



The Clear Solution®

## DOE R&D Conference, Nashville, TN

Gregory Cooper, PhD, Founder & CTO

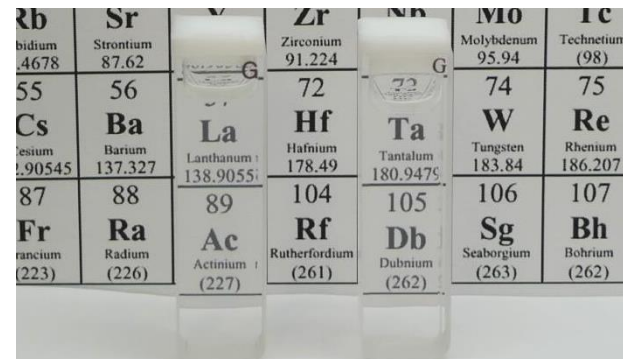
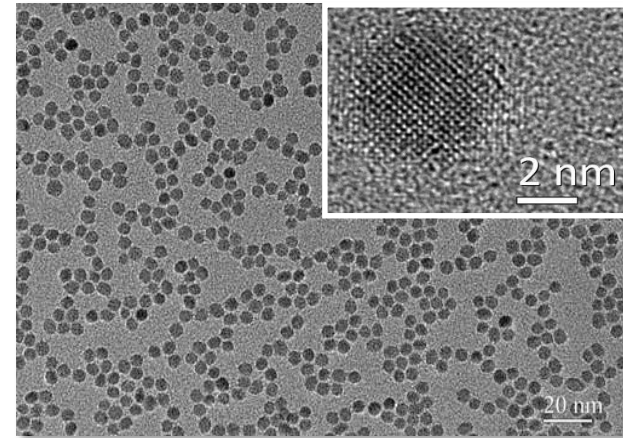
Selina Monickam, PhD, Product Development Manager

# Acknowledgements

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- NIST TIP Award #70NANB10H012

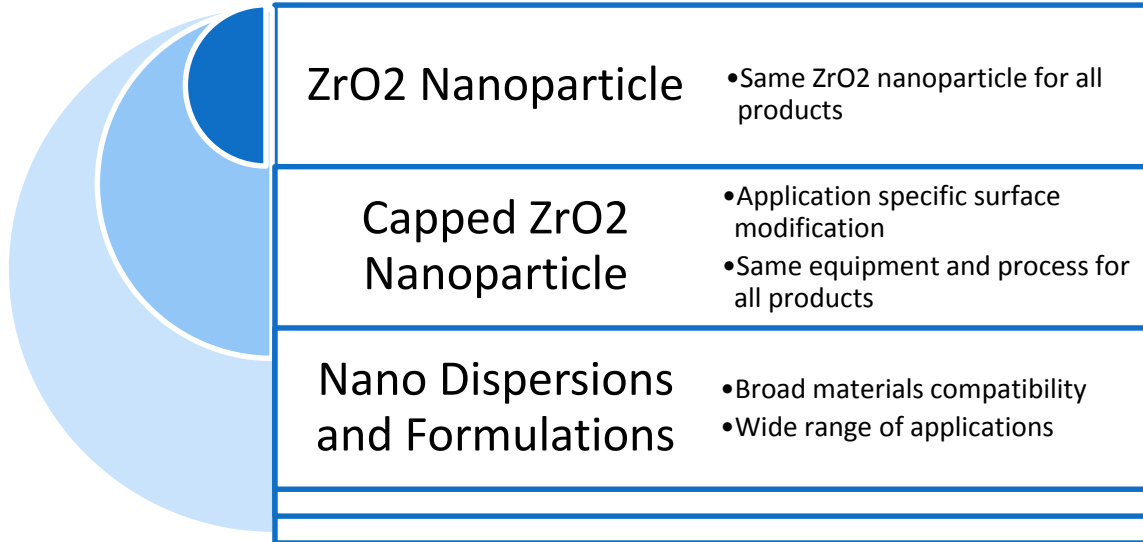
# Technology Leader in High Refractive Index Materials

- ZrO<sub>2</sub> Nanocrystal Dispersions
- Best Dispersions Available
  - 5nm-10nm Spheres
  - Fully Uniform
  - High Loadings (>80wt%)
  - 95% Transmittance
  - High RI >1.8
  - Broad Compatibility
- Highly Scalable Process
- Strong IP Position 57 issued and pending patents



