

Cybershuttle FAQ

Table of Contents

Table of Contents	1
1. Introduction	3
1.1 WHAT IS CYBERSHUTTLE, HOW DO I BENEFIT FROM IT?	3
1.2 WHOM SHOULD I CONTACT FOR CYBERSHUTTLE RELATED QUESTIONS?	3
1.3 HOW DO I SIGN UP AND USE CYBERSHUTTLE?	5
1.4 I AM NOT FAMILIAR WITH THE TAPE OUT SYSTEM, WHERE TO FIND OUT THE GUIDELINE?	6
2. Before taking the shuttle, you have to know	7
2.1 SCHEDULE RELATED	7
2.1.1 When is CyberShuttle schedule announced? Where to get it?	7
2.1.2 When can I get the samples for my CyberShuttle tape-out?	7
2.2 COST & BLOCK RELATED	9
2.2.1 What's the block size? How to calculate it?	9
2.2.2 Can I have >1 chip in one reservation?	10
2.2.3 Can TSMC perform die saw for multiple designs in one reservation?	10
2.2.4 How many chips can I order for my CyberShuttle tape-out?	11
2.3 SAMPLE RELATED	11
2.3.1 Can I have my CyberShuttle chips delivered in wafer form?	11
2.3.2 Can I have my CyberShuttle chips packaged at TSMC?	12
2.3.3 What is the minimum die thickness?	12
2.3.4 Is there any guarantee on yield for my CyberShuttle tape-out?	13
2.3.5 What is the CyberShuttle die size after die-saw?	13
2.3.6 Can I have my CyberShuttle chips smaller than one block size after die-saw?	14
2.4 DESIGN/CORNER RELATED	14
2.4.1 Will TSMC run DRC/LVS check for my CyberShuttle tape-out?	14
2.4.2 Do I need to add seal ring around my CyberShuttle design by myself?	15
2.4.3 What if I need TSMC IP/libraries for a CyberShuttle tape-out?	15
2.4.4 May I have corner split on my CyberShuttle tape-out?	16
3. Tape out procedure	17
3.1 RESERVATION	17
3.1.1 When can I make, modify or cancel CyberShuttle reservations?	17
3.1.2 What if there is no block available for my CyberShuttle reservation?	17
3.1.3 Why I cannot make CyberShuttle reservations?	18
3.1.4 When should I submit EMS questionnaire?	18
3.1.5 How to change the shuttle type?	18
3.2 TAPE OUT FORM	19
3.2.1 What if my tape-out has fewer metal layers?	19
3.2.2 How to hold the IP merge process after submitting IP merge request?	20
3.3 JOBVIEW	21
3.3.1 Can I do a mask JobView for my Cybershuttle tape out?	21
3.3.2 Why I see some undesired mask layers in the e-JobView notice?	21
3.3.3 I can't see the JobView	22
3.4 SAMPLES/WAFERS HANDLING	22
3.4.1 Is it possible to hold the wafers and wait for mask revision?	22
3.4.2 Label information when sample shipping	22
4. Getting the samples, you may want to know	23
4.1 REPEAT ORDER (RO)	23
4.1.1 Can I place repeat orders?	23
4.2 REVISED TAPE OUT (RTO).....	24
4.2.1 Can I ask for mask revision for a CyberShuttle tape-out?	24

Cybershuttle FAQ

5. Others 25

5.1 CAN I HAVE MY CYBERSHUTTLE CHIPS TESTED AT TSMC?	25
5.2 WHAT IF MY CYBERSHUTTLE TAPE-OUT IS MIS-OPERATED BY TSMC? WHAT IS THE COMPENSATION?	25
5.3 WHEN WILL TSMC SCRAP CYBERSHUTTLE MASKS/WAFERS?	25

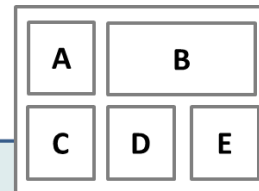
Cybershuttle FAQ

1. Introduction

1.1 What is CyberShuttle, how do I benefit from it?

CyberShuttle provides a regularly launched test vehicle for various customers to share a mask set for fast prototyping.

CyberShuttle (MPW, "Multi-Project Wafer")



➤ Features & Advantages

- ✓ Shuttle launch time is pre-scheduled. (announce semi-annually; Mar. & Sep.)
- ✓ Fast prototyping speed. (masks and wafers are processed at the priority of higher than normal pilot run.)
- ✓ TSMC's leading technologies are available.
- ✓ Reduced prototyping mask cost. (various customers to share a mask set)
- ✓ Reduced wafer cost. (accepts ≥ 40 dice (i.e. one 8" wafer) or 100 dice (i.e. one 12" wafer).
- ✓ Bare dice, whole sample wafers, or ceramic packaged samples are deliverables.

Remark: NTO process is default to run TSMC standard POR. Non-standard process condition on Cybershuttle is for experiment only. If customers have request of non-standard processes, please discuss with TSMC for production availability before running Cybershuttle.

