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Minor fire reported in Chartered fab

SINGAPORE -- Late last month, a minor fire disrupted manufacturing operations for one day at a wafer fab operated by Chartered Semiconductor Manufacturing Pte. Ltd. here.

The blaze occurred on Sept. 26 in an unidentified Chartered fab, according to a company spokesman, based in the company's sales office in Hsinchu, Taiwan. The fab was closed for just one day, with little or no disruption to Chartered's silicon foundry customers, said the spokesman today.

Word of Chartered fire came on the same day that managers with United Integrated Circuits Corp. briefed the press about last Friday's fab fire, which severely damaged UICC's new 8-inch wafer plant in Hsinchu (see today's news coverage). --Mark LaPedus