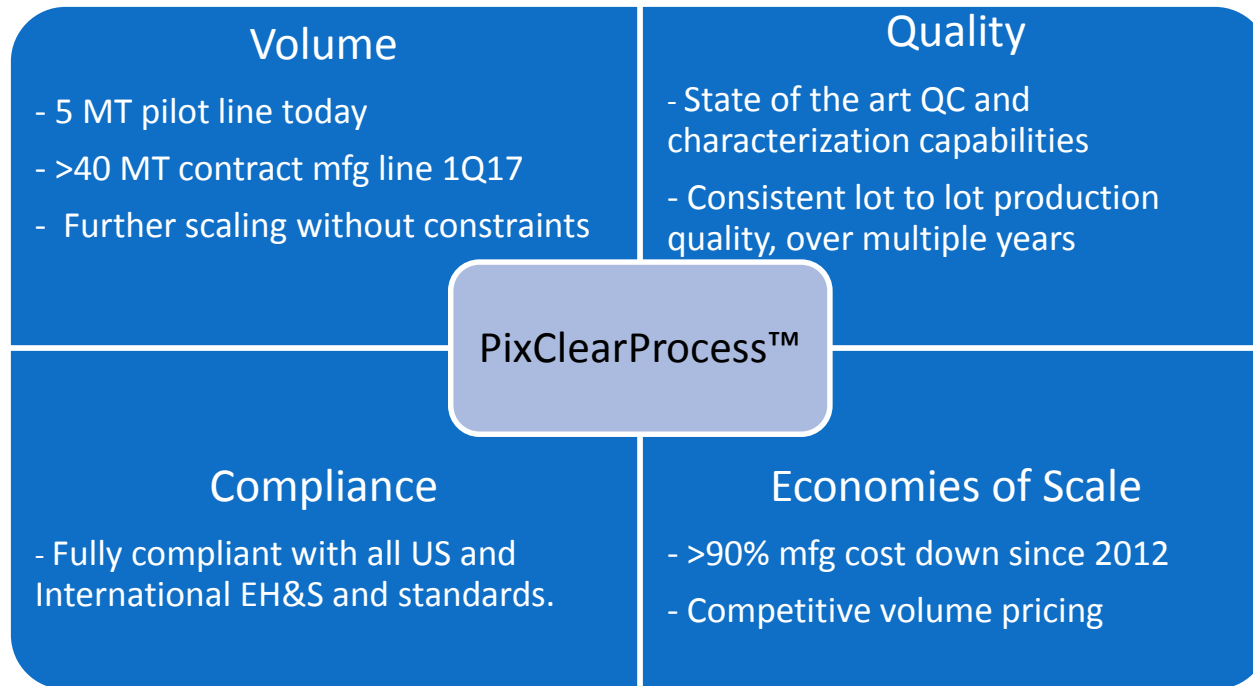
**Left:** 50wt% ZrO<sub>2</sub> Nanocrystals | **Right:** Pure Solvent

