

# MIRA3



# 3<sup>rd</sup> Generation of MIRA FE-SEMs

The 3<sup>rd</sup> generation of MIRA field emission scanning electron microscopes (SEMs) provides users with the advantages of the latest technology, such as new improved high-performance electronics for faster image acquisition, an ultra-fast scanning system with compensation for static and dynamic image aberrations and built-in scripting for user-defined applications, all while maintaining the best price to performance ratio.

The MIRA3 series has been carefully designed for fulfilling a wide range of SEM applications and needs in today's research and industry. Its excellent resolution at high beam currents has proved to be advantageous for analytical applications such as EBSD, WDX, etc.

The MIRA3 field emission scanning electron microscopes are manufactured in configurations with LM, XM, GM and, the special and uniquely large AMU chamber.



## ■ Modern Optics

- High brightness Schottky emitter for high-resolution/high current/low-noise imaging
- Unique Wide Field Optics™ design with a proprietary Intermediate Lens (IML) offering a variety of working and displaying modes, for enhanced field of view or depth of focus, etc.
- Real-time In-Flight Beam Tracing™ for performance and beam optimization, which also allows direct and continuous control of the beam and beam current
- Beam Deceleration Technology (BDT) for excellent resolution at low beam voltages
- Excellent imaging at short working distances with the powerful In-Beam detector (optional)
- Fully automated electron optics

set-up and alignment

- Fast imaging rate up to 20 ns
- Unique live stereoscopic imaging by using the advanced 3D Beam Technology which opens up the micro and nano-world for an amazing 3D experience and 3D navigation

## ■ Analytical Potential

- All MIRA3 chambers (LM, XM, and GM) provide superior specimen handling using a 5-axis fully motorized compucentric stage and have ideal geometry for EDX and EBSD
- Optional extra-large chambers (XM, GM) with robust stages able to accommodate large samples including large wafers (6", 8", 12") are also available
- Numerous interface ports with optimized analytical geometry for attaching EDX, WDX and EBSD

detectors and many others

- First-class YAG scintillator-based detectors
- Selection of optional detectors and other accessories
- Full operating vacuum can be quickly and easily obtained with powerful turbomolecular and dry fore vacuum pumps; electron gun pumping with an ion pump
- Investigation of non-conductive samples in variable pressure modes
- Several options for chamber suspension type ensure effective reduction of ambient vibrations in the laboratory
- Unique integrated active vibration isolation for analytical GM chamber delivered as standard
- Excellent quality imaging of magnetic samples
- Non-distorted EBSD pattern

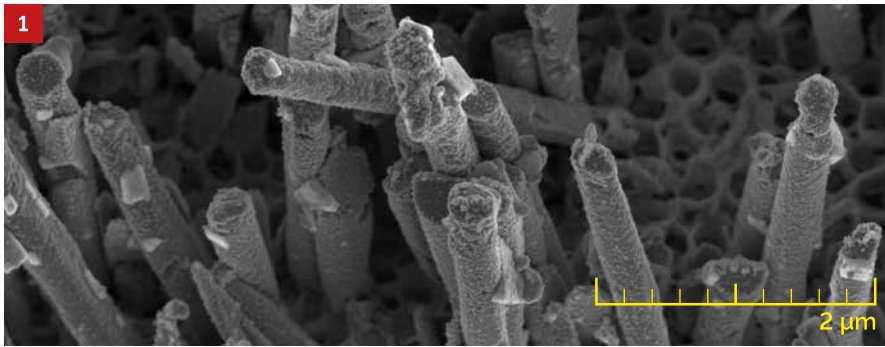


Fig.1: Silver nanowires prepared by electrolysis on an alumina membrane

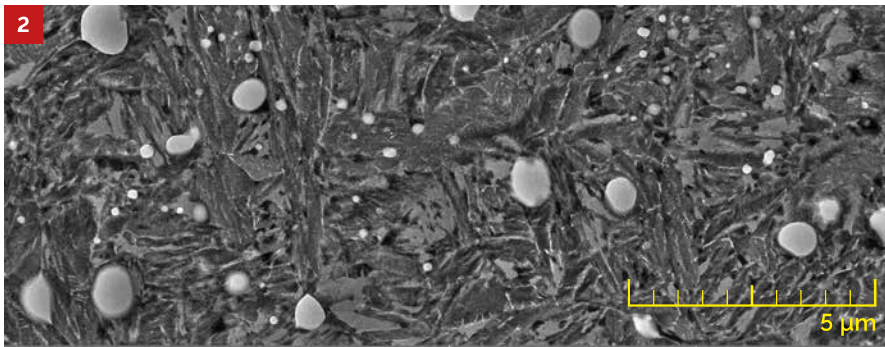


Fig. 2: Hi speed steel with Cr carbides

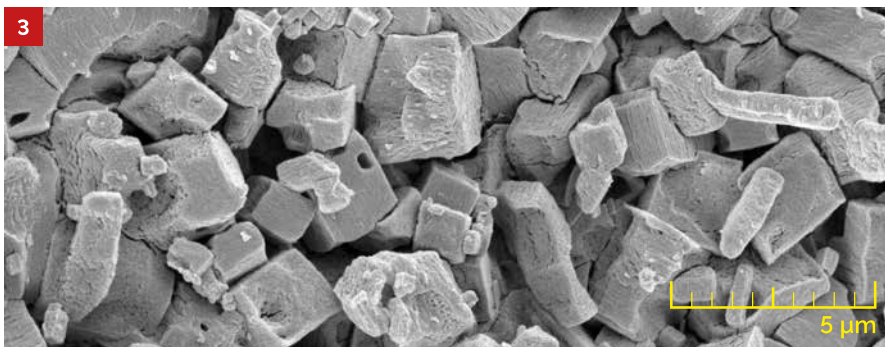


Fig. 3: Pharmaceutical structure

### ■ Beam Deceleration Technology (BDT)

The Beam Deceleration Technology (BDT) consists of the Beam Deceleration Mode (BDM), a state-of-the-art In-Beam detector designed to detect high-angle BSE under standard operating conditions and SE signal in the BDM. The BDT can optionally include an In-Beam LE-BSE detector for excellent performance at low beam energies. Imaging at low beam energies is advantageous for a wide range of specimens, such as non-conductive materials, semiconductors and lithographic resists which are prone to damage caused by energetic beam electrons. Keeping the primary beam at low energy allows the user to determine very fine surface details which otherwise would not be observable at higher beam energies. It is highly recommended to combine the BDT with a decontaminator device.