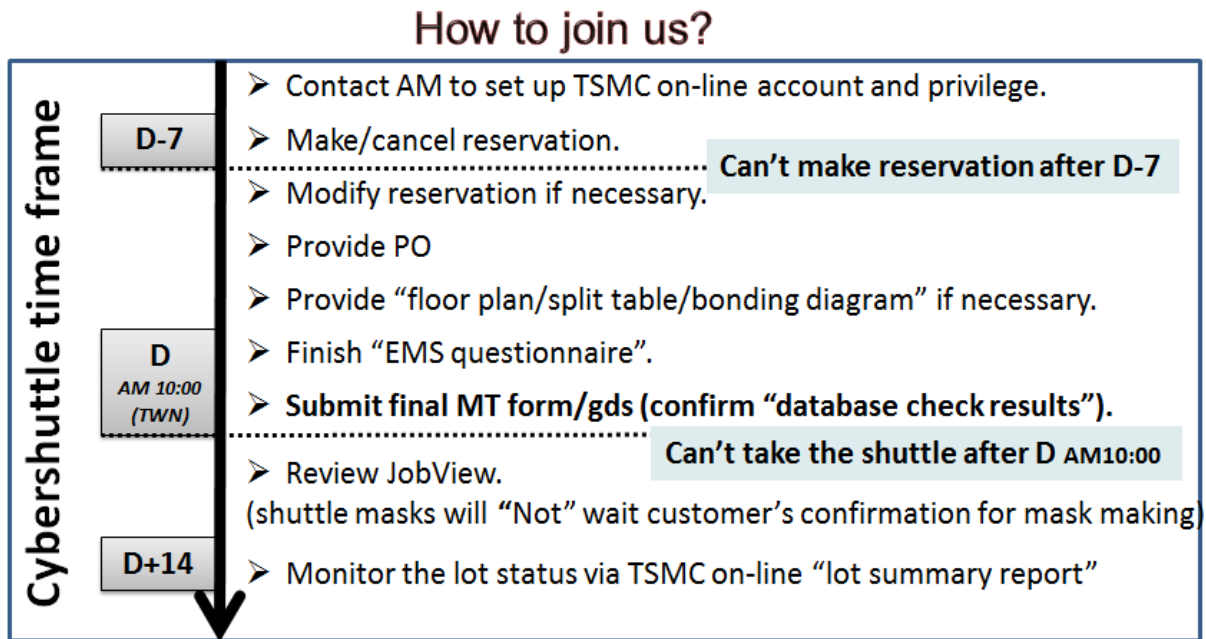
1.2 Whom should I contact for CyberShuttle related questions?

Below diagram shows the contact person you can consult with for cybershuttle related question. The name list of each captain is available on TSMC-Online. "TSMC on-line → Tape out and mask service → iTapeout (cybershuttle) → information center → Shuttle Schedule & Captain List ". Or, simply email to "cybershuttle@tsmc.com"

Cybershuttle FAQ

1.3 How do I sign up and use CyberShuttle?

If you would like to join us, please find the related actions and deadline as below. You can contact the shuttle captain for help if necessary.



D: tape in date (The date that TSMC announces for each shuttle is called the tape-in date)

Cybershuttle FAQ

1.4 I am not familiar with the tape out system, where to find out the guideline?

You can find the iTapeout GUI design demo from below path: “TSMC on-line→ Tape out and mask service→ iTapeout (cybershuttle)→ iTapeout Tutorial for Cybershuttle”.

- iTapeout (CyberShuttle)
 - CyberShuttle Reservation(Make/Modify/ Query/ Cancel)
 - Approve/Reject/Query Reservation
 - iTapeout (MT/STI/IP Merge/FSRF) (GDS/OASIS)
 - CyberShuttle Reorder
 - Lot Summary
 - PCM, IQC Result (lot base file access)
 - Information Center
 - [iTapeout Tutorial for CyberShuttle](#)

TSMC-Online. (TSMC-Online > TapeOut & Mask Service > iTapeout (CyberShuttle) > iTapeout Tutorial for Cybershuttle

iTapeout GUI Design Demo

- Start
- Make Reservation
- Create NTO MT
 - Step-1: Project Information
 - Step-2: Device Information
 - ◆ Brand New
 - ◆ Copy from previous tapeout with STI
 - ◆ IP merge
 - Step-3: Mask Level Information
- Create RTO MT
- Reorder Form




Cybershuttle FAQ

2. Before taking the shuttle, you have to know

2.1 Schedule related

2.1.1 When is CyberShuttle schedule announced? Where to get it?

Shuttle tape-in schedules are announced semi-annually. Every March, shuttle schedules for the second half of the year will be given. Every September, shuttle schedules for the first half of next year will be given.

TapeOut & Mask Service	Production Information	Backend Services	Quality & Reliability	Customer Satisfaction
Home > TapeOut & Mask Service > iTapeout (CyberShuttle) > Information Center				
Information Center				
Shuttle Schedule & Captain List 		Cycle Time Commitment 		
CyberShuttle Backend Service Menu 				

2.1.2 When can I get the samples for my CyberShuttle tape-out?

The cycle time commitment from tape-in to sample shipping can be found at “Cycle Time Commitment”. When the CyberShuttle wafers are started, you will receive an email notice to indicate the committed delivery date. Also, you are able to see the progress of the wafers at “TSMC-Online > TapeOut & Mask Service > iTapeout (CyberShuttle) > Lot Summary”




Cybershuttle FAQ

Before tape out → “ cycle time commitment”

TapeOut & Mask Service	Production Information	Backend Services	Quality & Reliability	Customer Satisfaction
-----------------------------------	-------------------------------	-------------------------	----------------------------------	------------------------------

Home > TapeOut & Mask Service > iTapeout (CyberShuttle) > **Information Center**

Information Center

Shuttle Schedule & Captain List 	Cycle Time Commitment 
CyberShuttle Backend Service Menu 	

After tape out → “ lot summary” to monitor the lot status (available after tape in date +2 weeks)

tsmc TSMC-Online it failed login: 12/25/2015, 09:57:47

Technical Documents	Design Portal	TapeOut & Mask Service	Production Information	Backend Services	Quality & Reliability	Customer Satisfaction
---------------------	---------------	-----------------------------------	------------------------	------------------	-----------------------	-----------------------

Home > TapeOut & Mask Service > iTapeout (CyberShuttle) > **Lot Summary**

CyberShuttle Lot Summary

My Query Setting : Please add Query Setting > Save / Update > Delete

Tips
 - All Fields allow multiple items

- If your shuttle tape-out needs SHR (super hot run), please contact TSMC Account Manager or Customer Support. Please note that SHR is subject to an additional charge and not always available due to limited quota.