## Pixelligent's Scaled Manufacturing



***Frost & Sullivan  
2017  
Manufacturer of  
The Year***



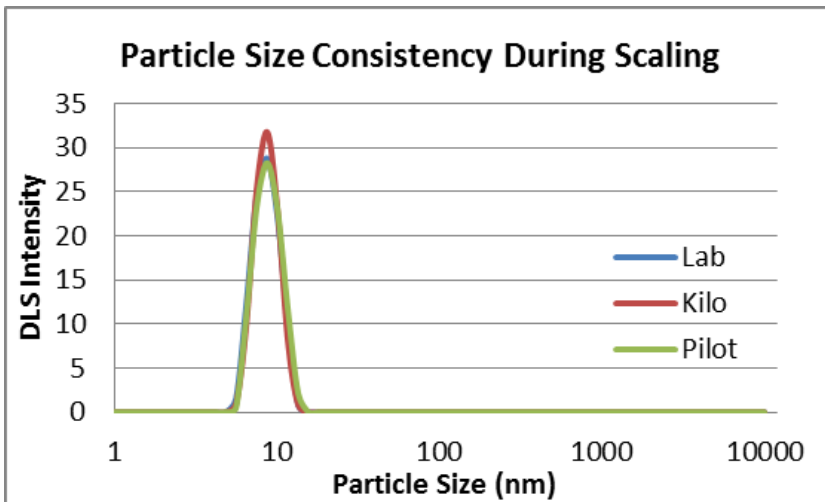


**Why Pixelligent has scaled complex nanomaterials where others have failed:**

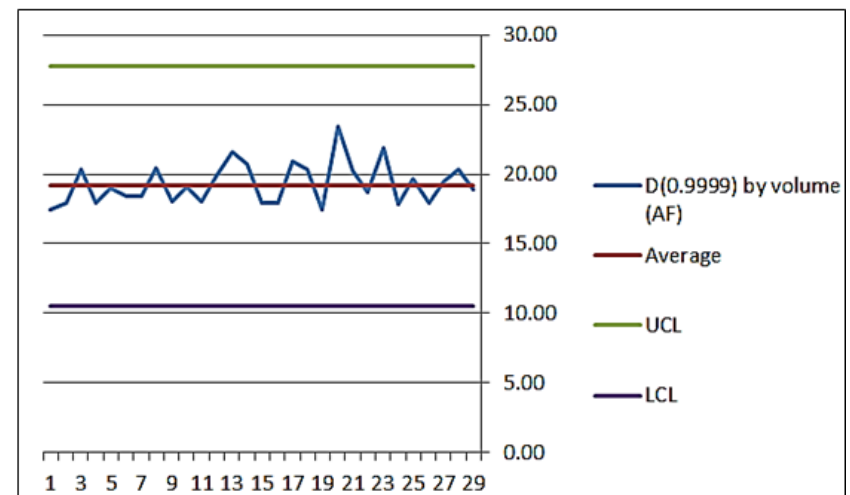
<b>Focus on one material system at a time</b>	<b>Experts in nanoparticle synthesis and surface chemistry</b>
<b>Portfolio of proven surface modifiers</b>	<b>Fully integrated product development and manufacturing processes</b>

## Robust Process Control and Analytics

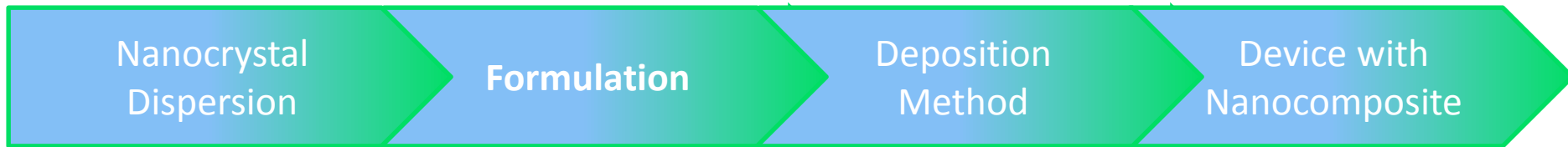
- Process Control – Siemens based custom process control and monitoring system
- Analytics – Multiple tools measuring particle size, dispersion quality, and purity ie. DLS, UV-VIS, TGA, GC, viscometer, etc.



## Consistent Batch Quality



# Pixelligent's technology needed at all manufacturing levels



Pixelligent's innovation in nanocrystal dispersions enables ...

New formulations that work with existing ...

Deposition Methods that are already scaled and becoming increasingly important to create...

Devices with Nanocomposites that are more efficient, simpler to make, or couldn't be made with traditional materials and methods

# Pixelligent's innovation in nanocrystal dispersions enables ...

Nanocrystal  
Dispersion

Formulation

Deposition  
Method

Device with  
Nanocomposite

- Capped nanocrystals dispersed in solvent or monomer
- Many choices of capping agents depending on solvent/polymer
- Multiple capping agents on same nanocrystal – cross linkers + dispersion
- Best dispersion – no aggregation or settling
- Stable for years
- Low viscosity increase
- Transparent
- Scaled manufacturing – uniform and repeatable

## Pixelligent Product – Nanocrystal Dispersions

Rb Rubidium (85.4678)	Sr Strontium (87.62)	Zr Zirconium (91.224)	Nb Niobium (92.90638)	Mo Molybdenum (95.94)	Tc Technetium (98)
Cs Cesium (132.90545)	Ba Barium (137.327)	Hf Hafnium (178.49)	Ta Tantalum (180.94788)	W Tungsten (183.84)	Rh Rhodium (186.207)
Fr Francium (223)	Ra Radium (226)	Ac Actinium (227)	Rf Rutherfordium (261)	Sg Seaborgium (263)	Bh Bohrium (262)

