

# OLED Lighting Manufacturing Challenges

John Hamer, OLEDWorks



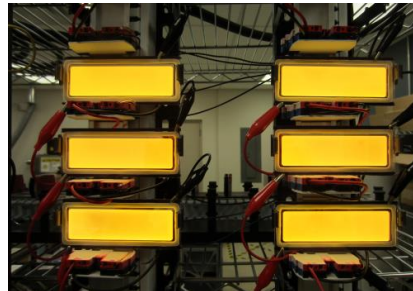
[OLEDWorks.com](http://OLEDWorks.com)

# Outline

- OLEDWorks Introduction
- Status of OLED Performance for General Lighting
- Status of OLED Lighting Manufacturing
- Flexible OLED Lighting Panels
- Conclusions and Outlook

# OLEDWorks introduction

- OLEDWorks LLC is OLED lighting manufacturer based in Rochester, NY
- On October 31<sup>st</sup> 2015, completed acquisition of Philips OLED lighting assets which are now its fully owned subsidiary, OLEDWorks GmbH
- Focus on manufacturing and R&D for OLED lighting panels
- DoE OLED test site for industry evaluations
- Target markets include all major professional and consumer applications



# Status of OLED Performance for General Lighting

## Design freedom

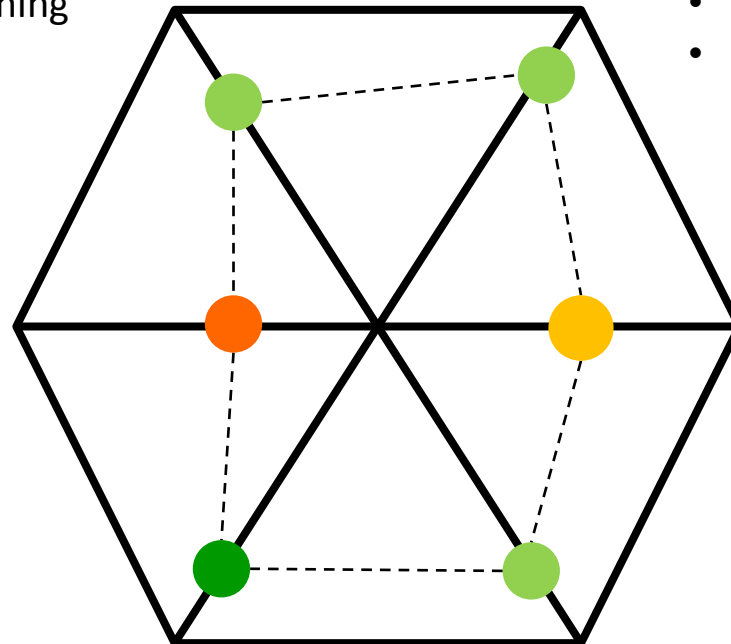
- Size, shape, flexibility
- Off-state, finishing

## Light quality

- High CRI (80..95)
- Small angular dependence
- Good Uniformity (70..95%)

## Cost (>10 lm/\$)

- Materials
- Processing
- Yield



## Efficacy (>50 lm/W)

- Stack materials & design
- Light out-coupling

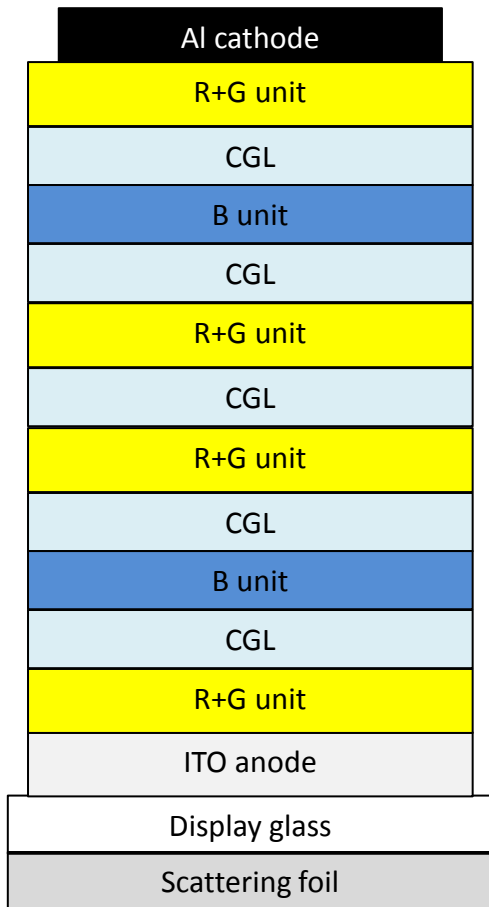
## Lumen output

- Stack design
- Size

## Lifetime and reliability

- $L_xB_yC_z$  (10-50 khr)
- Application conditions ( $\leq 50^\circ\text{C}$ )

# Reference device – Current White Lighting Panels



Parameter	Value	Target
Voltage (V)	20	↓
Power (W)	7.4	↓
Luminous flux (lm)	300	→
Efficacy (lm/W)	40-50	↑
L70 (hr)	>10,000	↑
Luminance (cd/m <sup>2</sup> )	8,300	→
CRI	80	↑

# Status of OLED Lighting Manufacturing

- In the US, OLEDWorks is only lighting panel manufacturer.
- OLED lighting manufacturers outside US
  - **LG Display, Korea – White lighting panels**
  - Kaneka, Japan – White and colors; small production
  - Konica Minolta, Japan – Flex R2R production and color changing panels
  - First O-Lite, China – White panels
  - Black Body, France – Custom installations
  - Osram, Germany – Automotive

