



Flexible and conformable OLED's

Karel Spee Holst Centre / TNO



Holst Centre: a solid partner in research

Independent, with reputed parents

- Founded by imec (1300 fte, Belgium) and TNO (4500 fte, The Netherlands)
- Established in 2005

Critical mass

- Own staff 160; 28 nationalities
- 70 resident researchers from industry and universities

Global network

Industrial and academic partners

Supported by the Dutch government

 Measured by its international excellence, long-term vision and impact on Dutch economy

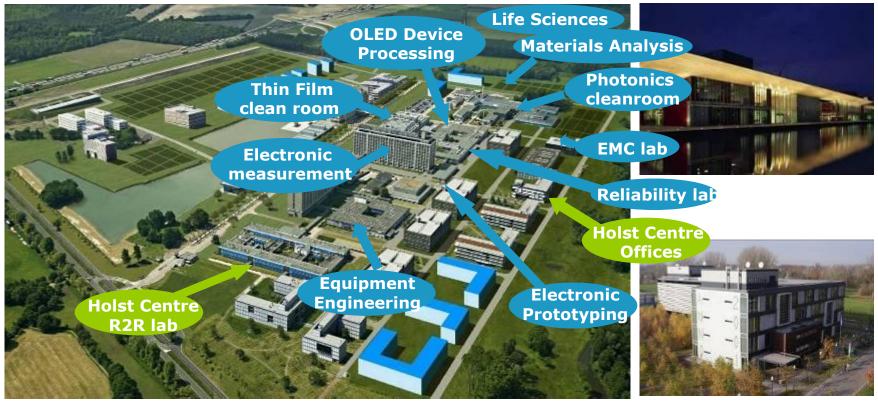






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At the hotspot of human-focused innovation

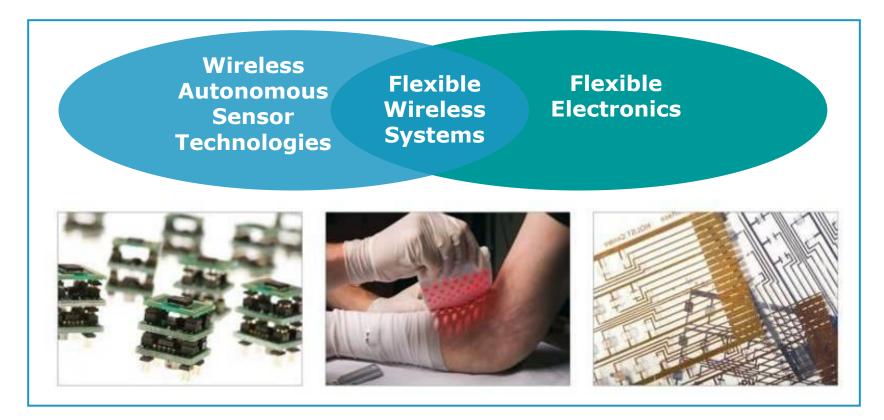


- High-Tech Campus, initiated by Philips
- >90 companies, 7000 researchers
- Shared labs (www.miplaza.com); >8000m² cleanrooms
- Open Innovation research centres (e.g. Holst Centre)



Shared research with clear focus

- Creating generic technologies, time to market 3..10 years
- Partnering with industry and universities
- Bridging the gap between academia and industry
- Results are shared between partners



Large Area Electronics market applications



Plastic solar cells

Touch screens

Smart packaging

RFID tags

Sensors



Plastic batteries

Signage

OLEDs

Disposable bio-sensors

Electronic textiles

Smart bandage



Industrial partners from across the value chain



























































Henke



















Presentation overview

Current OLED applications

OLEDs: what are they, what are the challenges?

