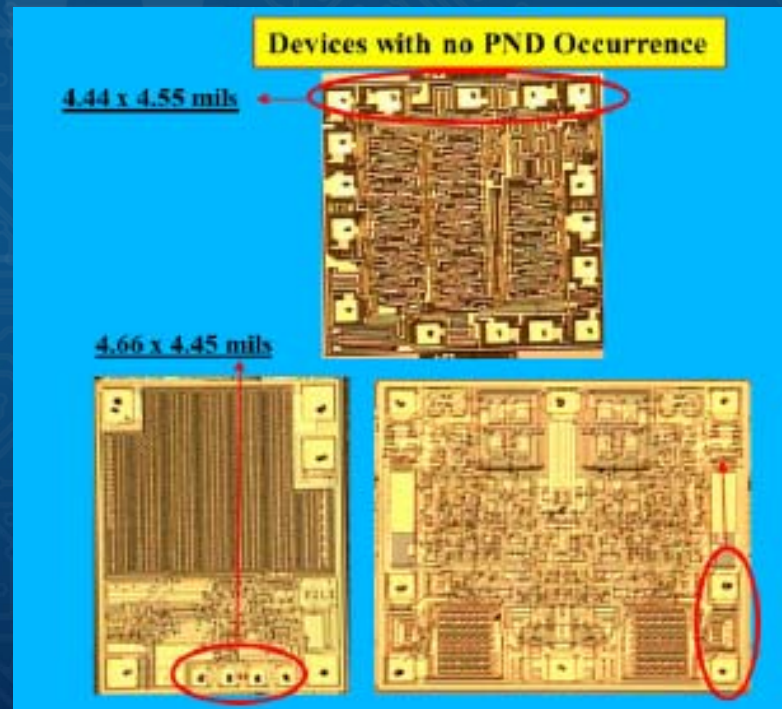
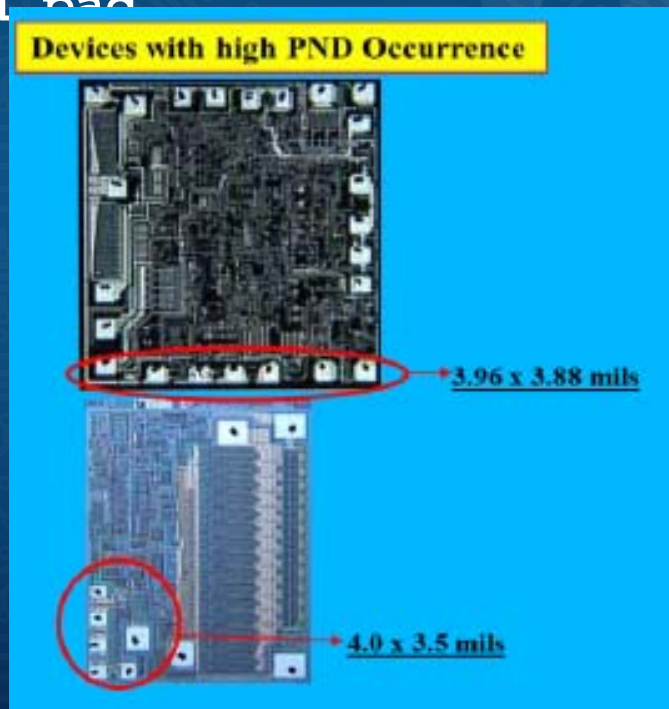
Further data stratification shown Top Devices with high Probe Damage Occurrence



Mask Name	Total Occurrence	Small Pad Size	Big Pad Size
UC384XB	81	3.6 x 4.1 mils	4.2 x 4.2 mils
LP2950_1	69	3.5 x 4.0 mils	4.2 x 4.1 mils
NCP1117	66	4.1 x 3.4 mils	7.7 x 6.3 mils
LM2575_6	61	3.3 x 3.2 mils	7.6 x 7.3 mils
MC33063	39	3.4 x 4.0 mils	4.2 x 4.2 mils
NCP5331	36	3.4 x 3.4 mils	4.0 x 3.8 mils
NCV4275	32	3.7 x 3.6 mils	6.0 x 5.8 mils
NCP5422	24	3.6 x 3.5 mils	4.0 x 4.0 mils
MC34067	23	3.5 x 4.0 mils	4.3 x 4.1 mils
L4949	21	3.3 x 3.2 mils	4.8 x 4.4 mils
TLV431	19	3.1 x 3.1 mils	
CS5141X	17	4.3 x 4.1 mils	