Cybershuttle FAQ

2.2 Cost & Block related

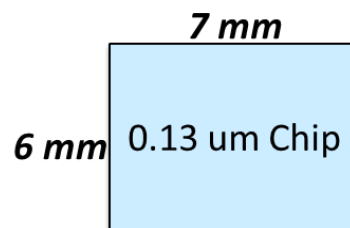
2.2.1 What's the block size? How to calculate it?

CyberShuttle is a prototyping service based on mask sharing by multiple customers. The reticle is divided into many unit blocks, which are taken by various customers to carry out the designs.

The unit block size definition for each tech.

Tech.	mm ²
10 nm	3
16 nm	4
20 nm	4
28 nm	6
40/45 nm	9
55/65 nm	12
80/85/90 nm	16
>= 0.11 um	25

For example, 0.13um chip with chip size of 7 mm x 6 mm is calculated as 1.68 blocks



$$\text{Area}=(7 \text{ mm} * 6 \text{ mm}) / 25 \text{ mm}^2 = 1.68 \text{ blocks}$$

1 reservation needs to order at least 1 block.

- Chip size <= 1 block → calculate as 1 block. (unit block size for pricing only)
- Chip size > 1 block → the block number is calculated by chip area, regardless of the dimensions in length and width

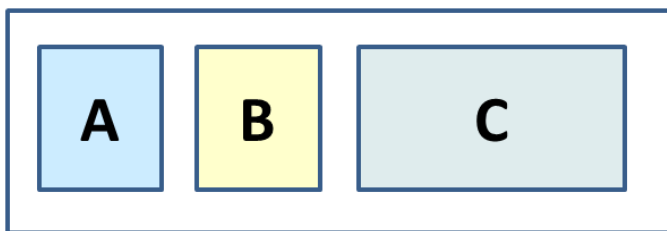
Cybershuttle FAQ

2.2.2 Can I have >1 chip in one reservation?

Customer can merge multi-chips into 1 reservation (1 database) with the same shuttle type and process options.

- The shuttle type and process options of each sub-chips must be the same.
- Customers need to merge those multi-chips into 1 gds (1 database).
- If need extra die saw, need to refer to Q.2.2.3 for floor plan in advance

Chip A/B/C must be the “**Same shuttle type and process options**”
Merge multi-chips into 1 database

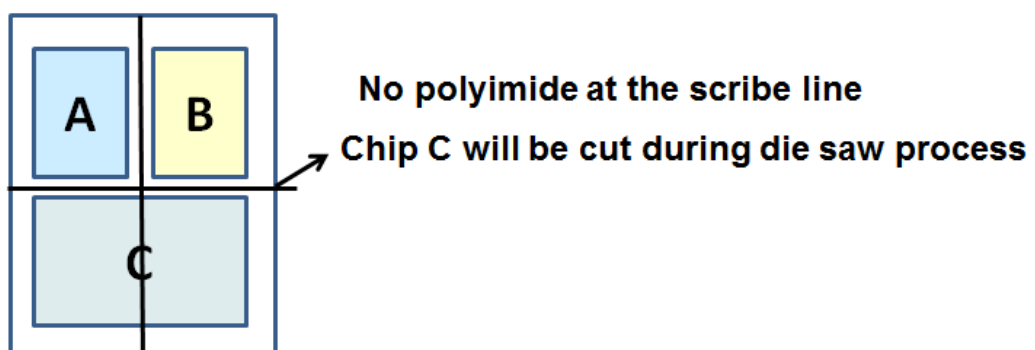


2.2.3 Can TSMC perform die saw for multiple designs in one reservation?

TSMC CyberShuttle offers an extra dicing service. There is a question about extra dicing on the reservation form along with detailed explanations.

Reminder for "extra die saw"

- Is there any subchip cut by the extra die saw line ? (see below diagram)
- Need to add the seal ring for each subchip, respectively.
- Not allow polyimide in the scribe line.
- Perform DRC check and dummy utility for whole gds (include all sub-ships and scribe line) to avoid pattern density error.
- In between each sub-chip, there should be ≥ 80 um (after shrinkage) scribe line.
- Extra die saw is a paid service.
- Please confirm with your captain in advance for the floor plan arrangement.




Cybershuttle FAQ

2.2.4 How many chips can I order for my CyberShuttle tape-out?

When you pay the price of mask blocks, you are entitled to get 40 bare dice from an 8-inch shuttle, or 100 bare dice from a 12-inch shuttle. The samples beyond 40 (or 100) need surcharge for extra wafers.

8" shuttle reservation default 40 bare dice; 12" shuttle reservation default 100 bare dice
 If need extra wafers:
 For 8-in wafers, we offer 40 samples for every extra wafer ordered.
(# of extra wafers needed) = [(# of samples) – 40]/40
 For 12-in wafers, we offer 100 samples for every extra wafer ordered.
(# of extra wafers needed) = [(# of samples) – 100]/100

Take 8" shuttle as example:

160 dice with 3 extra wafers ordered:
 •Bare Dice + Packaged Chips , Package Type 
 (Total sample quantity should be multiple of 40 and less than 400.)
 •Extra Wafers for Dice : Extra Sub-chips :

A surcharge for backend option, ceramic packaging, shuttle wafer form delivery, extra die-saw and super hot run will be added if applicable.