Possibilities with flexible OLEDs

Conformable OLEDs

Our Vision

2004: more and more OLED displays enter the market









2009-2010: OLED displays in smart phones



Samsung i8910 Omnia HD

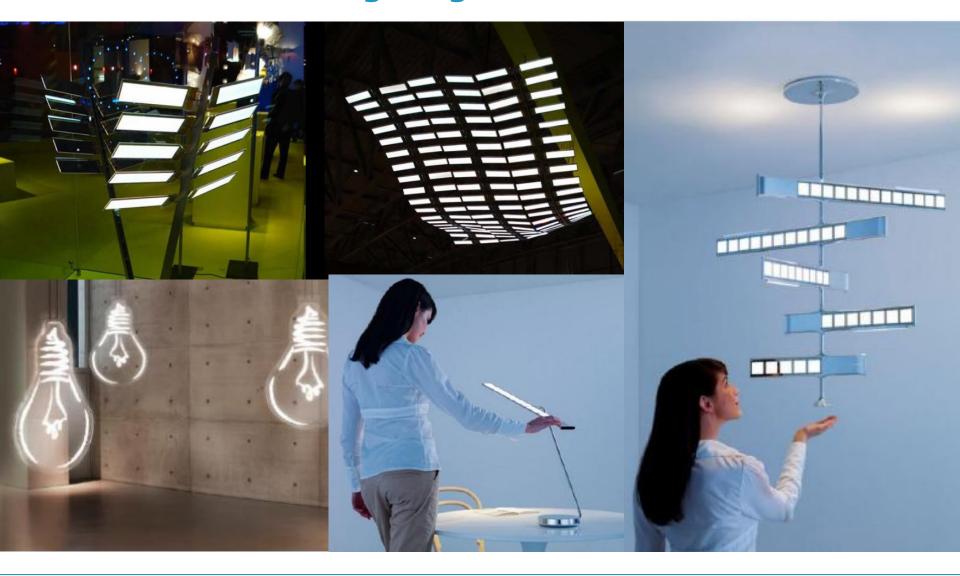


Samsung Omnia Pro (June 2009)

2009-2011: first OLED-TVs (will) hit the market



2009: Also OLED lighting makes its debut...



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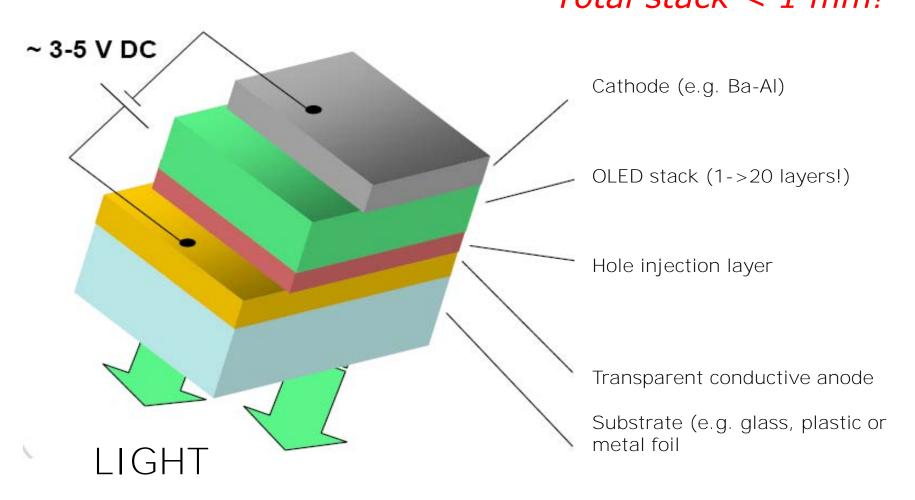
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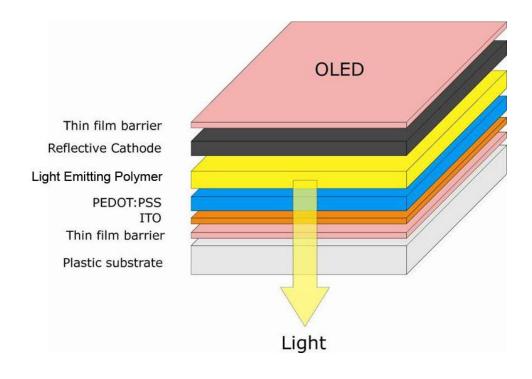
Our Vision

Anatomy of an OLED device

Total stack < 1 mm!