### ■ User-Friendly Software

- Multi-user environment is localized in many languages
- Four levels of user expertise/rights, including an EasySEM™ mode for quick routine investigations
- Image management and report creation
- Built-in self-diagnostics for system readiness checks
- Network operations and remote access/diagnostics
- Modular software architecture enables several extensions to be attached

### ■ Rapid Maintenance

Keeping the microscope in optimal condition is now easy, requiring a minimum downtime of the microscope. Every detail has been carefully designed to maximize the microscope performance and minimize the operator's effort.

### ■ Automated Procedures

Automatic set-up of the microscope and many other automated operations are characteristic features of the equipment. There are many other automated procedures which significantly reduce the time for tuning-up the microscope, enable automated manipulator navigation and automated analyses. The Shark SEM remote control interface enables access to most of the microscope features, including microscope vacuum control, optics control, stage control, image acquisition, etc. The compact Python scripting library offers all these features.

### ■ Software Tools

Image Processing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Measurement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Object Area	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Hardness	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tolerance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Multi Image Calibrator	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Switch-Off Timer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3D Scanning	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
X-Positioner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
EasySEM™	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Live Video	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Histogram	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Analysis & Measurement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Particles Basic	<input type="checkbox"/>
Particles Advanced	<input type="checkbox"/>
Image Snapper	<input type="checkbox"/>
DrawBeam Basic	<input type="checkbox"/>
DrawBeam Advanced	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sample Observer	<input type="checkbox"/>
Input Director	<input type="checkbox"/>
System Examiner	<input type="checkbox"/>
TESCAN TRACE GSR	<input type="checkbox"/>
EasyEDX Integration Software	<input type="checkbox"/>
3D Metrology (MeX) *	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cell Counter	<input type="checkbox"/>
Coral (Correlative microscopy module for Life Sciences)	<input type="checkbox"/>
SYNOPTIS Avalon™ (Camelot™)	<input type="checkbox"/>

standard,  option, \* third-party dedicated software by Alicona Imaging GmbH



# MIRA3 Configurations

MIRA3 can be configured in different chamber sizes so to meet your specific requirements of analysis. In particular, the XM and GM configurations extend the analytical capabilities, providing the ability to perform fine observations of the sample surface even for extra-large specimens. In addition, TESCAN has designed a special range of chambers that can comply with demands for even larger space. The extended XM and GM chambers and the extraordinarily large AMU chamber are aimed at accommodating specimens that far exceed the volume and/or weight bearing capacities of the standard chambers. All these chambers contain a large number of ports which result in extending the analytical potential of MIRA3, allowing different detectors such as SE, BSE, LVSTD, EDX, WDX, EBSD, CL, and STEM to be attached.

## ■ MIRA3 LM / XM / GM

These chambers have an optimised geometry for

multi-detectors and capable of both low and high vacuum operations which make it possible the imaging of non-conductive specimens in their natural uncoated state and conductive samples respectively.

## ■ Extended XM and GM chambers

TESCAN has further extended the volume capabilities of the standard XM and GM chambers by means of special frontal chamber frames. Larger analytical chambers mean a wider range of applications in science and technology. For instance, such extended chambers offer a concrete solution for the semiconductor industry and fabs as make it possible the inspection of large wafers. The extended XM chamber with a modified Y-axis and an extension frame allows the MIRA3 system to accommodate 6" and 8" wafers. The extended GM chamber equipped with a dedicated cradle stage and a special holder enables the loading of 6", 8" and 12" size wafers for their inspection.

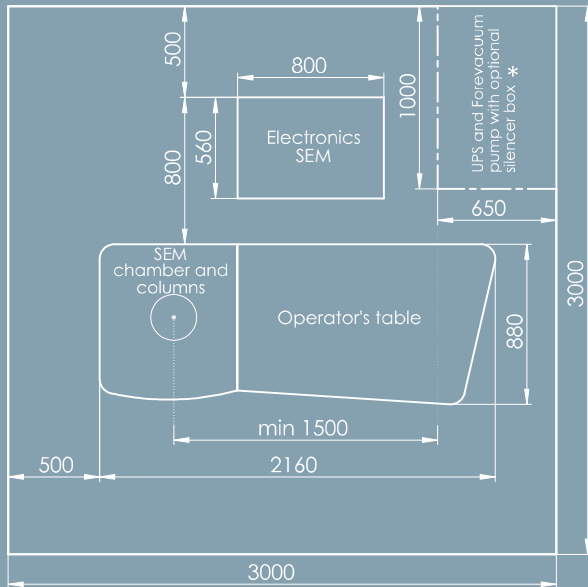
	LM Chamber	XM Chamber	GM Chamber
<b>Internal size</b>	Ø 230 mm	290 mm (width) × 340 mm (depth)	340 mm (width) × 315 mm (depth)
<b>Door</b>	148 mm (width)	290 mm (width) × 322 mm (height)	340 mm (width) × 320 mm (height)
<b>Number of ports</b>	11+	12+	20+
<b>Chamber suspension</b>	pneumatic or optional active vibration isolation system	pneumatic or optional active vibration isolation system	integrated active vibration isolation system

	Specimen Stage in LM Chamber	Specimen Stage in XM Chamber	Specimen Stage in GM Chamber
<b>Type</b>	compucentric	compucentric	compucentric
<b>Movements</b>	5-axis fully motorized X = 80 mm (-40 mm to +40 mm) Y = 60 mm (-30 mm to +30 mm) Z = 47 mm Rotation = 360° continuous Tilt = -80° to +80°	5-axis fully motorized X = 130 mm (-50 mm to +80 mm) Y = 130 mm (-65 mm to +65 mm) Z = 100 mm Rotation = 360° continuous Tilt = -30° to +90°	5-axis fully motorized X = 130 mm (-65 mm to +65 mm) Y = 130 mm (-65 mm to +65 mm) Z = 100 mm Rotation = 360° continuous Tilt = -80° to +90°
<b>Maximum specimen height</b>	60 mm (with rotation stage) 81 mm (without rotation stage) 50 mm (with BDT rotation stage)	116 mm (with rotation stage) 145 mm (without rotation stage)	116 mm (with rotation stage) 145 mm (without rotation stage)