**Nanocrystals**

**ZrO<sub>2</sub> Nanocrystal Core**

**Capping Agent**

**Solvent or monomer**

**Left: 50wt% ZrO<sub>2</sub> Nanocrystals | Right: Pure Xylenes**



## New formulations that work with existing ...

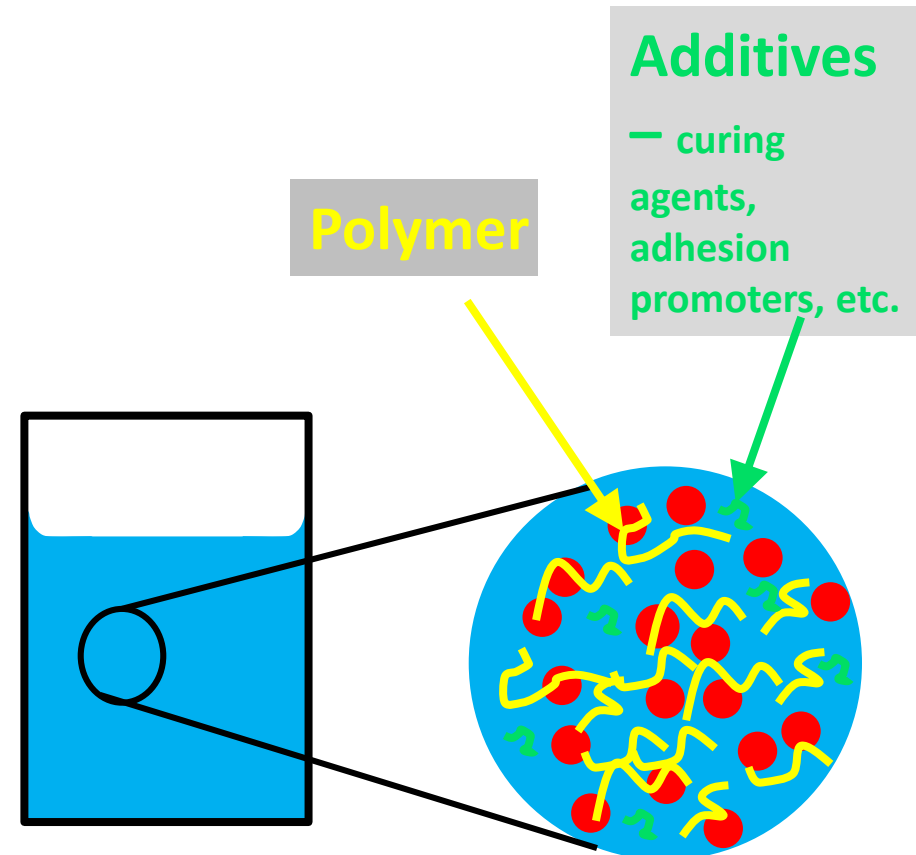
Nanocrystal  
Dispersion

Formulation

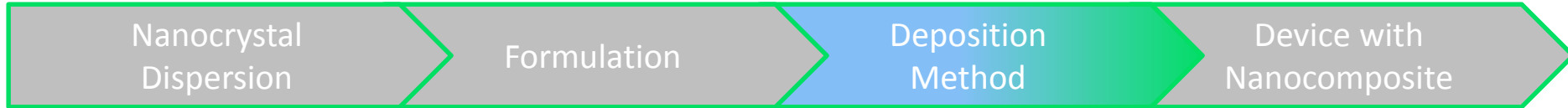
Deposition  
Method

Device with  
Nanocomposite

- Curable liquid with capped nanocrystals + polymer/monomer + additives
- Need to meet desired requirements – viscosity, shelf life, cure conditions, purity, surface tension, uniformity, repeatability ...
- Compatible with formulation manufacturing

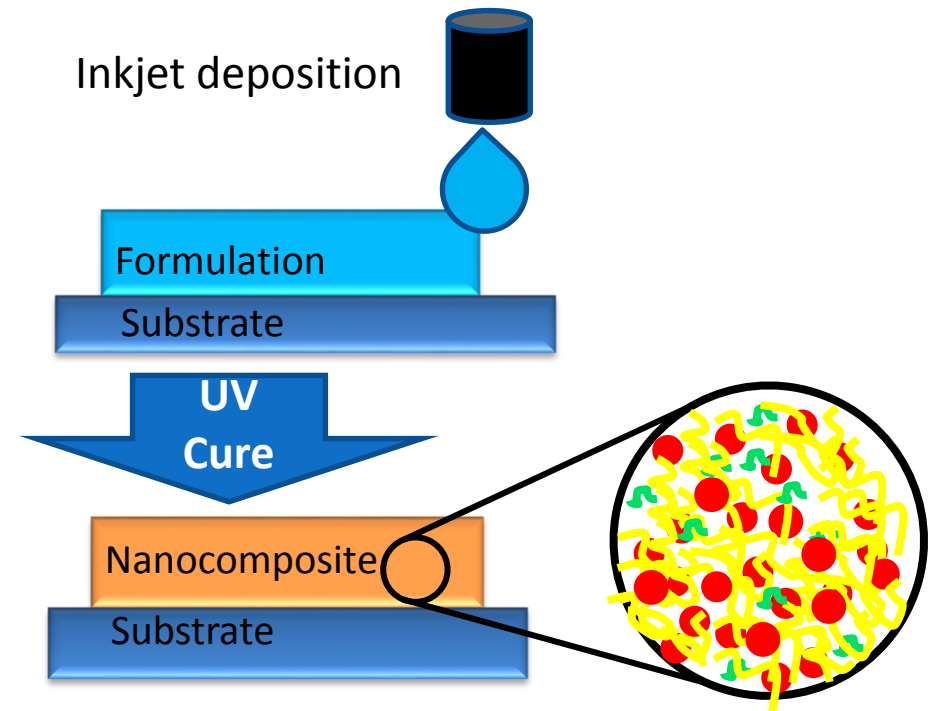


## Deposition Methods that are already scaled ...



- Inkjet printing
- Slot die,
- Imprint Lithography
- Spin-coat, screen printing, dispense, spray coating, and others