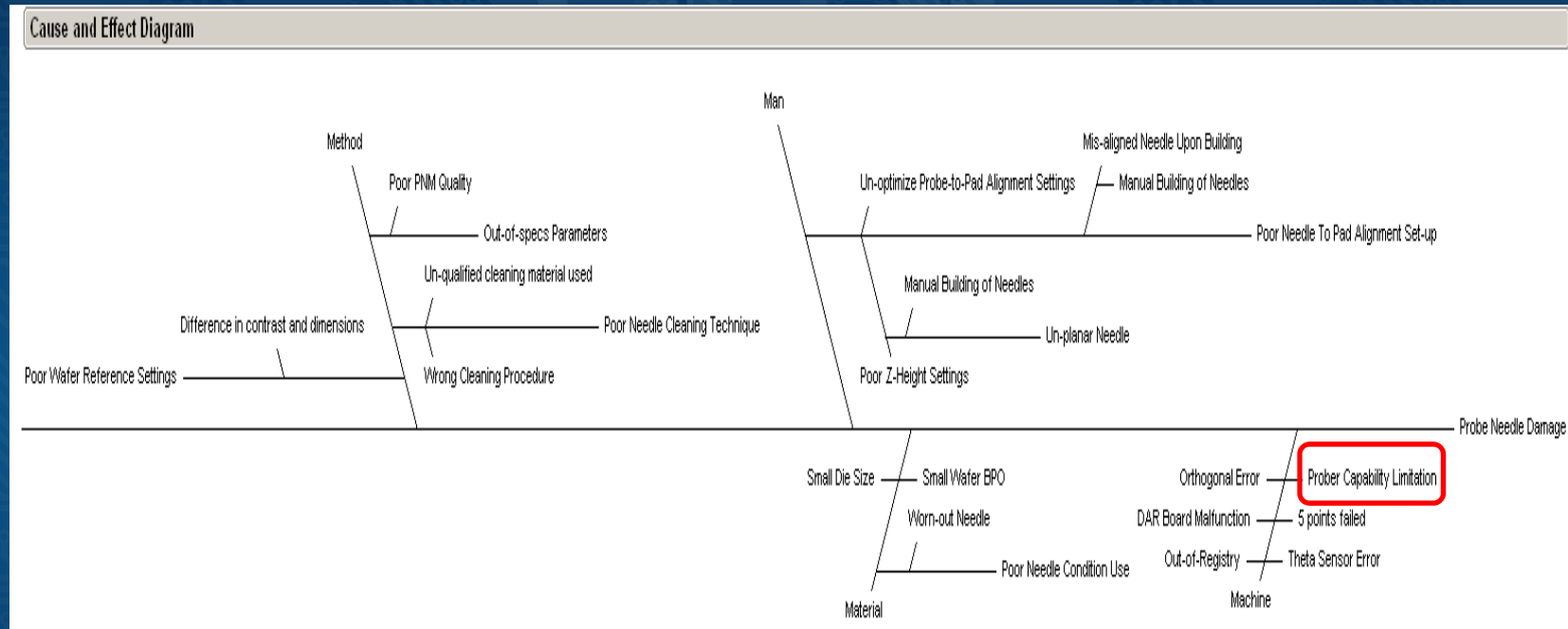
# Introduction

Devices with high PND occurrence have an average bond pad size less than 4 x 4 mils compared with devices with no PND occurrence. Initial assumption on high PND occurrence is due to Prober X when using blade type needle is not capable of probing devices with a minimum bond pad



# Introduction

What are the causes Probe Damage ?



- Probe Capability limitation in terms of minimum bond pad opening has been identified as one of the many causes of Probe Damage on wafers.
- Smaller pad is high risk to Probe Damage.

# Objective/Goals

- To determine the different minimum bond pad opening capability at Probe using different Prober and Needle Type.
- To assess the Probe Damage risk and come up with a solution to reduce the risk.

# Methodology

- **Identify all possible Prober and Needle Type Combination.**
  - Block all the other factors that will serve as noises. This is to eliminate the un-necessary variation that will affect the overall accuracy of the study.
- **Create a Data Collection Plan**
- **Perform Data Analysis**
- **Perform Capability Study**
- **Risk Assessment**

# Methodology

- I. Old Prober Tandem with Blade Type Needle
- II. Old Prober Tandem with Epoxy Type Needle
- III. New Prober Tandem with Blade Type Needle
- IV. New Prober Tandem with Epoxy Type Needle
- V. New Prober Tandem with Vertical Type Needle