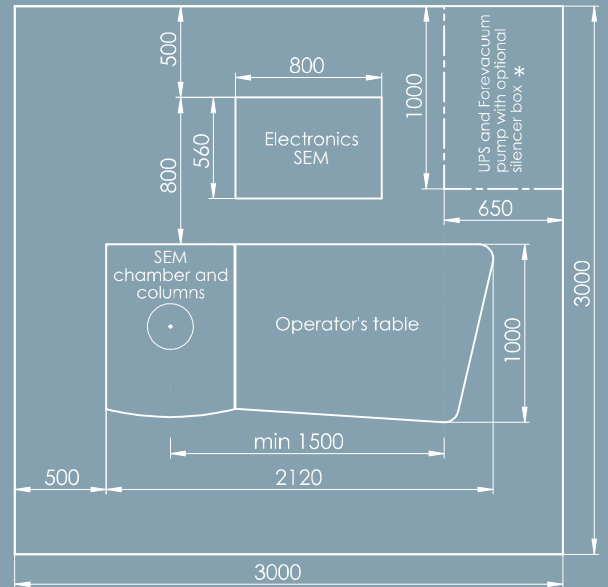
	Extended XM Chamber	Extended GM Chamber
<b>Internal size</b>	290 mm (width) × 430 mm (depth)	340 mm (width) × 400 mm (depth) (6" and 8" wafers) 340 mm (width) × 475 mm (depth) (up to 12" wafers)
<b>Door</b>	290 mm (width) × 322 mm (depth)	340 mm (width) × 320 mm (height)
<b>Maximum Specimen Height*</b>	90 mm (with BDT rotation stage), 108 mm (with rotation stage), 145 mm (without rotation stage)	65 mm (with rotation stage) 110 mm (without rotation stage)
<b>Number of ports</b>	12+	20+
<b>Chamber suspension</b>	integrated active vibration isolation system	integrated active vibration isolation system

	Specimen Stage in Extended XM Chamber	Specimen Stage in Extended GM Chamber
<b>Type</b>	compucentric	compucentric
<b>Movements</b>	X = 130 mm (-50 mm to +80 mm) Y = 130 mm (-120 mm to +10 mm) Z = 100 mm	X = 250 mm (-170 mm to +80 mm) Y = 156 mm (-78 mm to +78 mm) Z = 62 mm
<b>Rotation</b>	360° continuous	360° continuous
<b>Tilt</b>	-30° to +90° (Depending on the WD and the size of the sample)	-5° to +70°

### ■ Footprint of the MIRA3 LM/XM microscope



### ■ Footprint of the MIRA3 GM microscope



(all dimensions in mm)

### ■ AMU Chamber: a unique super-sized chamber capable of accommodating extremely large and heavy samples.

It is very often in fields such as forensic sciences and archaeology or, in the automotive and aeronautic industries that the only way to perform the analysis of interest requires that the integrity of the specimen is preserved. This is the case when the sample represents a piece of evidence or the whole sample is essential to the analysis or study, or the sample is a precious specimen with historical value. In such cases, the specimens could exceed the volume and even weight capabilities of standard chambers. For this purpose, TESCAN offers the AMU chamber, a unique chamber that

stands out for its capabilities to accommodate extremely large and heavy samples making SEM analysis of such large samples possible.

### ■ AMU Applications

- **Life Sciences:** large biological specimens imaging, analysis of whole bones
- **Materials science:** characterisation of whole large samples
- **Automotive and Aeronautic Industries:** wearing and fatigue studies, failure analysis, forensics
- **Semiconductors and Microelectronics:** large wafer SEM inspection (maximum sample diameter 30")

	AMU Chamber
<b>Internal size</b>	880 mm (width) × 1200 mm (depth)
<b>Door width</b>	880 mm (width) × 456 mm (height)
<b>Max. Specimen Diameter</b>	762 mm (30") and height 127 mm (5")
<b>Max. Specimen Weight</b>	25 Kg
<b>Number of ports</b>	6+
<b>Chamber suspension</b>	integrated active vibration isolation system

	Specimen Stage in AMU Chamber
<b>Type</b>	compucentric
<b>Movements</b>	X = 410 mm (-400 mm to +10 mm) Y = 50 mm (-25 mm to +25 mm) Z = 65 mm (55 effective, 10 mm used for large/heavy specimen handling)
<b>Rotation</b>	360° continuous

# MIRA3 Specifications

## Resolution

In high-vacuum mode SE	1.2 nm at 30 keV 2.5 nm at 3 keV
In high-vacuum mode In-Beam SE	1.0 nm at 30 keV
In low vacuum mode BSE	2.0 nm at 30 keV
In high-vacuum BDM (Beam Deceleration Mode)	1.5 nm at 3 keV 2.5 nm at 200 eV
In low-vacuum mode LVSTD (UniVac only)	1.5 nm at 30 keV
STEM	0.8 nm at 30 keV

## Working vacuum

Chamber – High – vacuum mode	$< 9 \times 10^{-3}$ Pa*
Chamber – Low – vacuum mode (available only for UniVac)	7 – 500 Pa**
Gun vacuum	$< 3 \times 10^{-7}$ Pa

\* pressure  $< 5 \times 10^{-4}$  Pa can be displayed with an optional WRG vacuum gauge (on request)  
\*\* with low vacuum aperture inserted

## Electron optics working modes

High-vacuum mode	Resolution, Depth, Field, Wide Field, Channelling
Low-vacuum mode	Resolution, Depth

## Magnification

Continuous from:  $2 \times$  to 1,000,000  $\times$  (LM);  $1 \times$  to 1,000,000  $\times$  (XM, GM)

## Field of view

LM, XM, GM: 6.4 mm at  $WD_{\text{analytical}}$  10 mm , AMU: 10 mm at  $WD_{\text{analytical}}$  15 mm  
20 mm at WD 30 mm

## Accelerating / landing voltage

200 V to 30 kV / 50 V to 30 kV with BDT (Beam Deceleration Technology) option

## Electron gun

High Brightness Schottky Emitter

## Probe current

2 pA to 200 nA

## Scanning speed

From 20 ns to 10 ms per pixel adjustable in steps or continuously

## Scanning features

Focus window (shape, size and position continuously adjustable)  
Dynamic Focus, Point & Line Scan, Image rotation, Image shift, Tilt compensation, 3D Beam, Life Stereoscopic Imaging (SEM); other scanning shapes are available through the optional DrawBeam software

## Image size

Up to 16,384  $\times$  16,384 pixels, adjustable separately for live image (in 3 steps) and for stored images (11 steps), selectable square or 4:3 or 2:1 rectangle

## Microscope control

All microscope functions are PC-controlled using a trackball, mouse and keyboard via the program MiraTC using Windows™ platforms. Control panel and touchscreen are optionally available.

