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Obstacles to Systemic Innovation: An Illustration from Semiconductor Manufacturing Technology (Classic Reprint) (Paperback)

By Michael A Rappa

Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Excerpt from Obstacles to Systemic Innovation: An Illustration From Semiconductor Manufacturing Technology Microenvironment technology holds significant potential for enabling the cost-effective production of semiconductor integrated circuits. However, integrated circuit manufacturers have been reluctant to adopt the technology even though there is substantial empirical evidence of its effectiveness. This paper suggests that the slow acceptance of microenvironment technology can be understood in terms of its weak appropriability and systemic nature. The history of semiconductor technology has been aptly called a revolution in miniature (Braun and Macdonald, 1978). This is because the principal goal, miniaturization, is to design circuits with the thinnest possible line widths, thereby permitting the greatest possible degree of circuit integration on a single chip. The sophistication of semiconductors today is attributable in large part to the success of scientists and engineers in pushing line features to their physical limits. According to the Semiconductor Industry Association, future generations of Drams will have less than one-half micron feature sizes (see Table 1). The relationship between line geometry and circuit density places stringent demands on the manufacturing discipline...

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