# Methodology

## Data Collection Plan:

1. Measure the Length X & Y value as shown in Figure 1. Perform measurements on dice illustrated in Figure 2.

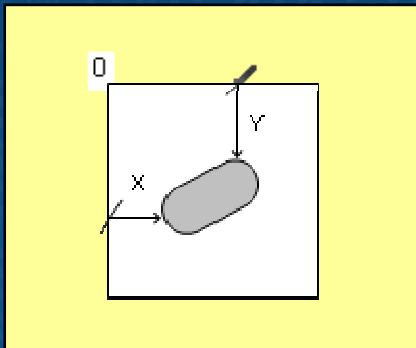


Fig 1

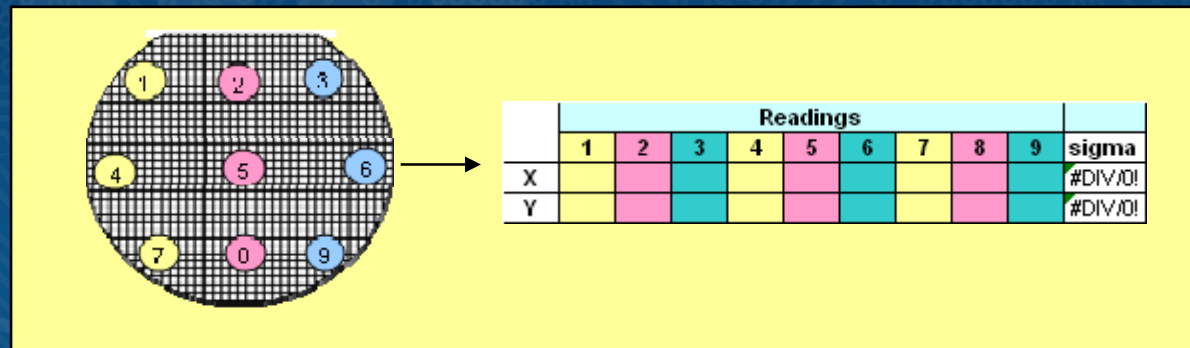
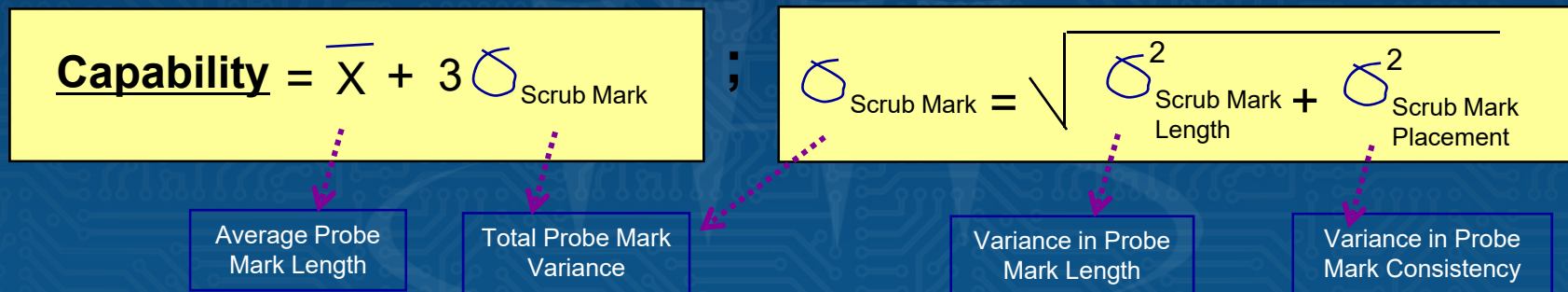


Fig 2

2. Repeat # 1 until 30 data sets is achieved.

# Methodology

Computation of Minimum Bond Pad Capability using  
“Components of Variation” :





# Capability Assessment

## Result

### I. Old Prober Tandem with Blade type Needle



# Capability Assessment

## Result

### I. Old Prober Tandem with Blade Type Needle

$$\text{Capability} = \bar{X} + 3\sigma_{\text{Scrub Mark}}$$

;

$$\sigma_{\text{Scrub Mark}} = \sqrt{\sigma_{\text{Scrub Mark Length}}^2 + \sigma_{\text{Scrub Mark Placement}}^2}$$

$$\text{Capability} = 2.79 + 3\sigma_{\text{Scrub Mark}}$$

;

$$\sigma_{\text{Scrub Mark}} = \sqrt{(0.43)^2 + (0.30)^2}$$

$$\text{Capability} = 2.79 + 3\sigma_{\text{Scrub Mark}}$$

;

