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German
Flat Panel Display Forum

Materials and Production Equipment for flat panel display technologies of tomorrow

Professionals of the European flat panel display industry meet for a symposium at PLANSEE in Reutte/Austria on December 3, 2009

Frankfurt, October 23, 2009 – The cost effective mass production of efficient liquid crystal displays enabled the digital revolution in consumer electronics and information technology and the performance limits are far from being reached. Chances and challenges of this growing market for the European companies will be at the center of the discussions at the 32nd DFF meeting (German Flat Panel Display Forum).

Drastic changes at the beginning of the year led to massive declines in sales for the supply industry. In the medium-term, growth rates of more than ten percent along the value chain can still be expected. Material suppliers as well as equipment manufacturers, display makers and system integrators will benefit from this. While display production mainly happens in Asia, European companies play a significant role in the supply industry. Europe is, furthermore, one of the largest end user markets, e.g. for TFT-LCD TVs.

Keys to success are close cooperation and innovative production solutions beyond the boundaries of the individual enterprise. The DFF supports the networking of the industry and serves as a platform for information for more than 65 member companies. Together they take up the challenges of the market with its highly complex manufacturing processes, its high speed developments and its enormous cost pressure:

- Intelligent solutions to reduce the costs of production
- Simplification of manufacturing processes
- New material developments for even better image quality and new display technologies

Main topics of the working group meeting will be materials, component and production equipment for flat panel displays. A market forecast for different display technologies and an overview of factories in planning will moreover guarantee exciting discussions. The symposium will be hosted by PLANSEE Metall GmbH, the world's leading provider of coating materials such as molybdenum, tungsten, tantalum, chromium and their alloys.

Numerous experts will contribute presentations at the company's headquarter in Reutte/Austria, among them material suppliers like Merck KGaA on liquid crystals or the renowned production equipment manufacturer Applied Materials.

Companies that are not member of DFF are also welcome as guests.

For additional questions, please contact Dr. Susanne Bieller (Tel.: +49 69-6603-1633, susanne.bieller@vdma.org).

Pictures are available upon request or at www.press.displayforum.de.
Further information is available at: www.displayforum.de

About PLANSEE:

PLANSEE is the market leader in powder-metallurgically produced high performance materials with 34 locations in 16 countries. Quality products produced by PLANSEE are setting standards in numerous high-tech industries and are employed wherever the materials used are subject to special stresses and strains. In the field of flat panel displays, sputtering targets by PLANSEE significantly contribute to brightness, luminance and colour of displays. In close collaboration with its customers, the company continuously develops innovative solutions for efficient coating processes and optimised display performance.

Your contact for further information: coating@plansee.com or www.plansee.com

About the German Flat Panel Display Forum (DFF):

DFF - the German Flat Panel Display Forum - is the industry-led association of European FPD industry currently representing 65 companies and research institutes worldwide. Its members, material and component suppliers, equipment manufacturers, display manufacturers, system integrators, end users, and research institutes, are active along the whole FPD value chain. DFF strives to strengthen the European FPD industry. To this end, DFF offers various services to its members: effective platform for collaboration and networking, independent source of advice and information on FPD technology and markets, further education and training courses tailored to industry professionals, promotion of the FPD industry through joint publications and joint exhibition booths at international trade shows and lobbying of politics and the public.