### Nanocomposite Deposition



# Enabling innovative devices with Nanocomposites

Nanocrystal  
Dispersion

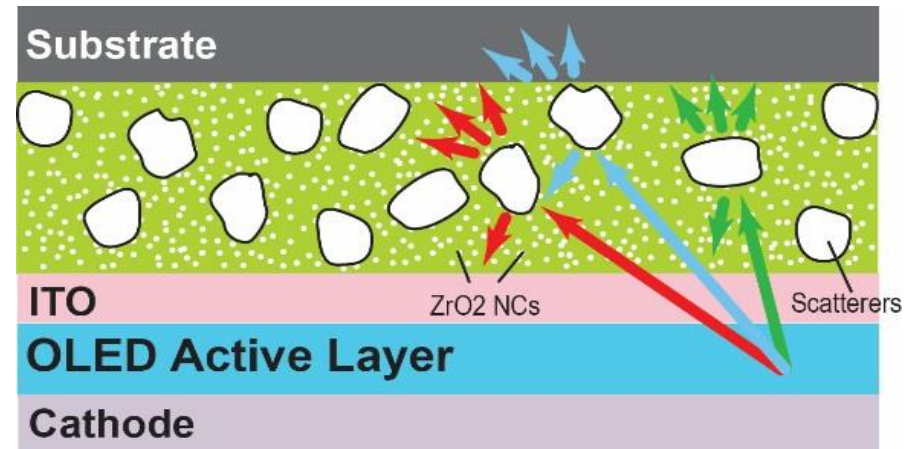
Formulation

Deposition  
Method

Device with  
Nanocomposite

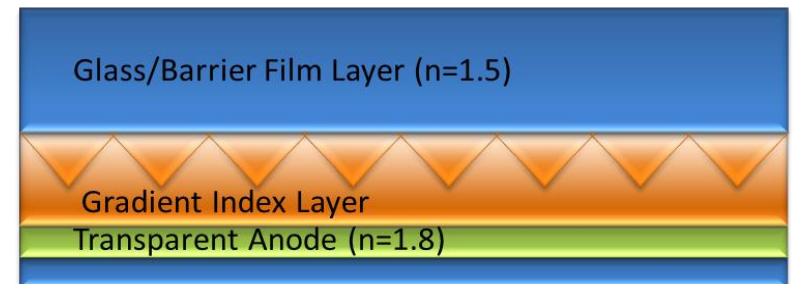
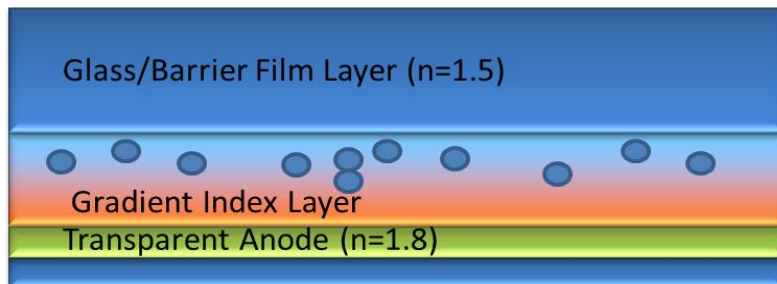
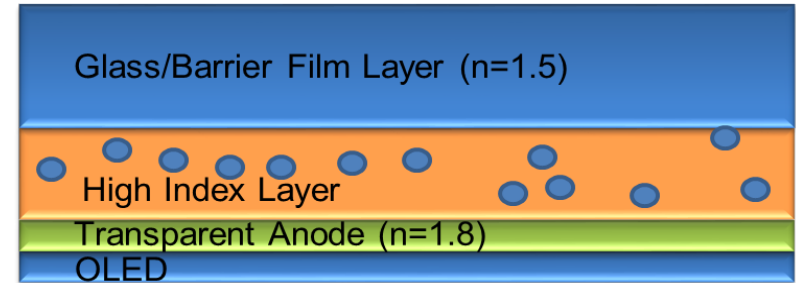
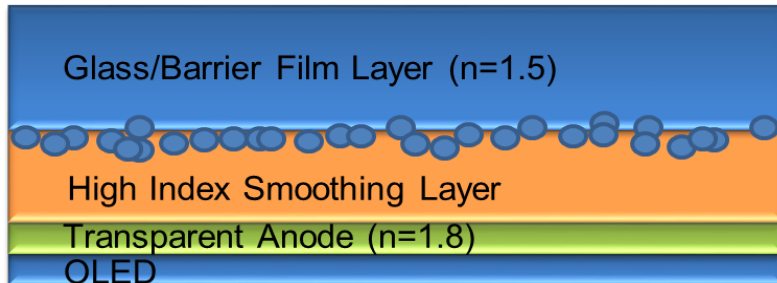
## Example: Optoelectronics - OLED

