

# *The Challenge of R2R Manufacturing of OLED Lighting for General Lighting Market*

John Hamer, COO

January 30, 2018 – DOE SSL R&E Workshop Nashville Tennessee

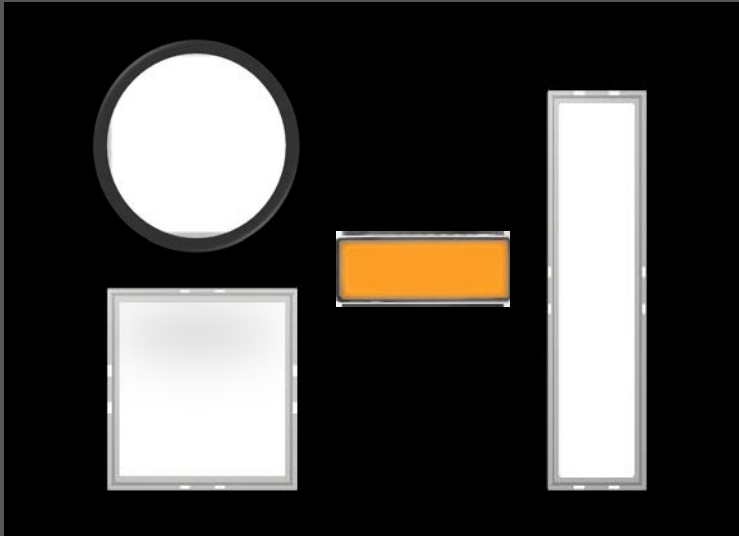


# OLEDWorks introduction

- 2010: OLEDWorks established by former members of the Eastman Kodak Company OLED team
- 2014: Corning®/OLEDWorks exclusive JDA for bendable OLED lighting panels
- 2015: Acquisition of Philips OLED business
- State-of-the-Art Manufacturing in U.S. and Germany (20k m<sup>2</sup> capacity, scalable to 120k m<sup>2</sup>)
- World's highest brightness, longest lifetime, highest quality OLED lighting panels
- Quality: ISO 9001, ISO 14001, OHSAS 18001 certified, Full traceability via a factory MES system