OLED Layout - Polymer based



ITO IndiumTinOxide (typical 90 % $In_2O_3 + 10$ % SnO_2)

OLED Organic Licht Emitting Diode

LEP Light Emitting Polymer

PEDOT:PSS Organic Conductor - Poly(3,4-EthyleneDiOxyThiophen):Poly(StyreneSulfonat)

OLED Basics

cathode
Organic layers
anode

PolyLED

Emissive Polymer

Hole Injection layer

Polymer LED

- simple structure
- solution processable: printing possible
- · lower efficiency and lifetime

smOLED

Electron Transport Layer

Hole Blocking Layer

(doped) Emissive Layer(s)

Hole Transport Layer

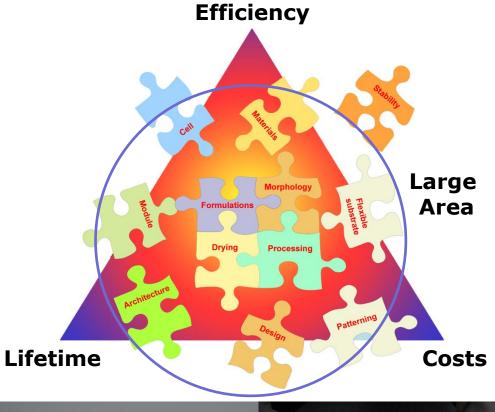
Hole Injection Layer

Small molecule LED

- multilayer structure
- vacuum processing
- high efficiency and lifetime

OLED Challenges

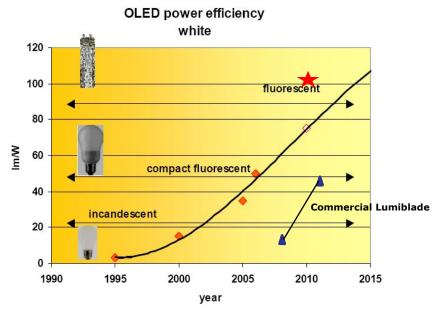
- Efficiency
- Lifetime/reliability
- Large area devices
- Cost





OLED Challenge - Efficiency/lifetime

- Energy-efficient
- Long lifetimes



World record efficiency white: 102 lm/W@8000h World record lifetime white: 100.000h@38lm/W



OLED displays – as little as 1/10th the power wrt LCD

Environment

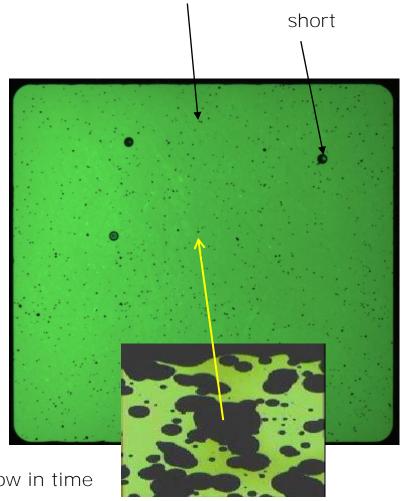
No hazardous materials

OLED Challenge - Lifetime issues

OLEDs degrade over time due to:

- Intrinsic degradation of organic/polymer molecules
 - More stable and efficient molecules needed
 - Prevent oxygen and water from entering the device
- Short formation
 - Need for "smart" OLED designs
- Electrode oxidation
 - Prevent oxygen and water from entering the device