- High refractive index needed for efficient light extraction – solution processable needed to meet cost and quality targets
- Less waste heat
- Longer lifetime
- Eliminate other components = lower overall cost and simplified manufacturing



OLED Stack with extraction layer: scattering particles, embedded in a high refractive index nanocomposite. The green, blue, and red rays correspond to light that naturally escapes, is totally reflected at substrate/air interface, and is totally reflected at ITO/substrate interface, respectively. The reason why a high refractive index binder is needed is because it allows the high angle light (red rays) to couple into the extraction layer and then get to the scattering particles where the light can be redirected

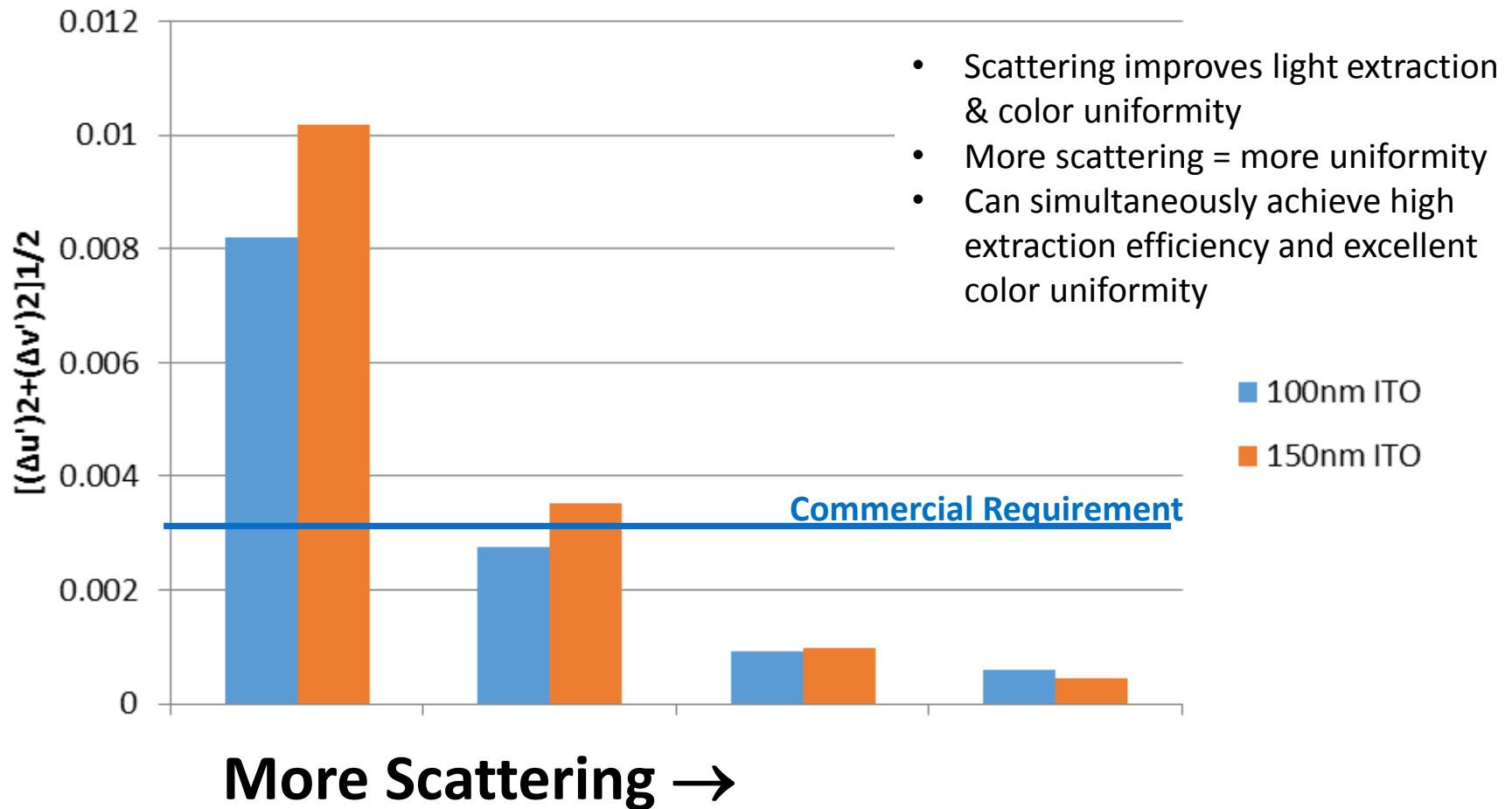
# Pixelligent's OLED Light Extraction Roadmap