2.3 Sample related

2.3.1 Can I have my CyberShuttle chips delivered in wafer form?

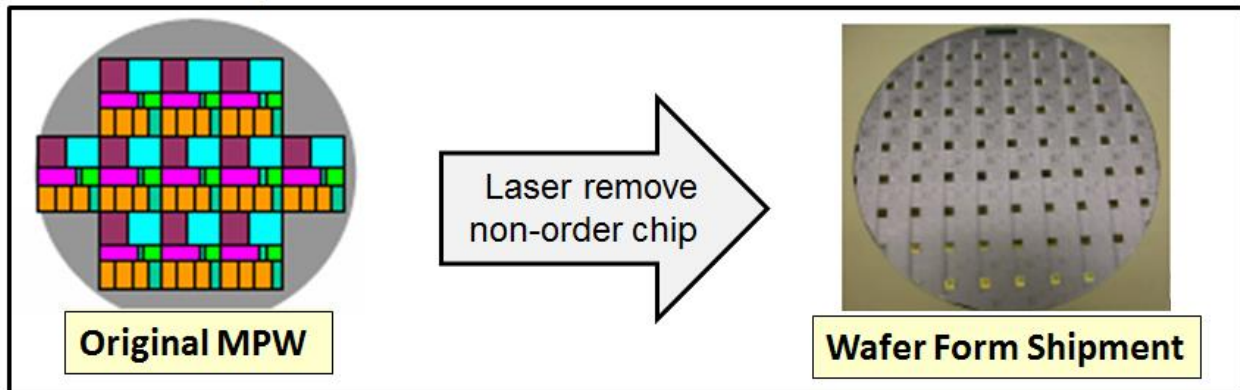
TSMC can provide the wafer form shipment by using laser to erase other customer's pattern. You can request the "whole sample wafers" in the reservation form.

Wafer form limitation: (The wafer form sample is not applicable to <=28nm processes)

- TSMC will remove other customers' patterns on the wafer. The wafer condition is only suitable for CP test in room temperature.
- Further processes such as thermal treatment, backside grinding, die-saw, bumping, WLCSP, etc are not applicable for samples in wafer form.
- Wafer with bumping, back-lapping and polyimide are not available for samples in wafer form.
- Ink dots will be performed if the dice on wafer are out of visual inspection.
- This service will incur extra charge. Please contact your account manager for quotation.
- Seal ring is required for samples in wafer form.
- Such wafers are fragile. For handling such wafers, please use vacuum system and forbid the use of hand-held tweezers.

Cybershuttle FAQ

Wafer form shipment



2.3.2 Can I have my CyberShuttle chips packaged at TSMC?

Bare dice or packaged samples are CyberShuttle deliverables. We ship packaged parts or bare dice at your choice. Please just select the package type you need when you fill out the reservation form. TSMC only provides ceramic packages for CyberShuttle tape-outs.

Please refer to “TSMC online → Tape out & mask service → iTapeout (cybershuttle) → Information center → Cybershuttle backend service menu” for available package table.

2.3.3 What is the minimum die thickness?

The standard CyberShuttle die thickness after backside grinding is 12 mils regardless of technology and wafer size. If you need thinner chips, please contact the captains first for a risk assessment.

Choose the backlapping in the MT

4. Backlapping

(Backlapping lower than 12 mils takes several days of extra cycle time.)

(When the backlap thickness is out of fab spec, tsmc will check if it's acceptable then get back with you.)

(Please keyin the data directly if no suitable value in drop-down list.)

No Yes mils (1mil=25.4um)

Cybershuttle FAQ

2.3.4 Is there any guarantee on yield for my CyberShuttle tape-out?

TSMC CyberShuttle guarantees all delivered samples meet the requirements of TSMC's WAT (wafer acceptance test) and OQA (outgoing quality assurance). However, CyberShuttle customers cannot claim compensation from TSMC for those are not due to TSMC's errors in mask making or wafer processing.

All shuttle wafers meet TSMC's WAT and OQA criterion

TSMC shall not be held liable for any of the following claims on CyberShuttle products.

- Poor yield.
- Poor reliability
- Poor device performance (such as speed, operation voltage, leakage.)
- Design error
- PCM out of specs due to Customer's design rule violation

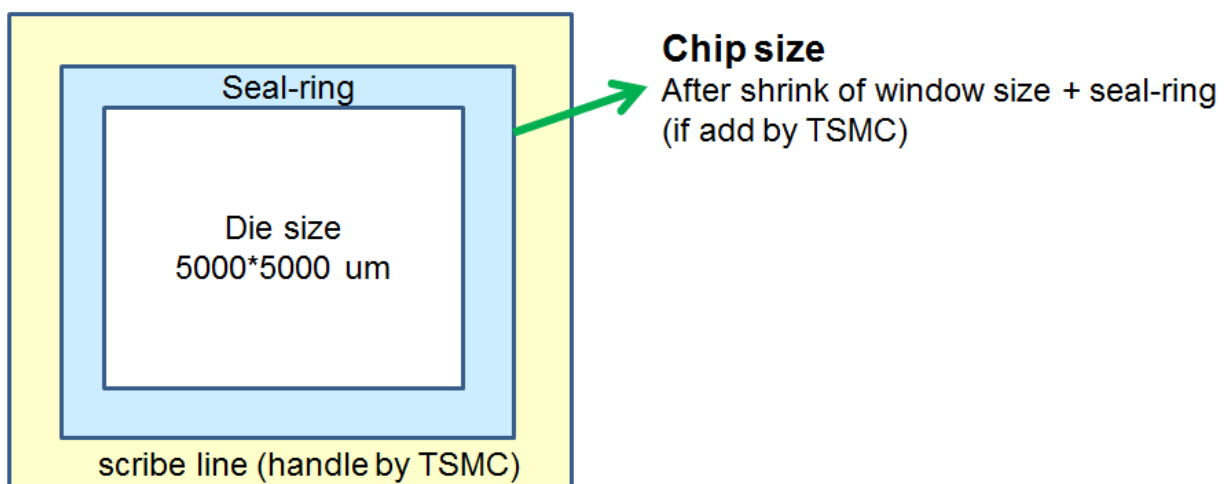
2.3.5 What is the CyberShuttle die size after die-saw?