## Automatic procedures

In-Flight Beam Tracing™ beam optimization, Spot Size and Beam Current Continual, WD (focus) & Stigmator, Contrast & Brightness, Scanning Speed (according to Signal-Noise Ratio), Gun Centering, Column Centering, Vacuum Control, Compensation for kV, Look-Up Table, Auto-diagnostics

## Remote control

Via TCP/IP, open protocol

Detectors	LMH	LMU	Accessories	LMH	LMU
	XMH	XMU		XMH	XMU
	GMH	GMU		GMH	GMU
SE Detector	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	pA Meter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
In-Beam SE Detector	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Touch Alarm	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
In-Beam BSE Detector	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	IR TV Camera	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
In-Beam LE-BSE Detector	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Peltier Cooling Stage <sup>2</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Beam Deceleration Technology <sup>1, 2</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Water Vapor Inlet <sup>2</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Retractable BSE Detector <sup>3</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Beam Blanker for SEM column	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Motorised R-BSE Detector <sup>4</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Load Lock <sup>2, **</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
R Dual Scintillator BSE Detector <sup>2, 5</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Control Panel	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
R 4-Quadrant BSE Detector <sup>2, 5</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Optical Stage Navigation <sup>2, ***</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
LE-BSE Detector <sup>2, 5</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nanomanipulators <sup>2</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BSE/CL Detector <sup>2, 5</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Decontaminator/plasma cleaner <sup>2</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Al-coated BSE Detector <sup>2, 5</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Active vibration isolation	<input type="checkbox"/> /0/ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> /0/ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> /0/ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
STEM Detector	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	*Possible combinations of optional detectors and other accessories must be discussed with TESCAN		
HADF R-STEM Detector <sup>2</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	**Manual and motorised options available		
CL Detector <sup>2, 5, 7</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	***Not available for the extended chambers		
Rainbow CL Detector <sup>2, 5, 7</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<sup>1</sup> The BDT includes an In-Beam BSE detector or, optionally, an In-Beam LE-BSE detector <sup>2</sup> Not available for the AMU chamber <sup>3</sup> Standard for the LMU and XMU chambers <sup>4</sup> Standard for the GMU and AMU chambers <sup>5</sup> Motorised mechanics as an option (The GM chamber comes only with motorised mechanics options) <sup>6</sup> Not available for the GM chambers <sup>7</sup> Compact version available <sup>8</sup> Fully integrated third party products		
Low Vacuum Secondary Electron Tescan Detector (LVSTD)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
EBIC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
EasyEDX <sup>2, 8</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
EDX <sup>8</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
EBS <sup>8</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
WDX <sup>2, 8</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			

## Requirements

<b>Installation requirements</b>	For the LM, XM and GM chambers: Power 230 V/50 Hz or 120 V/60 Hz, 2200 VA For the AMU chamber: Power 230 V/50 Hz or 120 V/60 Hz, max. 6200 VA, branch circuit overcurrent protection 35 A at 230 V No water cooling Compressed dry nitrogen for venting: 150 – 500 kPa Compressed air: 600 – 800 kPa	
<b>Environmental requirements</b>	Environment temperature: Relative humidity: Acoustic:  <b>Vibration:</b> For pneumatic suspension:  For active isolation (option):  Background magnetic field:  Room for installation requirements:	17 – 24 °C < 80 % For the LM, XM and GM chambers: < 60 dBC For the AMU chamber: < 55 dBC  < 5 µm/s below 30 Hz < 10 µm/s above 30 Hz  < 10 µm/s below 30 Hz < 20 µm/s above 30 Hz  synchronous < 3 × 10 <sup>-7</sup> T asynchronous < 1 × 10 <sup>-7</sup> T  LM, XM, GM min. 3 m × 3 m, min. door width 0.9 m AMU chamber: min. 6 m × 4 m; min. door width 1.2 m and height 2.1 m

Wide Field Optics™, In-Flight Beam Tracing™ and EasySEM™ are trademarks of TESCAN, a.s.

Windows™ is a trademark of the Microsoft Corporation.

We are constantly improving the performance of our products, therefore all specifications and external designs of instruments are subject to change without previous notice.

# Electron-Beam Lithography by TESCAN

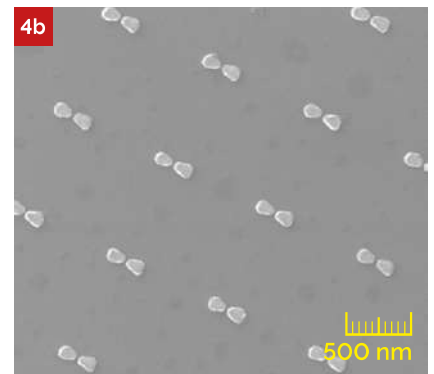
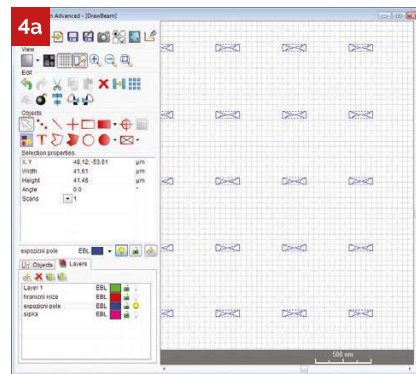
Electron-beam lithography (EBL) has been established as a very flexible and reliable technique for nanotechnology applications. The main advantage of EBL compared to other lithographic techniques is the higher achieved resolution. Current EBL instruments allow for creating features of the size of a few nanometers. Such ultimate resolution is, however, not easily achievable. The process requires a systematic methodology in sample preparation and, an optimal system adjustment.

