

## Press Release



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Communications

## Personnel matter

### **Prof. Wolfgang Ehrfeld now Honorary Chairman of German Flat Panel Display Forum (DFF)**

At its recent meeting the board of directors of the German Flat Panel Display Forum (DFF) within the engineering federation VDMA has appointed Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Ehrfeld honorary chairman. The flat panel display association thus pays tribute to the achievements of its founding father.

Flat panel displays are found everywhere in daily life – one of the fastest growing markets in the world today. In December 1998 Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Ehrfeld started an initiative gathering 24 renowned organizations – companies, institutes and associations. This activity became the seed of the German Flat Panel Display Forum (DFF) which was founded officially in February 2000 as a grouping within VDMA. Until 2003 Prof. Dr. Ehrfeld was DFF's first Chairman of the Board. When DFF was founded he was managing director of the Institute of Microtechnology Mainz (IMM). Since 2001 he has been chairman of Ehrfeld Mikrotechnik AG. The position of honorary chairman has been established in order to pay tribute to his achievements.

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“Due to Prof. Ehrfeld’s powers of persuasion and the extraordinary preparatory work of the team under his guidance DFF experienced a tremendous growth in its number of members already during the first months of its existence. With the foundation of DFF we have closed a gap in the market”, says Dr. Hermann Schenk, managing director of Covion Organic Semiconductors GmbH and DFF chairman “Technologies”.

“Today we consist of 78 members as there are research institutes, suppliers, FPD manufacturers and display end users and thus we are the leading voice of the German FPD industry. Moreover, DFF coordinates the activities of the ‘ADRIA’-project of the European Commission which aims at the establishment of a European FPD association. This is a true success story”, says Wolfgang Mildner, managing director of PolyIC GmbH & Co. KG, a joint venture of Siemens AG and Kurz-Group. Wolfgang Mildner is DFF chairman “Applications”.

“Very early Prof. Ehrfeld has realized the necessity to create a platform based on an association and has pointed the way ahead. DFF has achieved a significant breakthrough for the integration, visibility and competitiveness of the FPD industry”, adds Thilo Brodtmann, deputy executive director of VDMA.

International companies and research institutes along the whole FPD process chain have joined DFF in the meantime. Its members are material and component suppliers, manufacturing equipment suppliers, FPD manufacturers, system integrators and distributors as well as display end users.

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