$$\sigma_{\text{Scrub Mark}} = 0.5264$$

$$\text{Capability} = 2.79 + 3(0.5264)$$

$$\text{Capability} = 4.37\text{mils} \approx 4.5\text{ mils}$$

# Capability Assessment Result

## II. Old Prober Tandem with Epoxy Type Needle



# Capability Assessment Result

## II. Old Prober Tandem with Epoxy Type Needle

$$\text{Capability} = \bar{X} + 3\sigma_{\text{Scrub Mark}}$$

;

$$\sigma_{\text{Scrub Mark}} = \sqrt{\sigma_{\text{Scrub Mark Length}}^2 + \sigma_{\text{Scrub Mark Placement}}^2}$$

$$\text{Capability} = 1.74 + 3\sigma_{\text{Scrub Mark}}$$

;

$$\sigma_{\text{Scrub Mark}} = \sqrt{(0.21)^2 + (0.30)^2}$$

$$\text{Capability} = 1.74 + 3\sigma_{\text{Scrub Mark}}$$

;

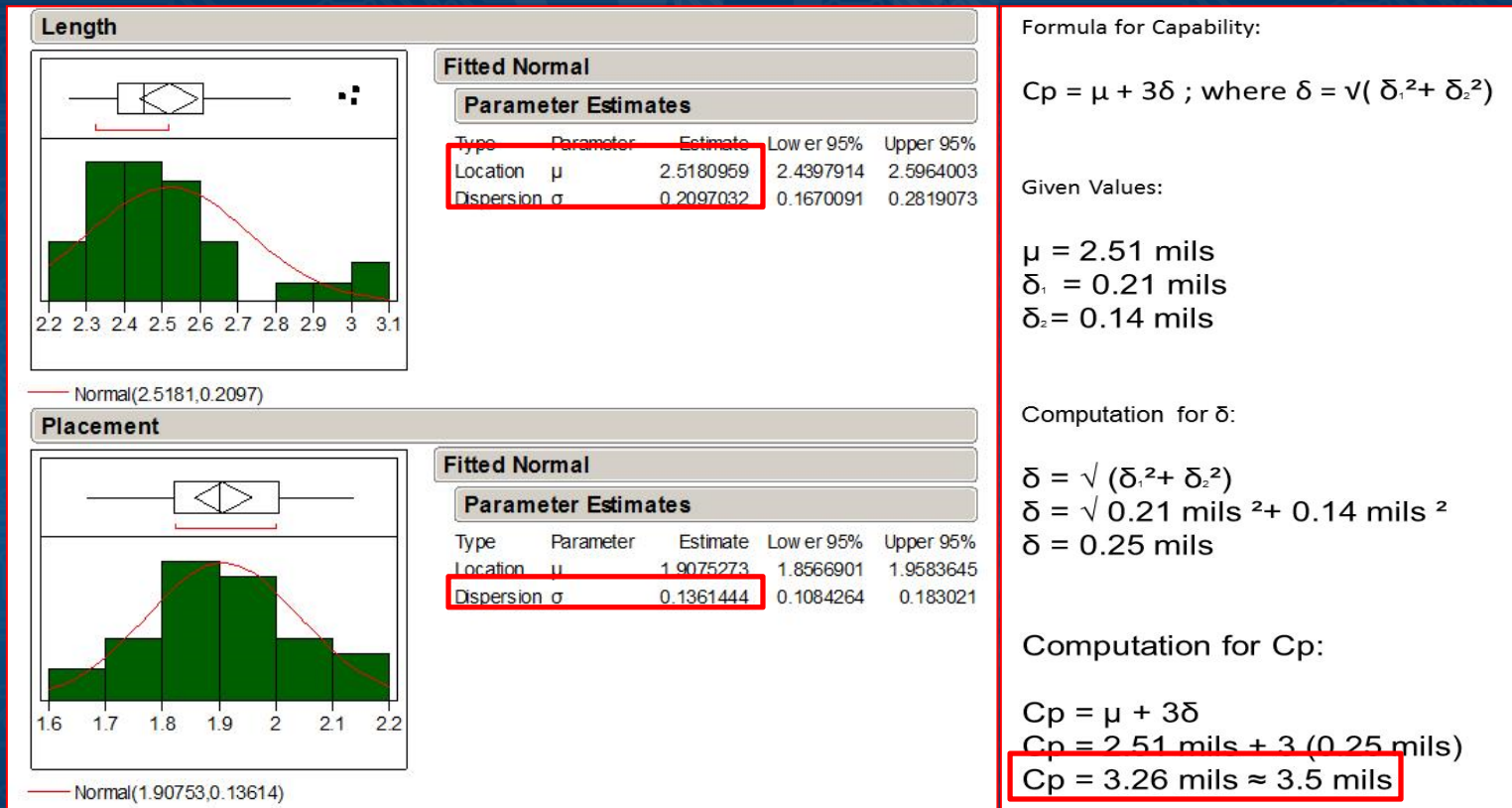
$$\sigma_{\text{Scrub Mark}} = 0.3665$$

$$\text{Capability} = 1.74 + 3(0.3665)$$

$$\text{Capability} = 2.84 \text{ mils} \approx 3 \text{ mils}$$

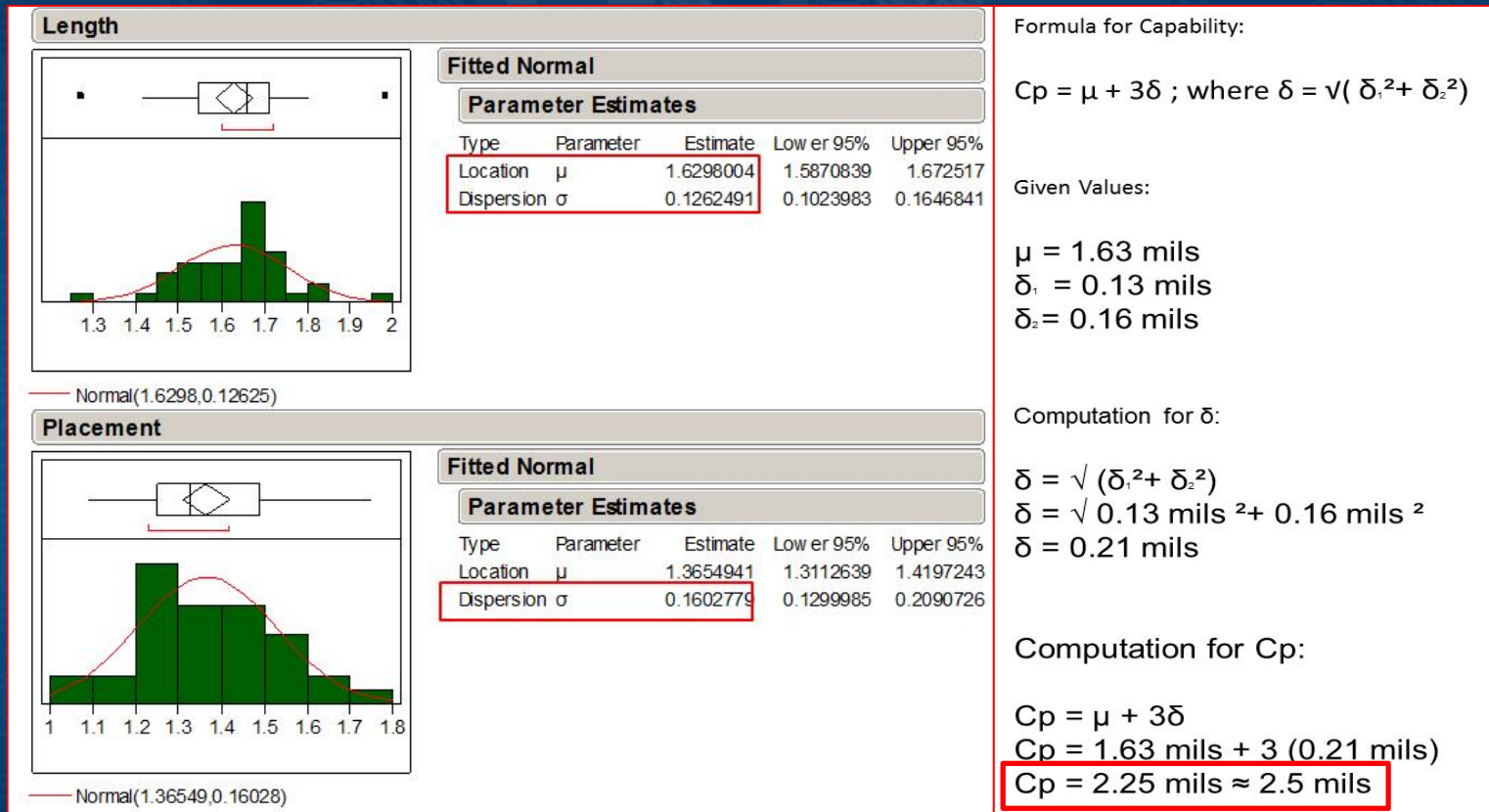
# Capability Assessment Result

## III. New Prober Tandem with Blade Type Needle



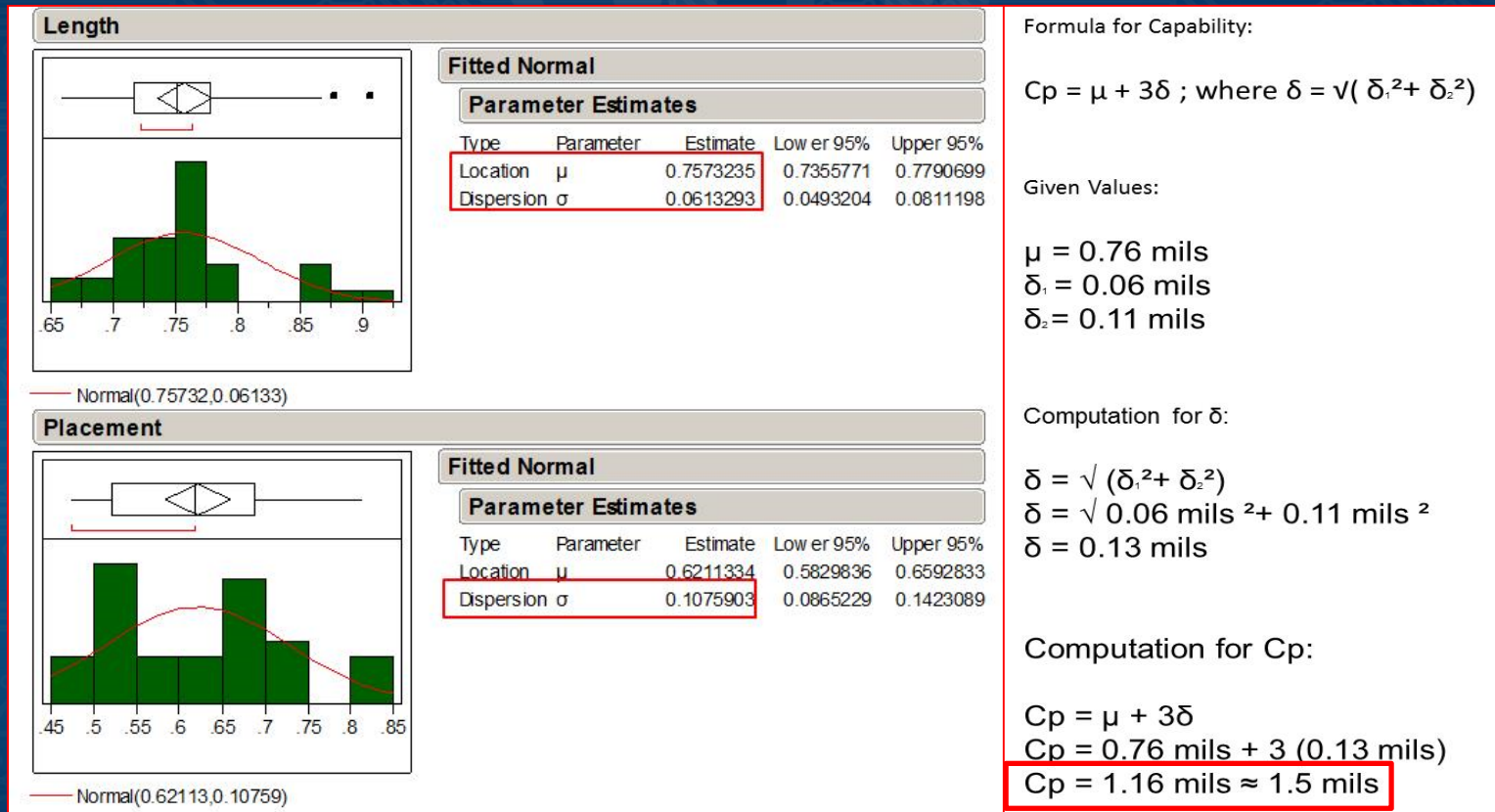
# Capability Assessment Result

## IV. New Prober Tandem with Epoxy Type Needle



# Capability Assessment Result

## V. New Prober Tandem with Vertical Type Needle



# Sigma Assessment

## I. Old Prober Tandem with Blade Type Needle

**Definition of a Defect**

Lower Specification Limit (LSL)		Upper Specification Limit (USL)	3.5
---------------------------------	--	---------------------------------	-----

**Known Sample Statistics**

What Is Mean of Distribution?	2.79
What Is Standard Deviation of Distribution?	0.5264

**Note:** Before Entering Data, Go To Tools Menu, Select Options, Select Calculations, and Check Manual Button. Enter Data into Appropriate Sections of Calculator, and Push F9 Button To Perform