# Brite portfolio

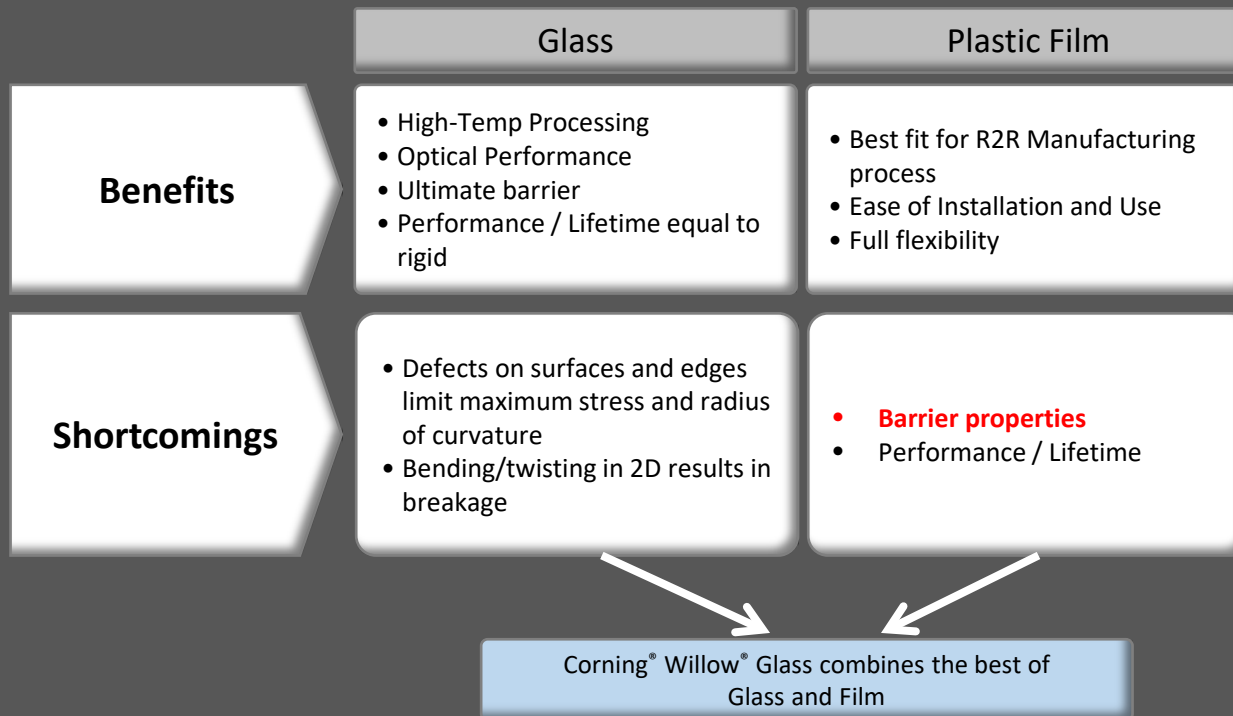


- High brightness white  $>8,000\text{cd/m}^2$
- New shape – round
- Warm white and neutral white
- Improved efficacy  $80\text{lm/W}$
- Excellent light quality CRI  $>90$ , R9  $>50$
- Lifetime at high brightness  $>30,000$  hours

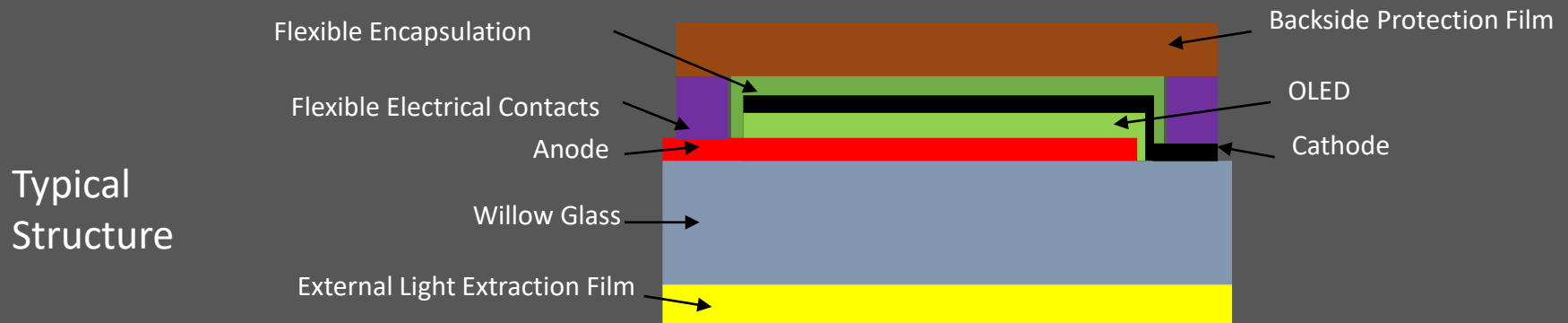
# Market introduction of a bendable OLED on thin glass



# Corning® Willow® Glass (*0.1mm thick*) combines the best attributes of Glass and Film substrates



# Design Challenges of Flexible Glass OLED Structures



- Careful engineering and design required to make the OLED product robust to handling
- Selection of materials and thicknesses is critical to control stress and strain in each layer
- The design of the location of neutral axis during bending is important
- Protection of glass surfaces and glass edges is required to prevent damage which weaken the glass

# Motivation for Curved and Bendable OLED Lighting

- OLED lighting is currently higher priced than LED, and needs to achieve higher sales volumes to significantly reduce costs.
- Unique selling points – OLED lighting can be bendable, flexible, thinner, lighter than LED – allowing more creative designs.
- We target the large general lighting market offering a new value proposition above rigid OLED's and general applications in SSL which will further distinguish OLED lighting from conventional light sources.
- Well suited for new applications in automotive and the integration of OLED lighting in materials