It will be slightly larger than your design due to the addition of the seal ring and the scribe line.

The final die size after die saw will be:

Min.: chip size

Max: chip size + 90 um.



Cybershuttle FAQ

2.3.6 Can I have my CyberShuttle chips smaller than one block size after die-saw?

Yes. Unit block size is for the purpose of pricing only. We cut the dice according to the window size stated on the online tape-out form. Please contact with shuttle captain in advance If the width X or length Y of your dice (or sub-chip) is $\leq 1000\mu\text{m}$, $X/Y > 3$ or $Y/X > 3$.

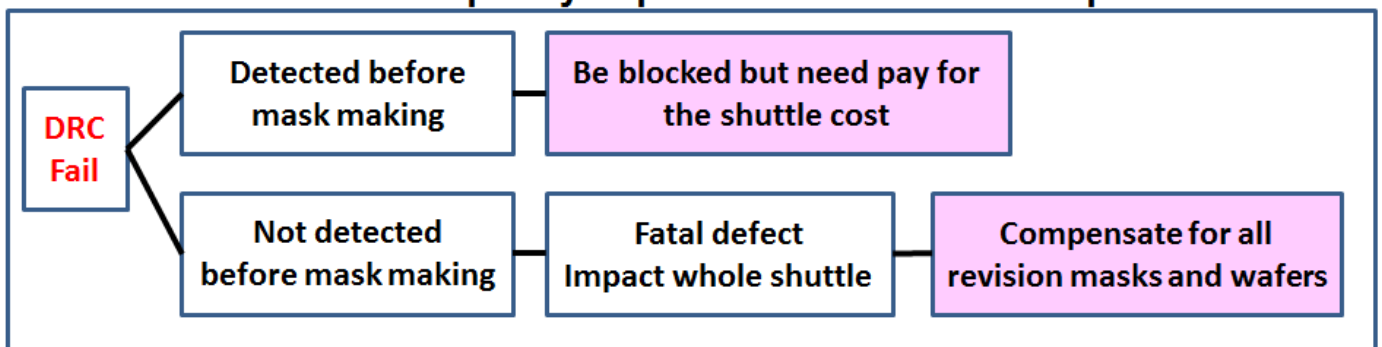
2.4 Design/corner related

2.4.1 Will TSMC run DRC/LVS check for my CyberShuttle tape-out?

No, TSMC does not provide DRC/LVS check services for CyberShuttle tapeouts. Customers must complete DRC/LVS checks by themselves and ensure that their designs are DRC/LVS clean before tape-in. If you have problem meeting this requirement, please contact your TSMC account manager at least 7 days prior to the tape-in date.

In order to ensure mask and process quality of all customers' CyberShuttle tapeouts, CyberShuttle captains will reject the tapeouts with unclarified DRC failure. In worst case, the customer needs to pay all the extra cost for revision mask if the DRC violations impact whole the other chips while processing.

“DRC clean” is shuttle’s policy to protect all customer’s tape outs



Cybershuttle FAQ

2.4.2 Do I need to add seal ring around my CyberShuttle design by myself?

You may choose to add seal ring by yourself or ask TSMC to do it for you by following the Design rule. Just specify what you want on the online tape-out form (MT form). However, if you include multiple designs in one tape-out, you need to add seal ring and scribe line in between those designs by yourself to prevent from die crack.

Choose to add seal-ring by TSMC or by customer in MT

5. Device Information

1. Basic Info.

1. Seal Ring

- TSMC has to add seal ring
 - Rectangle (TSMC default seal ring shape for > 0.13 um technology)
 - Octangle (TSMC default seal ring shape for <= 0.13 um technology)
 - Specify the shape: Explanation of reserved area
 - Big CSR corner (For <= 0.13um and > 65nm technology)
 - Small CSR corner (For <= 0.13um and > 65nm technology)
 - L-mark CSR corner (For <= 0.13um technology)
- Customer added seal ring already

2.4.3 What if I need TSMC IP/libraries for a CyberShuttle tape-out?

Please contact your TSMC account manager, and deliver your GDS to TSMC for IP/library merge in advance so that the merged GDS file can meet the tape-in deadline. Normally it takes 7 working days for IP/library merge. Please mail to G_IPMERGE@TSMC.com for IP/library merge questions.

For IP merge, please provide the following items to TSMC on or prior to **“Tape in date” – 7 days**

- Your Pre-merge GDS file
- Submit your tape out form (MT form)
- Purchase Order (to Customer Support & Account Manager)

Cybershuttle FAQ

2.4.4 May I have corner split on my CyberShuttle tape-out?

Yes, TSMC provides a split service for all CyberShuttle. On the CyberShuttle reservation form, there is a question regarding the split services. Once you specify to have the process split, the shuttle captain will confirm with you whether the split conditions are feasible and then follow them accordingly. (No “corner split” service for the shuttle of \leq N10 technology)