DPMO	88,703
Sigma (ZST)	2.85
<b>Draw Conclusions</b>	
<i>Below Industry Average</i>	

Select One  
 Long Term



# Sigma Assessment

## II. Old Prober Tandem with Epoxy Type Needle

Definition of a Defect	
Lower Specification Limit (LSL)	
Upper Specification Limit (USL)	3.5

**Note:** Before Entering Data, Go To Tools Menu, Select Options, Select Calculations, and Check Manual Button. Enter Data into Appropriate Sections of Calculator, and Push F9 Button To Perform

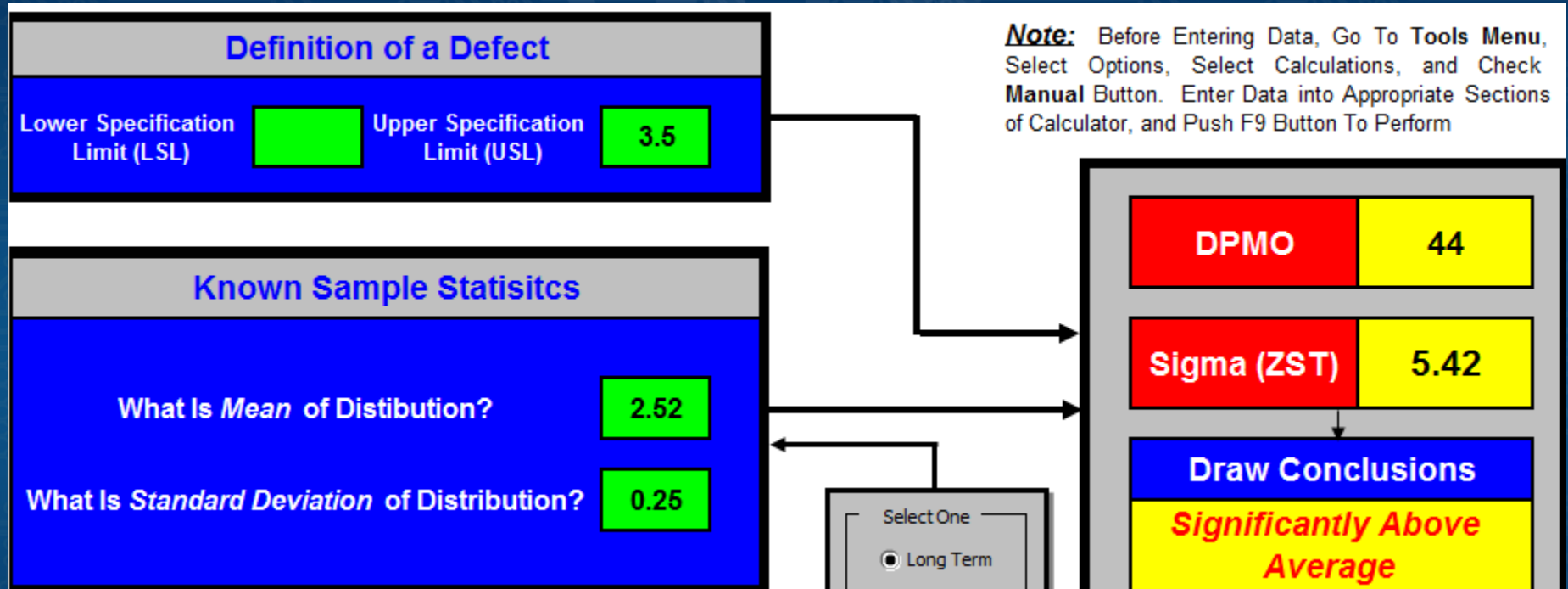
Known Sample Statistics	
What Is Mean of Distribution?	1.74
What Is Standard Deviation of Distribution?	0.3665

Select One  
 Long Term

DPMO	1
Sigma (ZST)	6.30
Draw Conclusions	
World Class	

# Sigma Assessment

## III. New Prober Tandem with Blade Type Needle



# Sigma Assessment

## IV. New Prober Tandem with Epoxy Type Needle

**Definition of a Defect**

Lower Specification Limit (LSL)		Upper Specification Limit (USL)	3.5
---------------------------------	--	---------------------------------	-----

**Known Sample Statistics**

What Is <i>Mean</i> of Distibution?	1.63
What Is <i>Standard Deviation</i> of Distribution?	0.21

**Note:** Before Entering Data, Go To Tools Menu, Select Options, Select Calculations, and Check Manual Button. Enter Data into Appropriate Sections of Calculator, and Push F9 Button To Perform

Select One  
 Long Term

DPMO	0
Sigma (ZST)	7.50
<b>Draw Conclusions</b>	
World Class	

The diagram illustrates the data flow in a Sigma Assessment tool. It shows three main input sections on the left: 'Definition of a Defect' (with LSL and USL fields), 'Known Sample Statistics' (with Mean and Standard Deviation fields), and a 'Select One' dropdown menu (with 'Long Term' selected). Arrows indicate that data from these sections flows into a central processing area, which then outputs results to a final summary box on the right. The summary box displays 'DPMO' as 0, 'Sigma (ZST)' as 7.50, and a 'Draw Conclusions' section with the result 'World Class'.