Prototypes in testing



# Depreciation

- Gen 5 OLED Lighting Machine - \$125M Capital Cost – more including all equip.
- Depreciation is a very large part of the COGS – 25-35%
- Successful large-volume businesses have COGS near BOM cost
- Today's OLED coating speeds are in 5-10mm/sec range
- The table shows 30 sec TAC on Gen 6 (1.5x1.8m) = 60mm/sec ~6-12x current rates
- The problem is that the equipment is still not productive enough
- Higher throughput needed – larger glass area (display model) or higher transport speed
- **For more than 10x higher speed without particles → we need R2R processing**

Table 5.4 Cost Targets for Panels Produced by Traditional Methods

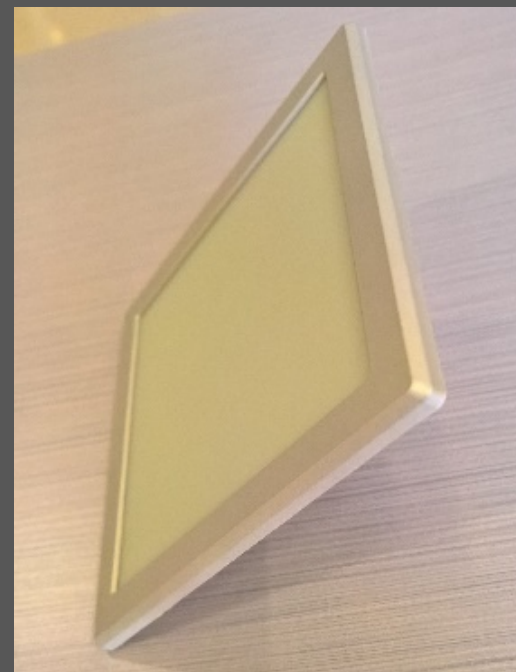
	2016	2018	2020	2025
Substrate Area (m <sup>2</sup> )	0.2	1.2	1.2	2.7
Capital Cost (\$M)	50	125	125	200
Cycle Time (minutes)	3	2	1	0.5
Capacity (1000 m <sup>2</sup> /yr)	17	175	350	2,400
Depreciation (\$/m <sup>2</sup> )	600	140	70	35
Organic Materials (\$/m <sup>2</sup> )	150	100	50	15
Inorganic Materials (\$/m <sup>2</sup> )	200	140	100	30
Labor (\$/m <sup>2</sup> )	100	25	15	5
Other Fixed Costs (\$/m <sup>2</sup> )	50	15	10	5
Total (unyielded) (\$/m <sup>2</sup> )	1,100	420	245	90
Yield of Good Product (%)	70	80	85	90
Total Cost (\$/m <sup>2</sup> )	1,570	525	290	100
Deprec % of COGS	38%	27%	24%	35%

From – “Solid-State Lighting 2017 Suggested Research Topics Supplement: Technology and Market Context” by US DOE EERE, September 2017”, page 113



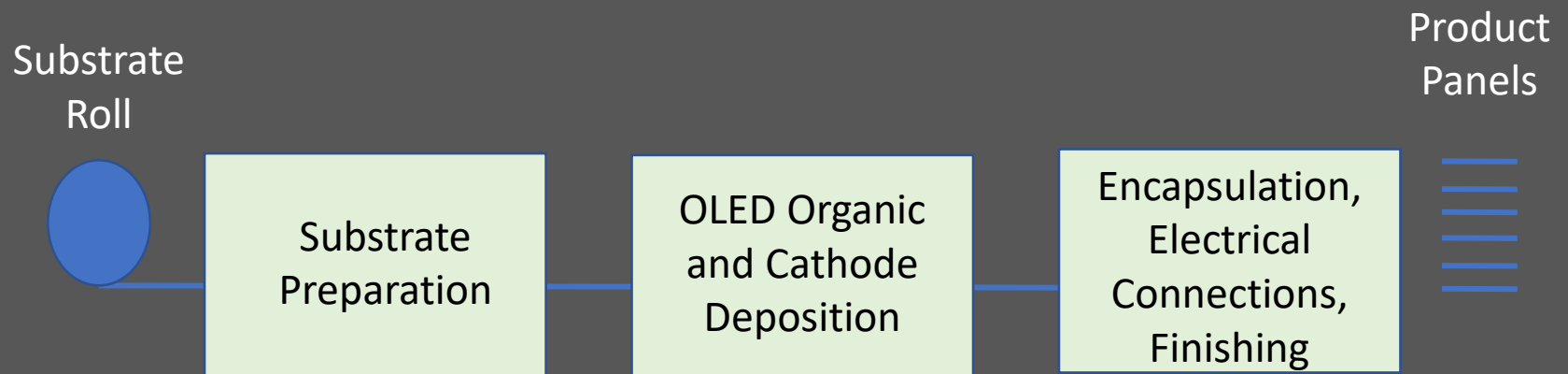
# Enabling OLED Lighting to Compete in General Lighting