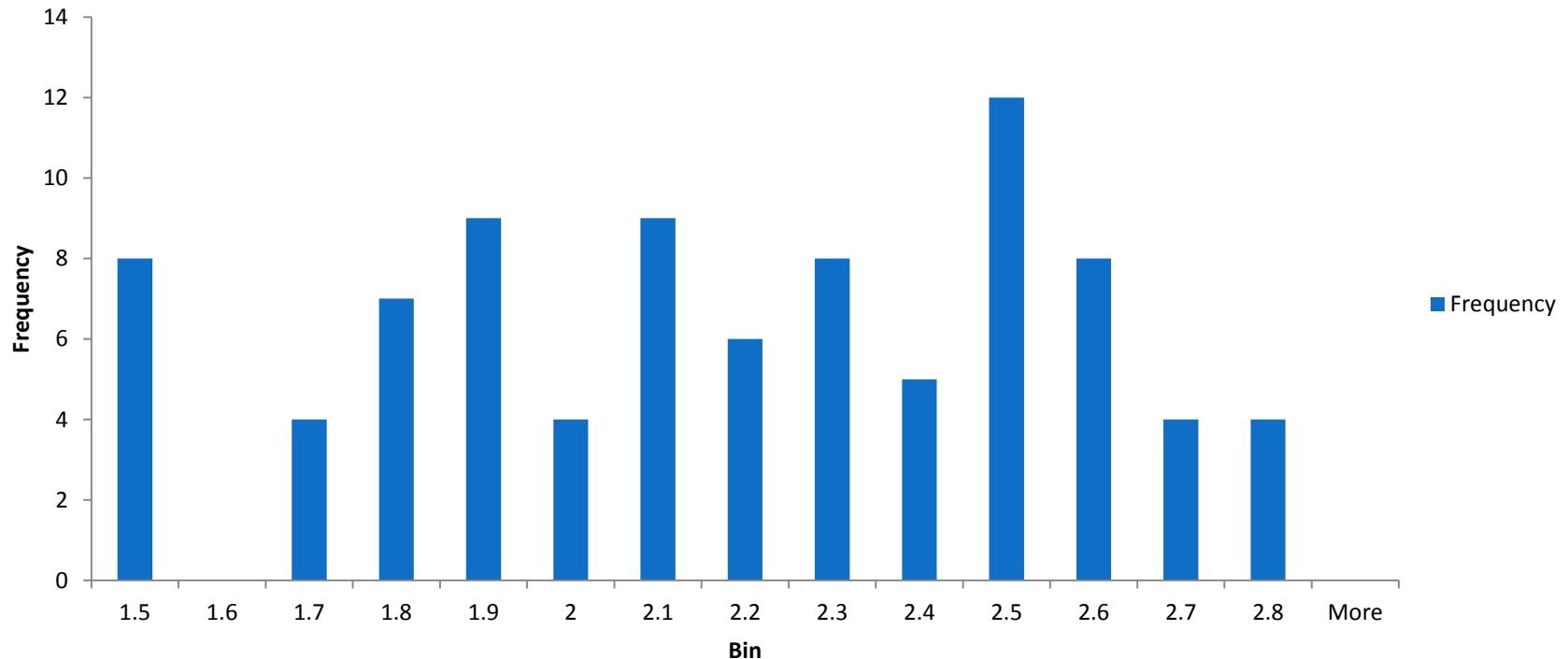
## OLED Lighting Will Need Internal HRI Light Extraction

- HRI light extraction offers highest efficiency
- Two issues
  - Cost
    - Simplify device- fewer layers, fewer deposition steps
  - Manufacturing – yield and lifetime
    - Introduction of defects that cause shorts
    - Poisoning of the device

# Gen 2 Color Variation with Angle



## Gen 2 EQE Improvement > 2.5X



- 88 Gen 2 devices – solution processed high index layer with scatterers
- Lots of variation – we think the main reason is due to defects – particles deposited from “dirty” environment cause shorts
- Defects lower efficiency but higher efficiency results are real

## Other Approaches

- Internal HRI light extraction is compatible with many other approaches and device structures
  - Silver nanowires
  - Directed emitters
  - Corrugated substrates
- All approaches need to be analyzed with internal HRI light extraction and multi-layer devices