# Sigma Assessment

## V. New Prober Tandem with Vertical Type Needle

Definition of a Defect	
Lower Specification Limit (LSL)	<input type="text"/>
Upper Specification Limit (USL)	3.5

Known Sample Statistics	
What Is Mean of Distribution?	0.76
What Is Standard Deviation of Distribution?	0.13

Select One  
 Long Term

**Note:** Before Entering Data, Go To Tools Menu, Select Options, Select Calculations, and Check Manual Button. Enter Data into Appropriate Sections of Calculator, and Push F9 Button To Perform

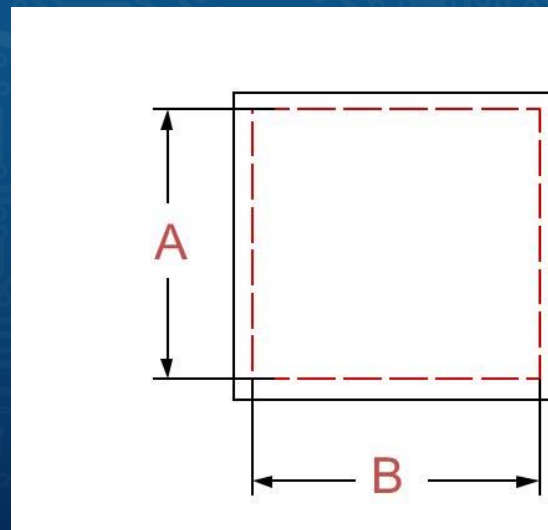
DPMO	0
Sigma (ZST)	7.50
Draw Conclusions	
World Class	

# Summary



Microsoft Excel  
Worksheet

Minimum Bond Pad Size Opening Capability							
Prober	Needle Type	Probe marks Size (x)	3 Sigma (Placement and Length)	A	B	$\Sigma$ - Level	DPMO
Old	Blade Type (1.5 mils)	2.79 mils	1.6 mils	4.39 mils	4.39 mils	2.85	88703.00
	Epoxy Type (1 mil)	1.74 mils	1.1 mils	2.84 mils	2.84 mils	6.30	1.00
New	Blade Type (1.5 mils)	2.51 mils	0.74 mils	3.25 mils	3.25 mils	5.42	44.00
	Epoxy Type (1 mil)	1.63 mils	0.63 mils	2.25 mils	2.25mils	7.50	0.00
	Vertical Probe (2.5 mils)	0.9 mils	0.36 mils	1.27 mils	1.27 mils	7.50	0.00



# Summary



Microsoft Excel  
Worksheet

## Capability Study:

- ✓ Old Prober tandem with Blade Type needle minimum bpo = 4.39 mils.
- ✓ Old Prober tandem with Epoxy Type = 2.84 mils.
- ✓ New Prober tandem with Blade Type = 3.25 mils.
- ✓ New Prober tandem with Epoxy Type = 2.25 mils and for New Prober tandem with Vertical Probe = 1.27 mils.

## Sigma Assessment:

- ✓ Old Prober tandem with Blade Type needle sigma = 2.85 which has an expected defect per million opportunity = 88703.
- ✓ Old Prober tandem with Epoxy Type needle sigma = 6.30 which has an expected dpmo = 1.
- ✓ New Prober tandem with Blade Type needle sigma = 5.46 which has an expected dpmo = 37.
- ✓ New Prober tandem with Epoxy Type or Vertical Probe sigma level = 7.5 which has an expected = 0.

# Follow-On Work

- For new product development, Wafer Probe Equipment capability in terms of placement and stepping accuracy should be considered primarily. Current trend of technology causes the Die Size to shrink. BPO becomes smaller and smaller.
- Probe Technology should also be considered. A wide spread variety of Probe Technology such as Cantilever, Buckling Type, Cobra and Pogo can be chosen depending on the current process requirement and what the customer needs.
- MPCPS should be done on every New Product/Process. This is an anticipation of risk that prevents the issue during the Production Run that cost a lot. Solving the problem at the source is much cheaper.