- For OLED lighting to compete in general lighting, the Cost of Goods Sold (COGS) must be \$100/m<sup>2</sup>.
  - I think it must be lower than this to realize the potential volumes.
- Example of Roll to Roll operation:
  - Kodak made photographic film at 200'/min (1,000mm/sec)
    - Film making required approx 25 liquid layers deposited in 3 coating stations
  - Kodak could never have made film at low-cost if it were done by sheet-to-sheet.



Simple Single Panel Fixture with  
Brite 2 OLED Panel

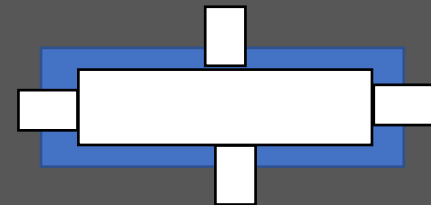
# Industrial challenges of R2R OLED manufacturing



# Problems to be Solved to Enable R2R VTE of OLED Lighting – Goal > 100 mm/sec

## 1. Masking – we must eliminate the need for masking

- 2 masks are used today:
  - Organic masks to prevent OLED organic from depositing the seal area and cathode contact area
  - Cathode masks to prevent the cathode from depositing across to the anode contact area.
- Typical spec:
  - Product size (typical 250 mm \* 70mm), tolerance of  $\pm 0.5$  mm (trend to improve)
  - No front touch
- OLEDWorks has a DOE project to develop a technology solution
  - We have a poster on this project in the poster session.



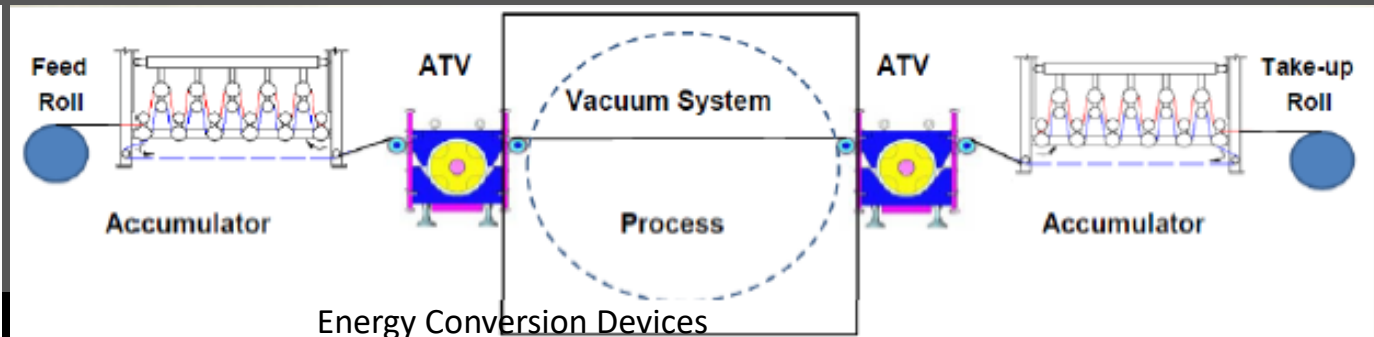
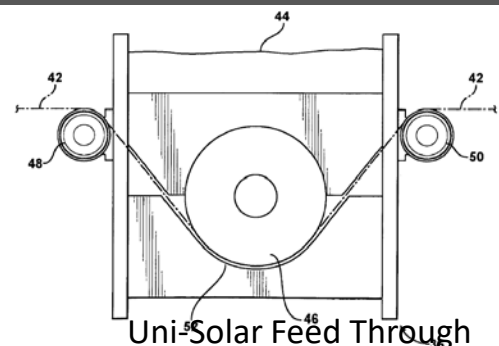
# Problems to be Solved to Enable R2R VTE of OLED Lighting – Goal $> 100$ mm/sec