Choose “split condition” in reservation & MT form

Split Condition	<input type="radio"/>	No	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Yes
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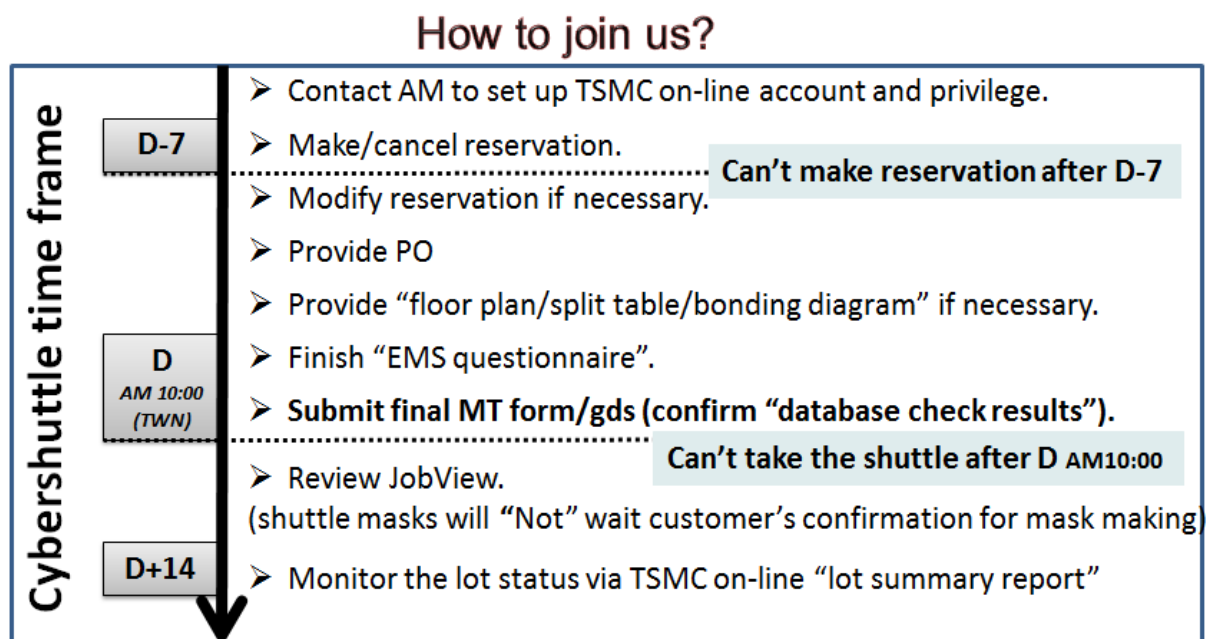
Cybershuttle FAQ

3. Tape out procedure

3.1 Reservation

3.1.1 When can I make, modify or cancel CyberShuttle reservations?

The date that TSMC announces for each shuttle is called the tape-in date, which is the deadline for customers to deliver their PO, designs and tape-out forms. Please make or cancel your reservations at least 7 days before the tape-in date. After reservation, you may modify it until the tape-in date, however, if you increase the device area and there is not enough space available, the status of your approved reservation will go back to pending for approval.



D: tape in date (The date that TSMC announces for each shuttle is called the tape-in date)

3.1.2 What if there is no block available for my CyberShuttle reservation?

When there is no block available, you can still make reservations. The only difference is that your account manager cannot approve your reservation request and secure a slot on the shuttle right away. You will have to wait until someone cancels its approved reservation. Nevertheless, captains will always try their best to squeeze every pending reservations. You may pass on your concerns to your account manager for a pending reservation if you want to be sure.

Cybershuttle FAQ

3.1.3 Why I cannot make CyberShuttle reservations?

You will be not able to make a reservation only when the shuttle cut-off date for reservation is due, that is the shuttle tape-in date is less than 7 days away from the current date. Please contact your account manager or the shuttle captain immediately if you have such problems.

3.1.4 When should I submit EMS questionnaire?

EMS questionnaire (TSMC-Online > TapeOut & Mask Service > Export Control Management > EMS Questionnaire) is available for editing as soon as shuttle reservations are successfully made and must be submitted before customers submit the tape-out forms. Please note that the tape-out form submitting process will be stopped if the questionnaire has not been submitted.

3.1.5 How to change the shuttle type?

If you don't edit the MT form yet, please follow step 2 as below to modify the shuttle type directly. If you edit the MT form already, please follow bellow steps to modify the reservation.

Step 1: Delete MT form

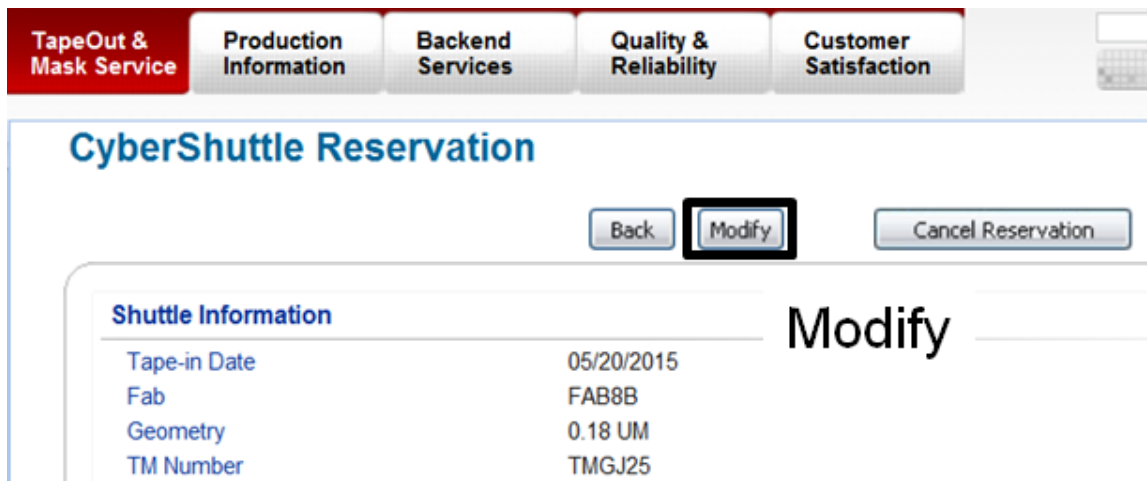
Path: TSMC on-line → Tape out & Mask service => i-tape out (cybershuttle)
 → iTapeout (MT/STI/IP Merge/FSRF)

The screenshot shows a web interface titled "Mask Tooling (MT) Form". It features a table with two columns: "MT Form ID" and "Project Name". The first row contains the value "MT-TMGJ25_C99-001" under "MT Form ID" and "test" under "Project Name". Below the table, there are two buttons: "Edit" and "Delete". The "Delete" button is highlighted with a black border. At the bottom left, there is a "Create RTO" button. Below the table, the text "Delete MT form" is displayed in a large font.