# Manufacturing Challenges

1. Internal Light Extraction Substrates
2. Thin Film Encapsulation
3. Control of OLED Deposition

# Manufacturing Challenges

1. Increase Efficacy while maintaining lifetime, reliability, high yield, and without significantly increasing cost
  - We are working with several vendors of Internal Light Extraction substrates
    - We have a DOE project to evaluate and select an internal light extraction substrate, and to deliver 80 lm/W panels to Acuity for a luminaire
      - See our poster at tonight's poster session.
  - The good news is that the efficacy goals appear to be achievable.
  - Problems/concerns that are encountered with internal light extraction:
    - Increased occurrence-rate of shorting during LT70 lifetime
    - Today internal light extraction processes add significant cost
    - Concern about uniformity and particles if extraction layers need patterning



# Manufacturing Challenges

1. Increase Efficacy while maintaining lifetime, reliability, high yield, and without significantly increasing cost
  - We are working with several vendors of Internal Light Extraction substrates
    - We have a DOE project to evaluate and select an internal light extraction substrate, and to deliver 80 lm/W panels to Acuity for a luminaire
      - See our poster at tonight's poster session.
  - The good news is that the efficacy goals appear to be achievable.
  - Problems/concerns that are encountered with internal light extraction:
    - Increased occurrence-rate of shorting during LT70 lifetime
    - Today internal light extraction processes add significant cost
    - Concern about uniformity and particles if extraction layers need patterning
  - **Continue support for Internal Light Extraction Substrate work.**

# Manufacturing Challenges

## 2. Thin-film Encapsulation – suitable for Flexible OLEDs

- Existing TFE processes work for rigid substrates
- Alternative processes are required which have:
  - Lower capital cost for equipment
  - Lower operating cost for equipment
- Alternative processes are required for flexible/bendable substrates

# Manufacturing Challenges

- 2. Thin-film Encapsulation – suitable for Flexible OLEDs
  - Existing TFE processes work for rigid substrates
  - Alternative processes are required which have:
    - Lower capital cost for equipment
    - Lower operating cost for equipment
  - Alternative processes are required for flexible/bendable substrates
- **Continue support for Thin Encapsulation, for Rigid and Flexible/Bendable substrates**

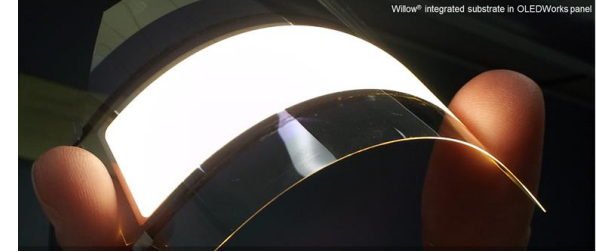
# Manufacturing Challenges

- 3. OLED Deposition – for tighter control of color point
  - Sensing and control of vapor deposition rates (for vacuum thermal evaporation systems)
    - Less noise than current QCM system
    - Longer lifetime than current QCM systems
  - While market growing, we need the ability to change formulations and products frequently and rapidly at lower cost
    - This requires machines to change operating points quickly.

# Manufacturing Challenges

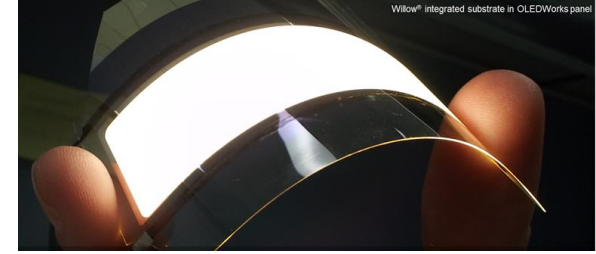
- 3. OLED Deposition – for tighter control of color point
  - Sensing and control of vapor deposition rates (for vacuum thermal evaporation systems)
    - Less noise than current QCM system
    - Longer lifetime than current QCM systems
  - While market growing, we need the ability to change formulations and products frequently and rapidly at lower cost
    - This requires machines to change operating points quickly.
- **Continue support for Manufacturing – Vapor Deposition Rate Sensing**

# Flexible OLED Panels



- Thin Flexible/Bendable OLED Lighting Panels
  - LG has announced flexible panels on plastic base
  - Konica Minolta has built a large machine for making OLEDs on plastic R2R
  - We are working with Corning to develop technology for products using Willow® glass
- Challenges
  - Bonding flex substrates onto carriers, and de-bonding from carriers after deposition – with no effect of substrate and OLED processing steps
  - Improve robustness of final panels - to prevent breakage in customers hands and during installation into fixtures
  - Requires robust flexible encapsulation and low-cost flexible electrical connections

# Flexible OLED Panels



- Thin Flexible/Bendable OLED Lighting Panels
  - LG has announced flexible panels on plastic base
  - Konica Minolta has built a large machine for making OLEDs on plastic R2R
  - We are working with Corning to develop technology for products using Willow® glass
- Challenges
  - Bonding flex substrates onto carriers, and de-bonding from carriers after deposition – with no effect of substrate and OLED processing steps
  - Improve robustness of final panels - to prevent breakage in customers hands and during installation into fixtures
  - Requires robust flexible encapsulation and low-cost flexible electrical connections
- **Continue support for Flexible/Bendable process work**
- **Continue support for Flexible/Bendable luminaire product**

# Conclusion and Outlook

- OLED lighting is ready for wide application – efficacy, lifetime, quality
- Overcoming manufacturing challenges are critical to the cost-reductions and the new products necessary for market growth
- Flexible lighting products are necessary for development of exciting new OLED products. This need process development and luminaire development