## 2. Web handling the at start and end of the line – choices:

### a. Feeding web into vacuum with only front side contact

- Splices must pass through the feed-through

### b. Making splices in vacuum – can't stop the web, therefore need to splice on fly, no front side contact therefore no storage elevator for web in vacuum.



# Problems to be Solved to Enable R2R VTE of OLED Lighting – Goal $> 100$ mm/sec

## 3. Other issues in web handling at start and end of vacuum section:

- Drying of the web before start
- Rollup of web without damage to substrate, OLED, or encapsulation

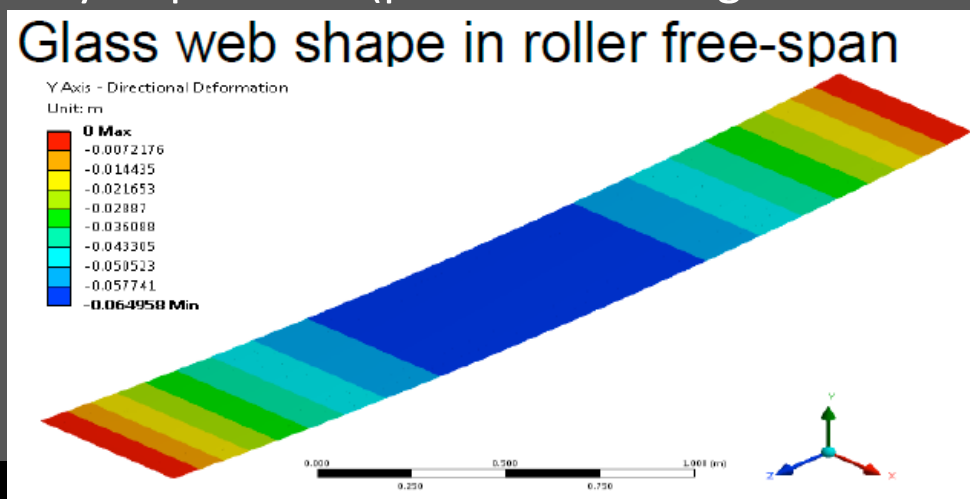


Corning Glass, Sue Lewis, Proflex Conf, Nov 2017

# Problems to be Solved to Enable R2R VTE of OLED Lighting – Goal > 100 mm/sec

4. Handling web in deposition section of vacuum coater – ~40 layers, 40m?

- Tension in web, preventing tear-offs in machine - transport on support belt?
  - Perhaps develop depo down with particle control or technology for insensitivity to particles (prevent shorting and defects in encapsulation)



Corning Glass, Sue Lewis,  
Proflex Conf, Nov 2017

# Problems to be Solved to Enable R2R VTE of OLED Lighting – Goal $> 100$ mm/sec

## 5. High-Rate Evaporation

- Evaporate without decomposition
  - Novel vapor generation – like from aerosols (Mike Long of Aixtron)
  - Methods to limit time that materials are at elevated temperature (replenishment/feeding methods)
- Stable machine operation – methods to monitor and control vapor generation rate – Pirani, optical methods

## 6. High Rate Condensation

- Look at changes to morphology, smoothness in film at very high rates
- Redesign of particular molecules that limit machine speed.