TESCAN SEMs users can make the most of EBL by using the DrawBeam - an advanced CAD-like editor and exposure controller - and the electrostatic Beam Blanker - a tool used to divert the electron beam from the optical axis of the SEM column, preventing in this way, unwanted exposure of the sample surface during the flying movement of the beam and the following settling time.

The DrawBeam is a powerful software tool dedicated to electron/ion beam

lithography applications. It provides a user-friendly environment for pattern design as well as for exposure control using 16-bit scanning ramp DACs (65,536 x 65,536 virtual write field). Electron-beam lithography is a complex process in which the ultimate resolution is determined by a number of factors (such as the resist, the exposure conditions, the development process, etc.). Contrary to the case of optical lithography, which is limited

mainly by the wavelength of light, the electron wavelength is of the order of  $10^{-12}$  m (assuming an electron energy of 30 keV) and the electron beam can readily be focused to a spot size of about 1–2 nm. However, only features of a few tens of nanometers (about 20 nm) in size can be fabricated controllably and repeatedly by using TESCAN SEMs equipped with the DrawBeam software and the electrostatic Beam Blanker.



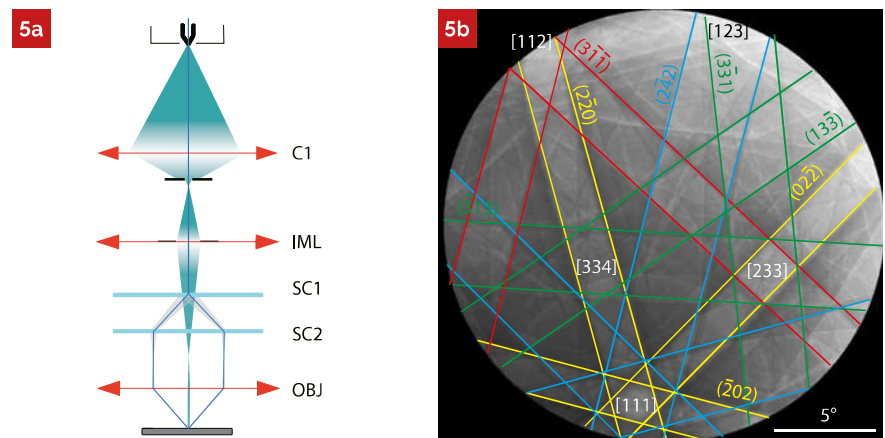
**Fig. 4(a-b):** SEM detail of a square array of antennas prepared by the lift-off method (soaking in RT acetone for 1 hour and ultrasonic assistance for 60 seconds)

# Electron Channelling Pattern Acquisition on Polycrystalline Materials

The electron channelling pattern (ECP) is an image of the pseudo-Kikuchi lines that can be acquired on a crystalline material with the scanning electron microscope (SEM). In the special scanning mode called Channelling the beam is rocking around one point and creates a selected area channelling pattern (SACP). The latest generation of TESCAN scanning electron microscopes have improved this method also for the evaluation of the individual grain orientation in some polycrystalline materials.

## Experiment

High quality of the surface is necessary for electron channelling contrast. Standard metallographic sample preparation is not sufficient and should be followed by either colloidal silica polishing (OPS), or better by electropolishing or ion beam polishing. Semiconductor grade monocrystalline silicon was used for basic testing (without further preparation). An electropolished stainless steel (austenite 304) cross-section was used as a polycrystalline example. MIRA3 with an annular YAG-scintillator BSE detector was used for all of the experiments.



**Fig. 5: (a)** - schematics of the Channelling scan mode in TESCAN MIRA FE-SEM. **(b)** - electron channelling pattern on a semiconductor grade monocrystalline silicon with the main bands marked. The field of view represents a beam tilt by 22°.



### ■ Channelling Scan Mode

The special Channelling scan mode is provided by TESCAN SEMs. In this mode, a thin parallel beam is rocking around a point creating bright pseudo-Kikuchi bands on the crystal planes (plane channels).

The resulting image of ECP shows the pseudo-Kikuchi lines typical for the material.

### ■ Interpreting ECPs

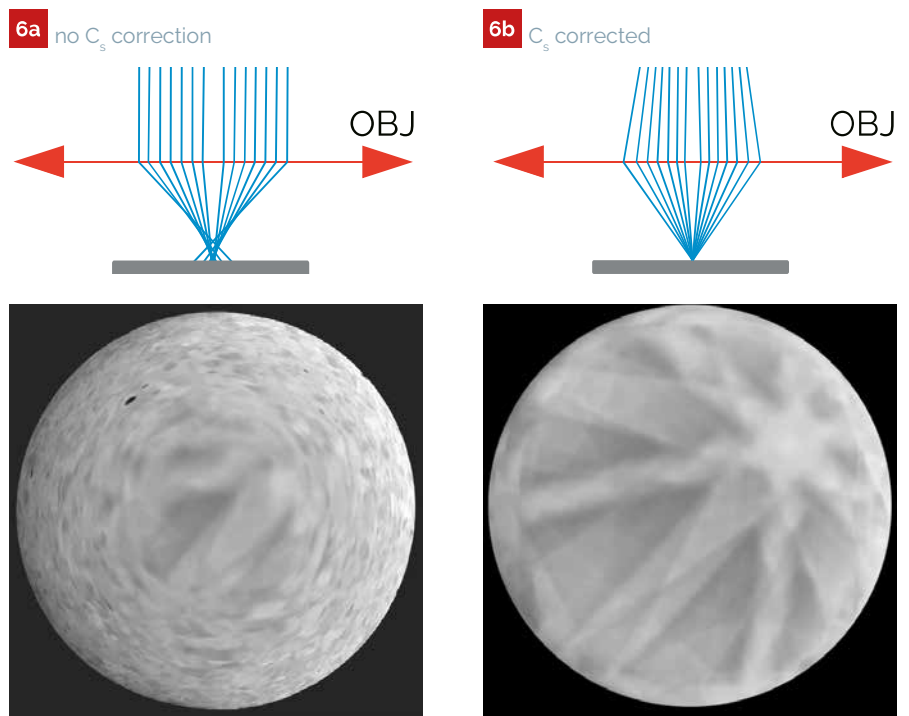
The individual bands can be determined with the help of a known Kikuchi map and a table of the plane spacing ( $d$ ) for the current crystal system (Fig. 5b) The width of the band ( $2\Theta$ ) depends on the crystal plane spacings ( $d$ ) (see also Tab.1) and on the diffraction condition defined by the Brag's law:  $\lambda = 2 d \sin \Theta$ .

