

Toshiki ITO
Canon Inc. Optical Products Operations

Development of Nanoimprint Lithography Tool

Abstract : Nanoimprint lithography (NIL) manufacturing equipment utilizes a patterning technology that involves the field-by-field deposition and exposure of a low viscosity resist deposited by jetting technology onto the substrate. The patterned mold is lowered into the fluid which then quickly flows into the relief patterns in the mold by capillary action. Following this filling step, the resist is crosslinked under UV radiation, and then the mold is removed, leaving a patterned resist on the substrate. The technology faithfully reproduces patterns with a higher resolution and greater uniformity compared to those produced by photolithography equipment. Additionally, as this technology does not require an array of wide-diameter lenses and the expensive light sources necessary for advanced photolithography equipment, NIL equipment achieves a simpler, more compact design, allowing for multiple units to be clustered together for increased productivity.