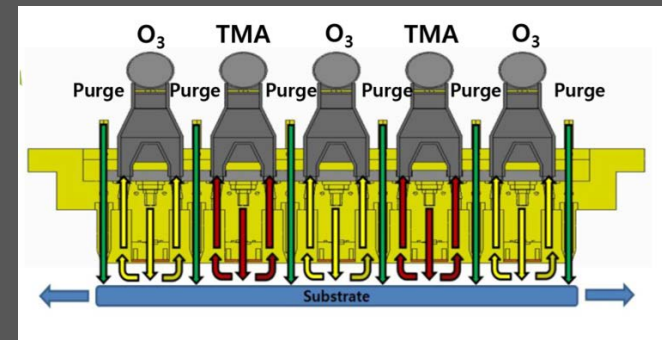


Sunic 1.3m wide organic evaporation nozzles

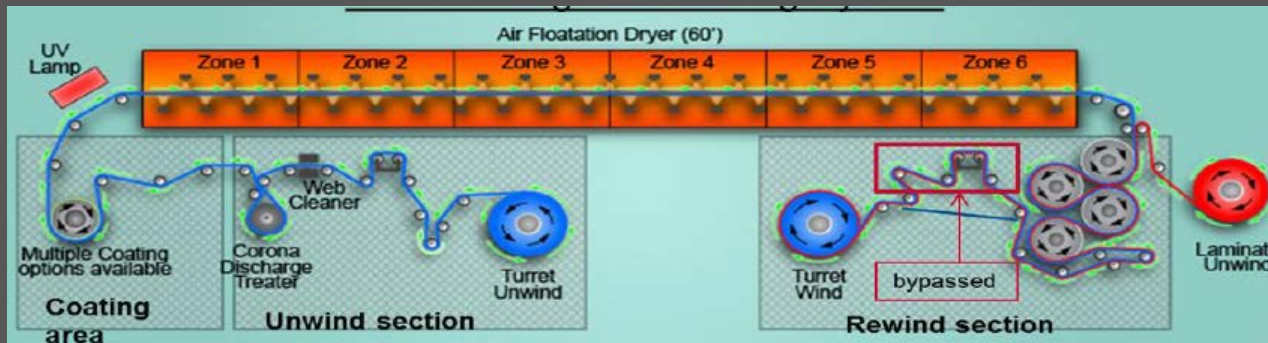


# Problems to be Solved to Enable R2R VTE of OLED Lighting – Goal > 100 mm/sec

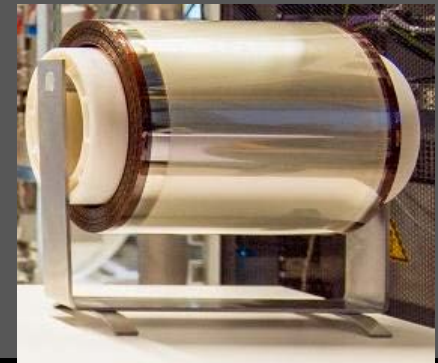
7. High speed R2R encapsulation
  - In line or off line?
  - Roll to Roll or cut sheet?
    - Spatial ALD?
8. High speed R2R substrate preparation patterned with anode, insulator, and internal light extraction



INVENIA Spatial ALD



60 m thin glass coating and drying machine – Sue Lewis, Corning





# Proposal - US Development of R2R Technology for Low-Cost OLED Lighting Production

- Goal – Retain OLED lighting manufacturing in USA by technology advantage that gives a cost advantage.
  - Fraunhofer in Germany has built a pilot machine for VTE OLED
  - LG has constructed a Gen 5 Sheet-to-Sheet machine for OLED lighting in Gumi
    - China is proposing additional several similar machines.
  - Konica Minolta has built a R2R machine for OLED lighting (not in production yet)



Fraunhofer FEP

## Discussion Points:

- **We propose that the US focus on developing the R2R manufacturing technology to leapfrog to lower-cost manufacturing, and use it for production in the USA.**
- **Now is the time to develop the required technologies**
- **We could leverage existing R2R pilot facilities in the US**

# Summary

- The market introduction of bendable products will start this year
- General Lighting is a commodity business and requires commodity pricing
- I predict that OLED lighting will be made R2R within 10 years
  - Commodity pricing requires mature world class mass manufacturing @ lowest cost
  - Chicken and egg (Cost down vs. volume ramp up)
- OLED lighting can achieve the commodity pricing goals through R2R process development and production. We should keep OLED lighting production in the US.



# Thank you