Crystal plane {h k l}	d-spacing [Å]	2 $\Theta$ band width [deg]
{331}	1,246	3,525
{311}	1,637	2,683
{220}	1,920	2,288
{422}	1,109	3,963

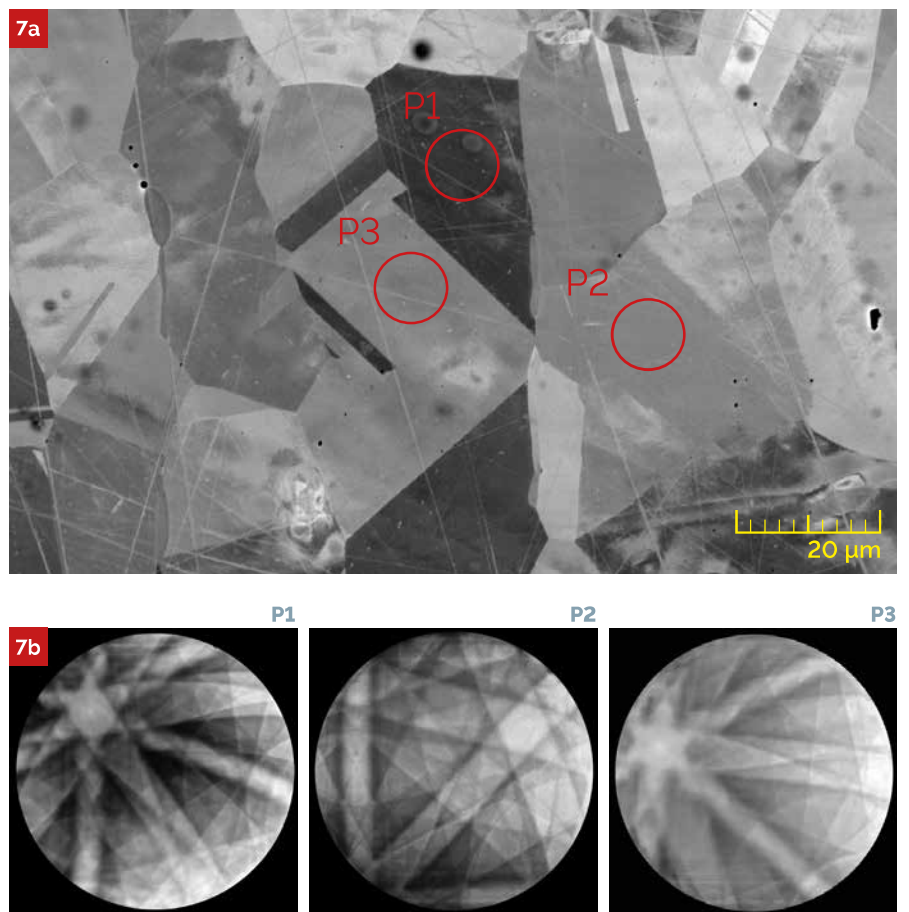
**Tab. 1:** List of crystal planes, their d-spacings and computed bandwidth for the conditions in Fig 5b, i.e. for diamond f.c.c, crystalline silicon,  $a=5,4307 \text{ \AA}$ , accelerating voltage =25 kV ( $\lambda =7.67 \times 10^{-3} \text{ \AA}$ )

### ■ Rocking Beam vs. Channelling scan mode

The situation is slightly more difficult in polycrystalline materials because of the limitation of the "point of rocking" size vs. grain size. Without any correction (Fig. 6a) the spatial resolution rarely exceeds  $50 \mu\text{m}$ , as a consequence of the large spherical aberration of the probe forming lens. This limitation practically eliminates the usage of the non-corrected Rocking Beam techniques on most of the polycrystalline materials. The new Channelling mode takes advantage of the TESCAN proprietary adaptive electron optics technology that can correct the spherical aberration of the rocking beam mode (Fig. 6b)



**Fig. 6:** Comparison of the ordinary Rocking Beam mode without the correction of spherical aberration (a) and a TESCAN Channelling mode (b) with spherical aberration correction. The images are from polycrystalline stainless steel with a grain size of approx.  $20 \mu\text{m}$ .



**Fig. 7:** (a) An electropolished cross-section of austenitic stainless steel. The grains are enhanced by different electron channelling contrast. (b) SACPs acquired in marked grains.

# Common Applications

## Materials Science

Characterization of materials such as metals, ceramics, polymers, composites, coatings. Metallurgy, fracture analysis, degradation processes, ferromagnetic materials, etc.

## Semiconductor and Microelectronics

MEMS inspection, inspection of cross-sections and failure analysis in 3D-ICs and advanced packaging technologies, large wafer inspection, etc.

## Electro-technical Engineering

Solar cell inspection, microelectronics inspection, PN junction visualization, lithography, etc.