Black spot caused by cathode oxidation

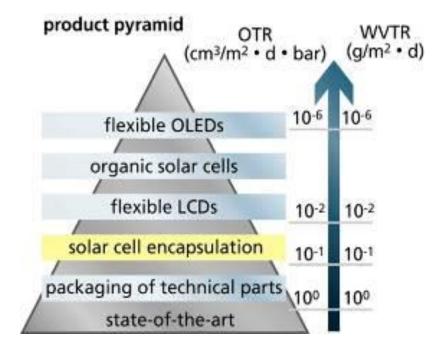


Black spots grow in time

Ultra-good barrier needed

- Currently in production: glass or metal lid
- Future and MUST for flexible OLEDs: thin film barriers
- Barrier in an OLED:
 1,000,000x better than typical potatoes-chip bags (=30 nm Al on PP)



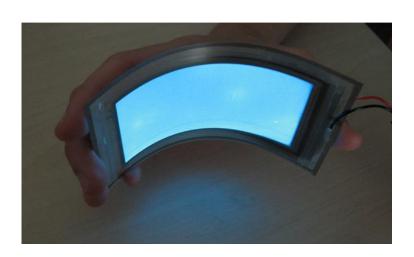


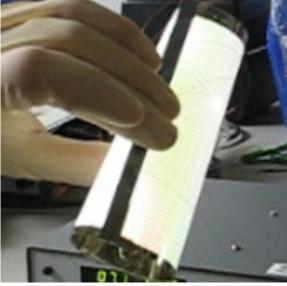
Current barrier performance at Holst centre

- Multilayer barrier: PECVD SiN-printed organic layer-PECVD SiN 500
 h at 60°C/90% RH with yield (=number of OLEDs that remain
 black spot free) of 97%
- Applied in state-of-the-art OLEDs and OPV

Currently transferring technology to R2R (pre-pilot line expected)

to arrive End 2011)





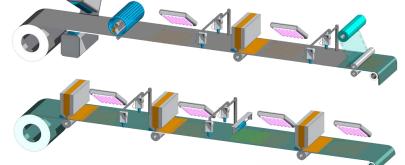
Cost

Current OLEDs for lighting:

- ~35.000 euros/m²
- Based on patterning via photo-lithography and vacuum deposition of active layers and metal

Possible solutions for cost down:

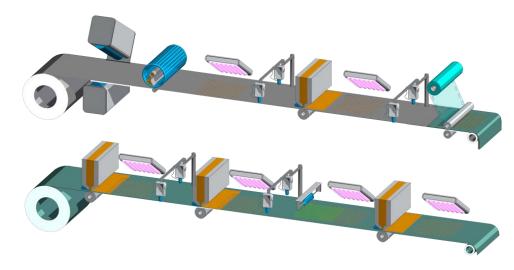
- Direct patterning through printing of metal and ISO
- Direct patterning and atmospheric solution processing of active layers of a multilayer of small molecules
- R2R processing at 5-10 m/min with high yield
- Replacement of ITO with high conductive polymer
- Integration of light outcoupling technologies in OLED or substrate (=foil)
- Thin film barrier
- Target <= 100 euros/m²

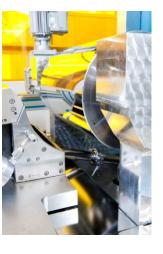


Large area production by R2R

- Large area
- Cost effective
- Development of full printing processes











Cost reduction & Area increase

ITO:

- High sheet resistance on foil ~ 60 ohm/sq
- ITO is expensive both in material cost as in production cost

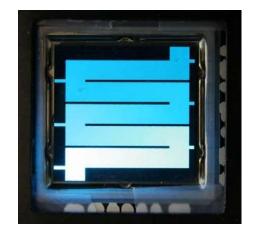
OLED lamp:

- Substantial voltage drop from edge to middle of lamp based on ITO only
- This results in inhomogeneous light generation
- The problem increases with increasing OLED-surface area

Need for high conductive anode!!