Step 2: Modify Reservation

Path: TSMC on-line → Tape out & Mask service → i-tape out (cybershuttle)
 → Cybershuttle Reservation (Make/Modify/Query/cancel)

Cybershuttle FAQ



3.2 Tape out Form

3.2.1 What if my tape-out has fewer metal layers?

Please just state how many metal layers are required and which optional mask layers (like medium/low VT, ESD) are needless, captains will make the arrangement. Take 0.18 um Logic for example. The maximum metal layer number is 6, and we accept 1P3M, 1P4M, 1P5M and 1P6M designs. If your design has 5M, in order to meet the requested metal density for each metal mask layer, we cannot leave blank area on Metal-6. Therefore, we will copy your Metal-5 pattern on Metal-6 mask. However, your wafers will be run separately from 1P6M wafers to ensure that only 5 metals are deposited.

Just state correct mask layers you want in the MT form

Wafer process will based on your specific process

Combined shuttle mask	Customer MT
	1P5M
160(M1)	160
178(V1)	178
180(M2)	180
179(V2)	179
181(M3)	181
173(V3)	173
184(M4)	184
174(V4)	173
182	0
185(M5)	184
175(V5)	174
186(M6)	185

Cybershuttle FAQ

3.2.2 How to hold the IP merge process after submitting IP merge request?

Please follow below steps to hold the IP merge temporarily.

When can you perform “hold IP merge” function?

Customers can perform “hold IP merge” function when tape out form (MT form) is submitted and under IP merge process.

Where is “hold” key?

Enter the tape put form (MT form) and press device level; then you can see “hold” icon

Step 2. Device Information												
All	Device Name	Geometry	*P*M	Rule Check Result						IP Merge	IP Merge Action	
				Tech	STI	MT	Basic	Shuttle	IP			
	TMIP61_C01	018	1P 6M								Yes	

“Hold” IP merge function (Need to fill “comment for Reason”)

- Hold for IP issue clarification: This IP merge request will be held temporarily. TSMC IP merge team will judge whether to continue or cancel this request after issue be clarified.
- Cancel IP merge for GDS revision: This IP merge request will be cancelled. The tape out (MT form) can be reedited immediately.

Hold IP Merge ✕

Please note the cycle time will be impacted when the IP merge request is held.

- * Hold for issue clarification: This IP merge request will be held temporarily. TSMC IP merge team will judge whether to continue or cancel this request after issue clarification.
- * Cancel IP merge for GDS revision: This IP merge request will be cancelled. The MT form can be reedited immediately.

Hold IP merge for issue clarification
 Cancel IP merge for GDS revision

Comment for Reason:

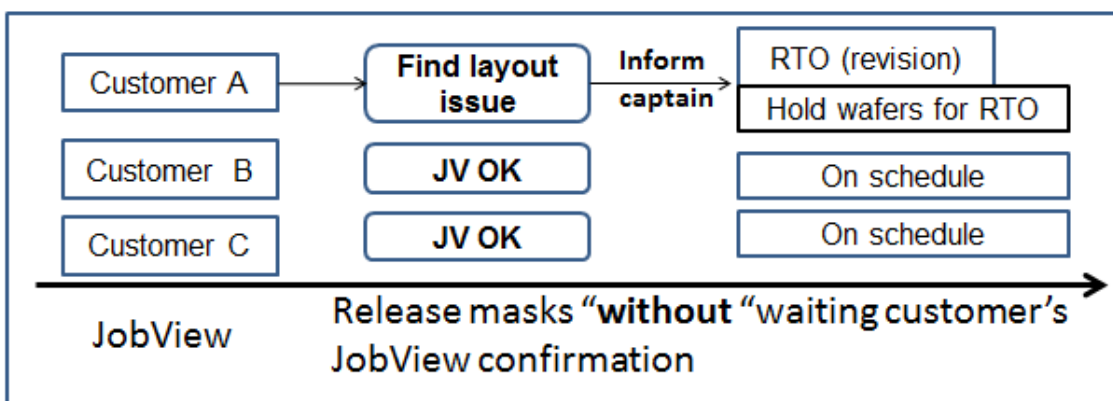
Submit
Cancel

Cybershuttle FAQ

3.3 JobView

3.3.1 Can I do a mask JobView for my Cybershuttle tape out?

If you specify on the online tape-out form that eJobView is needed, you will receive an eJobView email notice from our system when the eJobView is ready. Since the CyberShuttle needs to accommodate many customers and is always running at high priority, it is not possible to wait for confirmation from all customers before mask making. If you should find a need to change the GDS file, please make a request to the shuttle captain as soon as possible. You will need to pay for extra masks and wafers if they have already been made.



3.3.2 Why I see some undesired mask layers in the e-JobView notice?

CyberShuttle e-JobView notice may include some layers that are not desired by your product. We add them for pattern density and other engineering considerations. These mask layers added by captains will not be used on the wafers for your product. When performing e-jobview, please review only those layers that appear on the online tape-out form of your shuttle product.

Welcome to eJobview System

Reference Table
Check detail data of your devices and mask information, including database information, logical operations, mask scale,...etc.

Reticle Field Layout
View detail information of reticle field layout, check dimensions, or download information in PDF format.

Mask Release
Select mask layers to be released when jobview is OK.

