

Supply Chain Explorer

By the Emerging Technology Observatory

This is an export from the ETO Supply Chain Explorer, available at: <https://TBD.cset.tech> You can see the web version of this content at <https://TBD.cset.tech/?filter-choose=input-resource&input-resource=N55>.

Etching and cleaning tools

Etching tools are responsible for creating permanent patterns in chips: after photolithography removes portions of a photoresist deposited on a wafer in a precise pattern, etching tools etch that pattern into a permanent substrate below. Cleaning tools then remove etched materials.

The United States and Japan are the main producers of etch and clean equipment; South Korea and China are also significant producers.