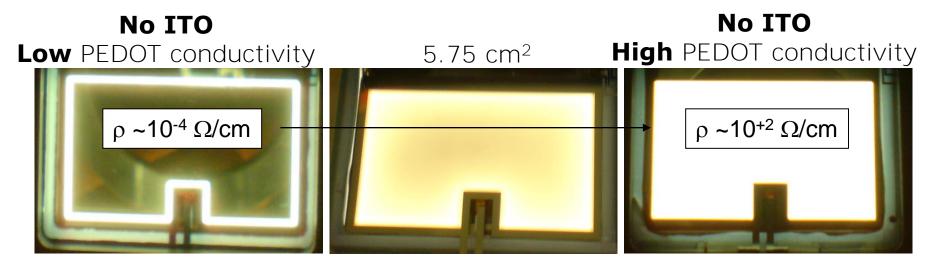
Holst Centre develops metal grid + high conductive PEDOT:PSS

- No costly ITO
- Fully printable (low cost production)

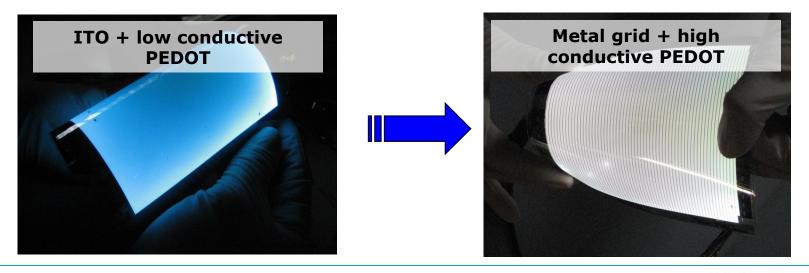


Picture: Zigzag OLED with voltage drop along the ITO anode

High conductive polymer anode



Including grid:

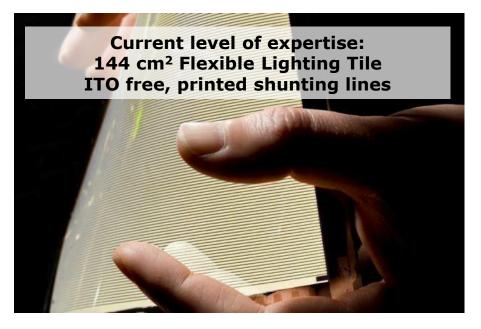


Current status flexible OLEDs

Lighting Tile demonstrator:

- OLEDs built on flexible PEN, PET, Al, and SS foils
- Processing on temporary glass carrier with DTF adhesive
- Processing without ITO(!!) and without photolithography
- Integration of barrier and encapsulation technology
- Integration of metallic ink printing technology





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Possibilities with flexible OLEDs

Conformable OLEDs

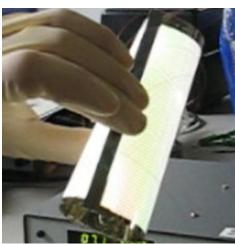
Our Vision

Why 'OLED Lighting' on foil?

Simple, safe and robust

- Easy-of-use
- Unbreakable
- Low voltage
- Flexible
- Thin
- Area light









New possibilities for 'Solid State Lighting'

Flexibility in light

- Wide colour gamut & high CRI
- Colour control: saturated colours, subtle colour effects, cold and hot white
- Dynamic: light intensity, colour variable



Source: Philips Lumiblade



CFL:
Poor dimming possibilities
Lifetime dependent on
switching behavior

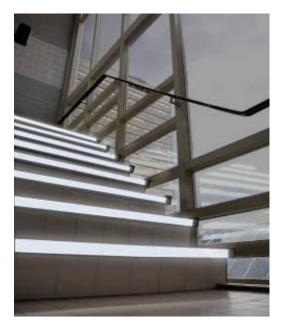
New possibilities for 'Solid State Lighting'