## Forensic Investigations

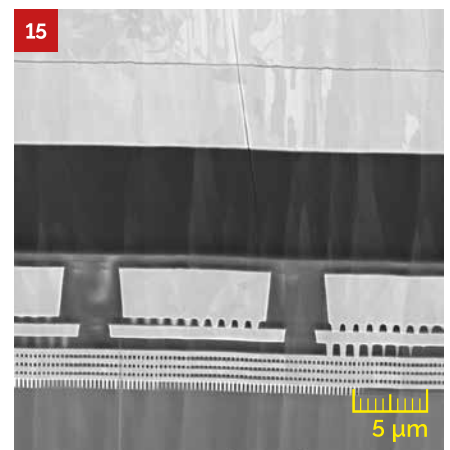
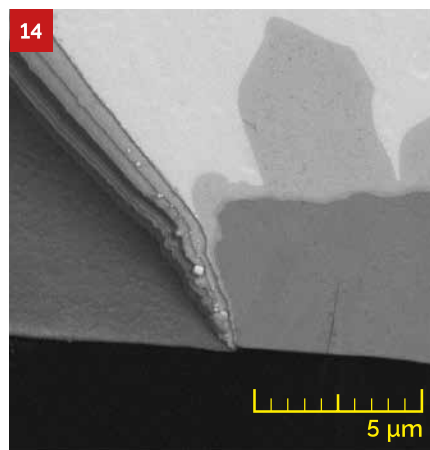
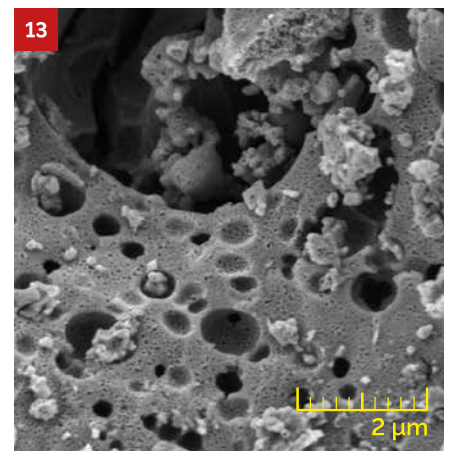
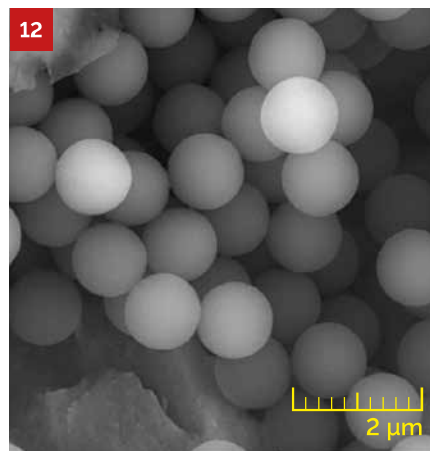
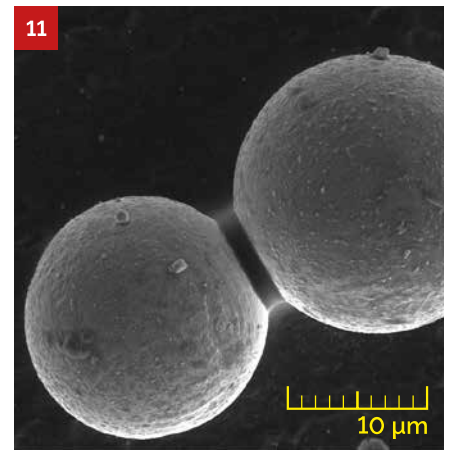
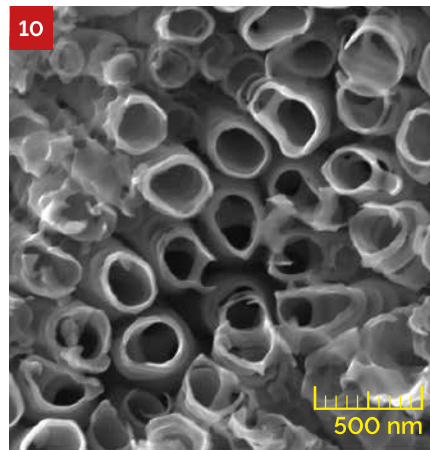
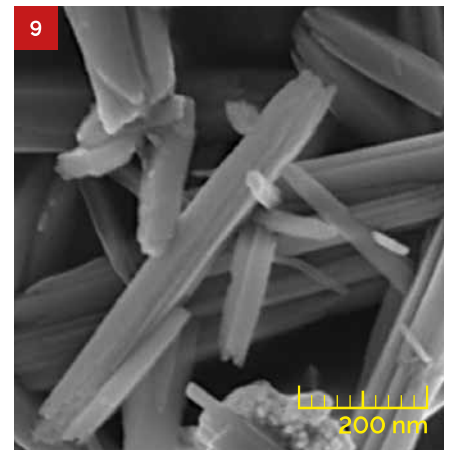
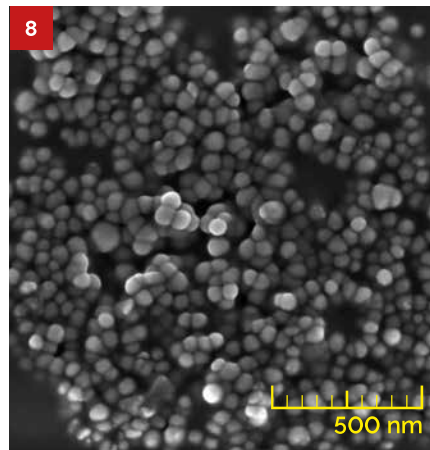
Gunshot residue analysis, bullet and cartridge investigation, tool mark comparison, analysis of hairs, fibres, textiles and papers, paints, ink and print characterization, line crossings, examination of counterfeit documents, etc.

## Research

Mineralogy, geology, palaeontology, archaeology, chemistry, environmental studies, particle analysis, applied physics, nanotechnology, nanoprototyping, etc.

## Life Sciences

Botany, parasitology, pharmaceuticals, STEM histology, dental implants, etc.



**Fig. 8:** Silicon powder imaged uncoated at 2 keV with the SE (BDM) detector

**Fig. 9:** Goethite powder  $\text{FeO(OH)}$  imaged uncoated at 3 keV with the SE (BDM) detector

**Fig. 10:**  $\text{TiO}_2$  nanotubes imaged at 10 keV with the In-Beam detector

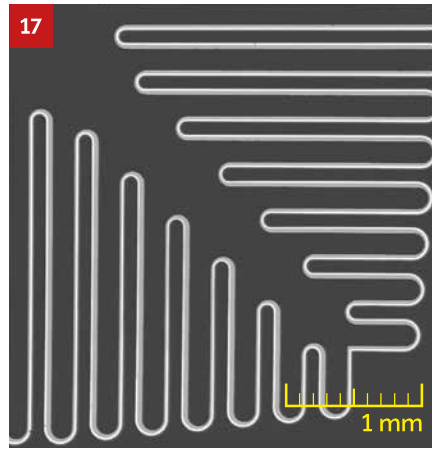
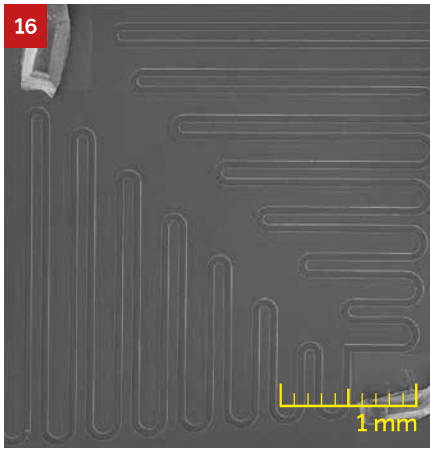
**Fig. 11:** Zn spheres imaged at 5 keV with the In-Beam detector