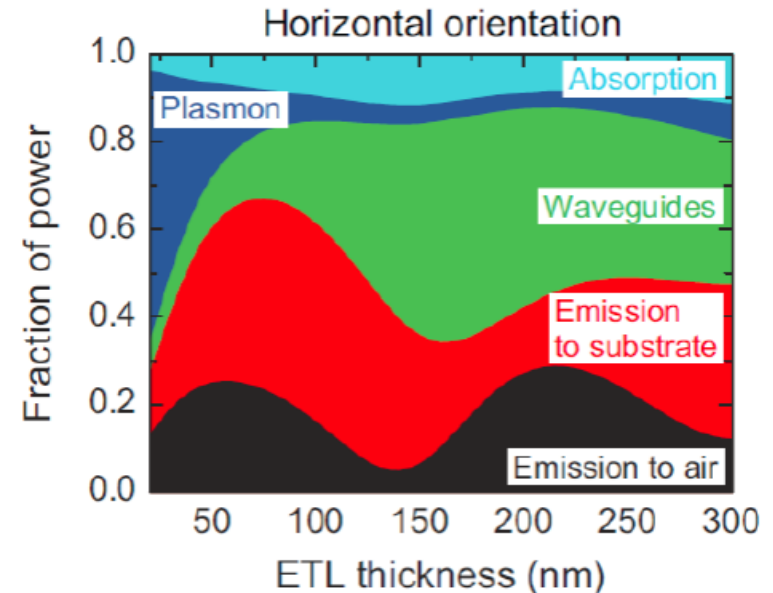


## Silver Nanowires

- Offer important advantages
  - Low cost
  - Roll to roll and/or solution processing
  - Flexibility
  - Light extraction – favors fewer larger nanowires
- Challenges
  - Lifetime
  - Yield
  - Uniformity – favors more smaller nanowires

## Directed Emitters

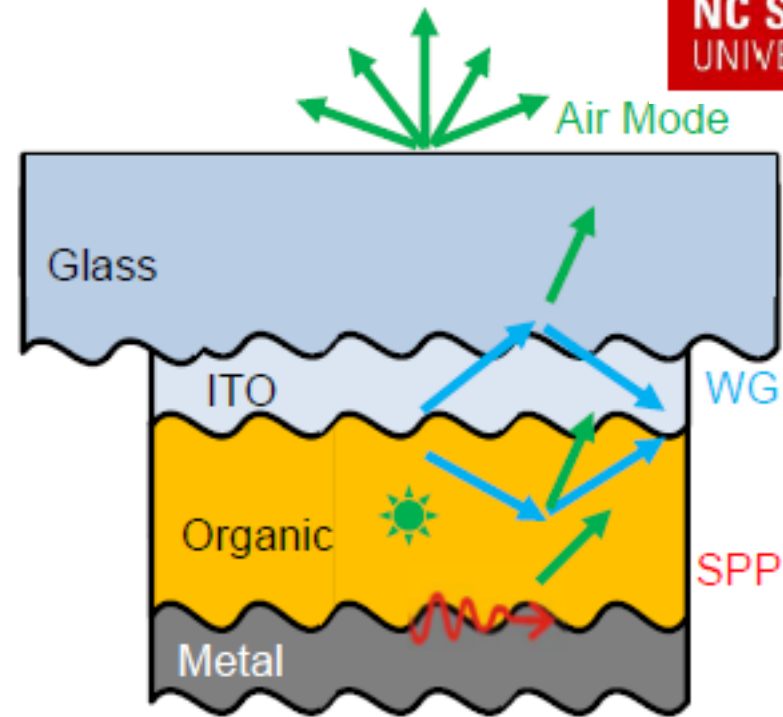
- More light emitted in forward direction – relatively more in substrate and air modes
- Still need internal HRI light extraction
- Need to analyze with multi-layer device and include color uniformity with angle



M. Thompson, Electrophosphorescence for Solid-State Lighting, 2017 OLED Stakeholder Meeting

## Corrugated Substrates

- Scatters light and suppresses plasmons
- Enough scattering for optimal light extraction and color uniformity with angle?
- Manufacturing concerns
- Need to analyze with multi-layer device



F. So, Light Extraction in OLED with Corrugated Substrates, 2017 OLED Stakeholder Meeting

## Summary

- Pixelligent's innovation in nanocrystal dispersion enables innovative devices with nanocomposites
- For OLED lighting – solution processable internal HRI-LE
- OLED lighting will need HRI-LE – reduces cost, need to solve yield and lifetime
- Compatible with many other methods and device structures
- Analysis needs to consider HRI-LE, multi-layer devices, and color uniformity with angle