Combined shuttle mask	Version	Customer MT
		1P5M
181(M3)	A	181
173(V3)	A	173
184(M4)	A	184
174(V4)	A	173
182	A	O
185(M5)	A	184
175(V5)	A	174
186(M6)	A	185

Cybershuttle FAQ

3.3.3 I can't see the JobView

Please mail to MSCS@tsmc.com if you suffer Jobview issue.

3.4 Samples/wafers handling

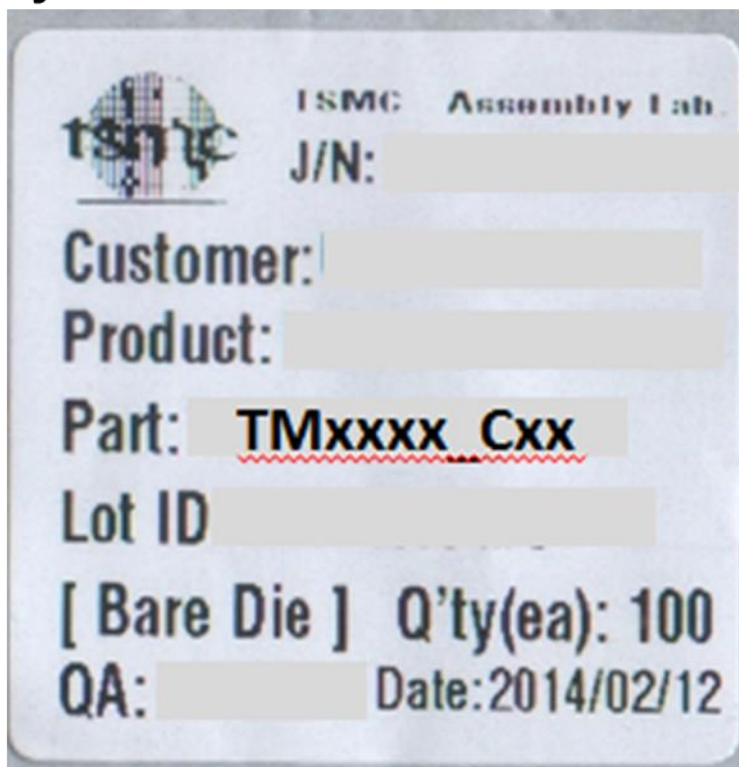
3.4.1 Is it possible to hold the wafers and wait for mask revision?

Yes, you can contact your shuttle captain directly to hold the wafer at the suitable stage.

3.4.2 Label information when sample shipping

The label example is as below. Customer name/product information will be shown in the label. In addition, TSMC part name, Lot ID and qty. are also be mentioned.

Cybershuttle label



Cybershuttle FAQ

4. Getting the samples, you may want to know

4.1 Repeat Order (RO)

4.1.1 Can I place repeat orders?

We do accept repeat orders from customers based on the following rules. You can contact your customer support for the PO and shuttle captain for the RO (reorder form). You may specify what you want on the online reorder form.

Deadline:

Repeat orders must be placed no later than 6 months after shipment of the first batch of samples, as the masks and backup wafers will be scrapped after this deadline.

Order Quantity:

The minimum wafer quantity need follow the current production Small-Size lot rule (≥ 4 wafers). You will need to order at least 160 dice (i.e. 4 pieces) of 8" wafers or 400 dice (i.e. 4 pieces) of 12" wafers.

Cybershuttle RO (reorder) form

TapeOut & Mask Service	Production Information	Backend Services
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Previous Tapeout Query • Tape-Out Simulation • iTapeout Tutorial • iTapeout (CyberShuttle) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CyberShuttle Reservation(Make/ Modify/ Query/ Cancel) • Approve/Reject/Query Reservation • iTapeout (MT/STMP Merge/FSRF) (GDS/OASIS) • CyberShuttle Reorder • Lot Summary 		

Cybershuttle FAQ

4.2 Revised Tape Out (RTO)

4.2.1 Can I ask for mask revision for a CyberShuttle tape-out?

Yes, you can contact your account manager and the shuttle captain for the revision request. However, please discuss with your account manager the RTO (revised tape out) plan before taking the shuttle if the mask revision is in your plan.

Mask Tooling (MT) Form						
MT Form ID	Project Name	Fab	Chip Type / Device Count	IP Merge	Status	
MT-TMEE01_C99-001	5v	FAB3	MPW / 1	No	Available for RTO	
<input type="button" value="Create RTO"/>						

To fill-in RTO form, you can refer to TSMC on-line iTapeout Tutorial for Cybershuttle

TapeOut & Mask Service	Production Information	Backend Services	Quality & Reliability
<p>▣ iTapeout (CyberShuttle)</p> <p>iTapeOut integrates (Typical/Combo/ CyberShuttle) and related (MT/STI/FSRF) an easier and error-free TapeOut service. The data could be shared between forms to reduce TapeOut processing and work effort.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -CyberShuttle Reservation(Make/ Modify/ Query/ Cancel) -CyberShuttle Reorder -Information Center -Approve/Reject/Query Reservation -Lot Summary <input type="button" value="-iTapeout Tutorial for CyberShuttle"/> 			

Cybershuttle FAQ

5. Others

5.1 Can I have my CyberShuttle chips tested at TSMC?

No, TSMC does not offer either chip probing (CP) or final testing (FT) for CyberShuttle samples.

5.2 What if my CyberShuttle tape-out is mis-operated by TSMC? What is the compensation?

When there is mis-operation by TSMC, TSMC will be responsible for the making of new masks and wafers, and compensate customers with another batch of good samples at a super hot run priority.

5.3 When will TSMC scrap CyberShuttle masks/wafers?

CyberShuttle masks and wafers do not belong to any customer. They are owned by TSMC for the purpose of protecting all customers' intellectual properties. Six months after the shipping of samples, the masks and backup wafers will be scrapped.