**Fig. 12:** Latex imaged at 10 keV at low vacuum with the LVSTD detector

**Fig. 13:** A sample of  $\text{LiFePO}_4$  imaged at 3 keV with the In-Beam SE detector

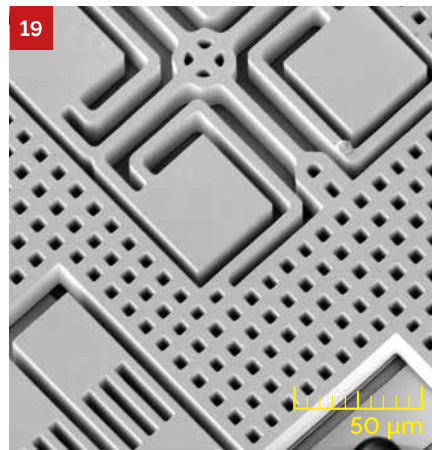
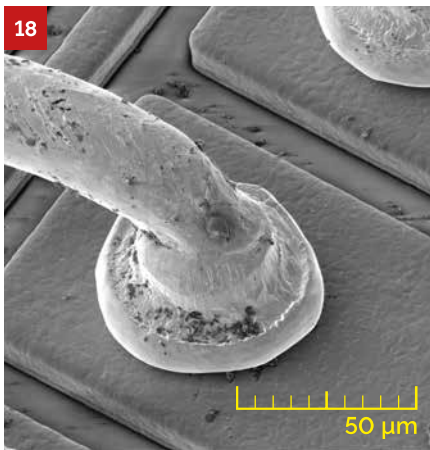
**Fig. 14:** Interface of a solder bump imaged at 10 keV with the In-Beam BSE detector

**Fig. 15:** A cross-section of a solder bump imaged at 10 keV with the SE detector



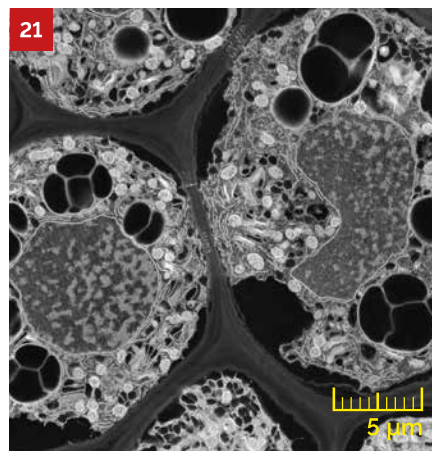
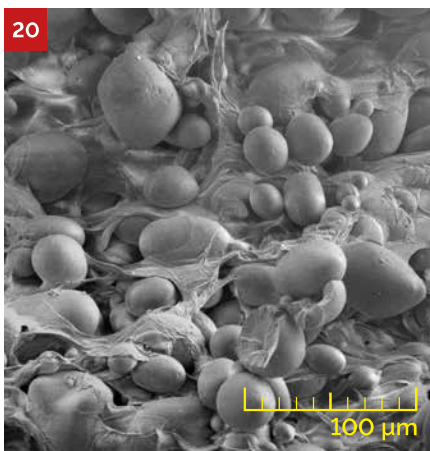
**Fig. 16:** Surface of a transistor imaged at 25 keV with the SE detector

**Fig. 17:** Surface of a transistor imaged at 25 keV with the EBIC detector



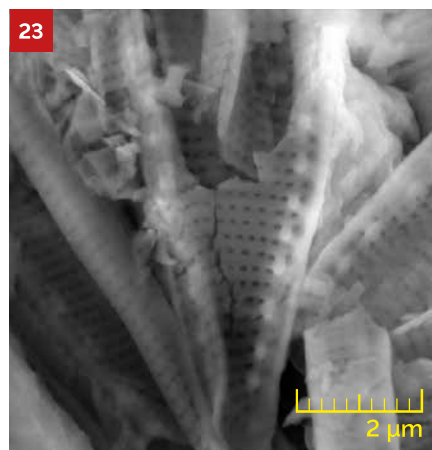
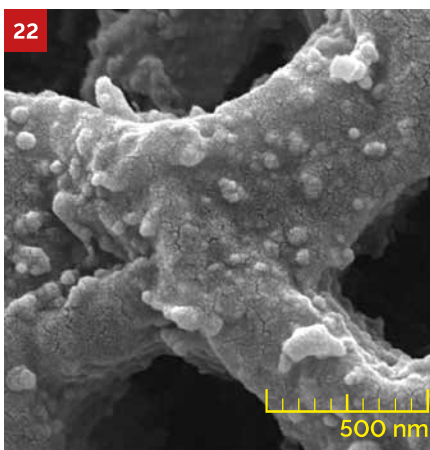
**Fig. 18:** A wire bond in a chip imaged at 5 keV with the SE detector

**Fig. 19:** A MEMS gyroscope imaged at 5 keV with the SE detector



**Fig. 20:** Cryo-frozen hydrogel imaged in its hydrated state at low vacuum conditions and at 5 keV with the LVSTD and the LE-BSE detector

**Fig. 21:** A cross-section of a resin-embedded plant root imaged at 5 keV with the LE-BSE detector



**Fig. 22:** A flower seed imaged at 5 keV with the In-Beam SE detector

**Fig. 23:** Diatoms imaged at low vacuum conditions and 15 keV with the LVSTD detector





TESCAN is proudly represented in  
Australia and New Zealand by  
AXT Pty. Ltd.  
1/3 Vuko Pl., Warriewood  
NSW 2102 Australia  
T. +61 (0)2 9450 1359 F. +61 (0)2 9450 1365  
W. [www.axt.com.au](http://www.axt.com.au) E. [info@axt.com.au](mailto:info@axt.com.au)



**TESCAN ORSAY HOLDING, a.s.**

Libušina tř. 21  
623 00 Brno - Kohoutovice  
Czech Republic  
(phone) **+420 530 353 411**  
(email) [sales@tescan.cz](mailto:sales@tescan.cz)  
(email) [marketing@tescan.cz](mailto:marketing@tescan.cz)

