PROCEDURE FOR MAKING SU-8/Silicon MOLD-MASTER

Microfluidics Core Facility, Harvard Medical School

1. **Clean** the wafer (5 mins exposition to Plasma treatment 200 W) and dry. This will remove organic films and residues to obtain process reliability.



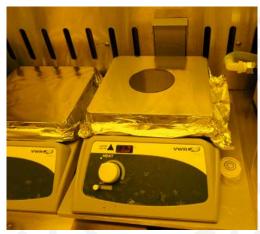
2. **Dehydrate** the wafer baking it in 150°C or 200 C hot plate for 5-10 mins



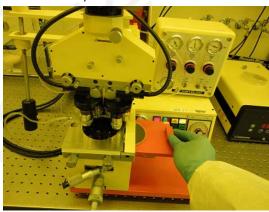
- 3. **Coat**: Check the recipe conditions for:
 - **a.** Spin speed (Step 1 500 rpm for 5-10 sec and acceleration of 100 rpm/sec, step 2 30 sec depends on thickness).
 - **b.** Apply a good amount of SU-8 resist at the center of the wafer without avoiding the formation of bubbles.



- **4. Soft baked or pre baked:** to evaporate the solvent and densify the film. (check for wrinkles, cooling to room temp a putting back on the hotplate.
 - **a.** Determine the baking time required depending on the thickness.
 - **b. Ramping**: For better controlled rate evaporation conditions, start with 65 C and then 95 C. This will minimize bubbles on the surface of the substrate.
 - c. Allow the wafer to cool to room temperature. (There should be no wrinkles otherwise, repeat the process).



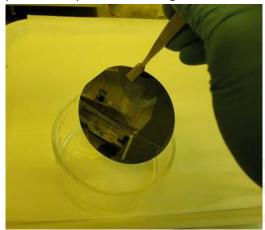
- 5. Expose: Use the Mask Aligner based on the table with the exposure energy according to the thickness (Calculate the exposure time Exposure dose / Measured Intensity or power) the power of the Mask Aligner is 25 mW/cm2, then multiply by the tolerance factor (3).
 - a. Expose the wafer.
 - b. If soft or hard contact was used, clean the mask.



In this process strong acids are formed in the exposed areas, which initialize the activation of these.

- 6. Let the wafer cool.
- 7. Post exposure bake: For stress relaxation and cross link the epoxy areas exposed to the UV.
 - a. Determine the time required depending on the thickness.
 - b. Ramping: For better controlled rate evaporation conditions. (65 C and then 95 C).
- 8. Development:
 - a. Determine the required development time (base on the thickness)

b. Use of SU 8 developer and keep the wafer in agitation.



- 9. Rinse and dry: Use Isopropanol for 10 secs and then pressurized air to dry up.
- **10. Hard bake (final cure):** To ensure the SU 8 properties do not change when expose to thermal processing operation. It helps for annealing any surface crack.
 - a. Bake the wafer in Hotplate 150C for 5 mins