√ Freedom in design

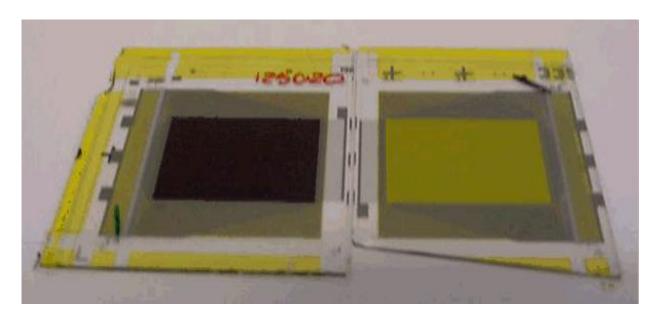
- ✓ Embedding in products
- ✓ Flexible
- ✓ Adaptation to environment
- ✓ Possibility to make transparent devices







Variable Transparency: Black appearance



Off state

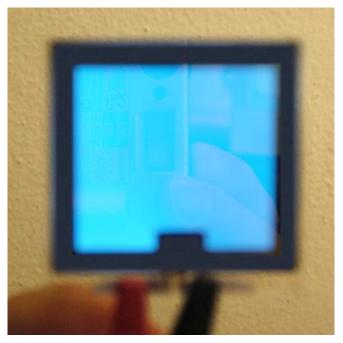
On state: light generating (yellow in this case)

Variable Transparency: Mirror appearance

light source blends in background: mirror light

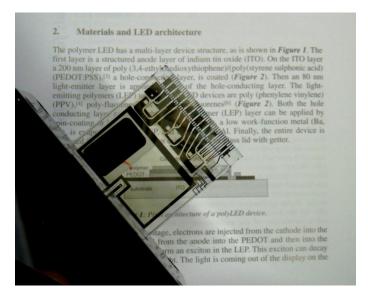


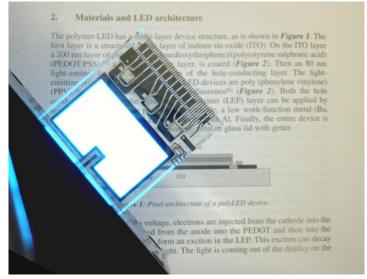
Off state



On state: light generating (blue in this case)

Variable Transparency: Transparent appearance





Off state

On state: light generating (white in this case)

Transparent appearance



Transparent

Semi-transparent

Non-transparent

Featuring Cristina Tanase Philips Research

OLED feature on foil - Displays

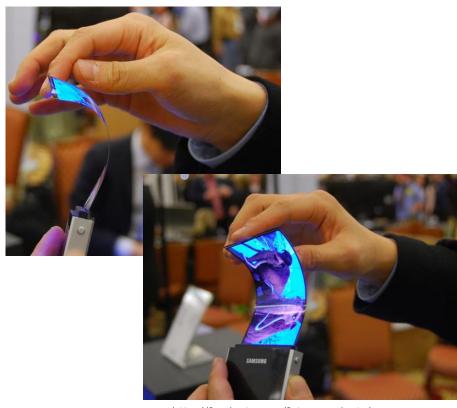
- Bendability, flexibility, stretchability, conformability
- Market introduction very soon





http://wwwery.com/10277samsung-3d-foled-tvdisplay.html

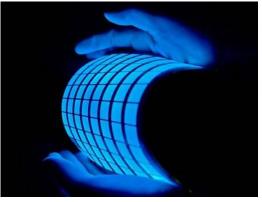
Samsung flexible OLED displays



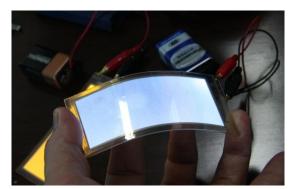
http://fgadgets.com/future-gadgets/samsung-flexible-and-transparent-amoled-display

Flexible Lighting

Still in research phase



http://www.displayblog.com/2009/04/18/electronics-and-telecommunications-research-institute-etri-develop-technology-to-improve-amoled/



http://us.aving.net/news/view.php?articleId=119491

Holst







http://www.archithings.com/ge-scientists-display-first-ever-oled-christmas-tree/2008/12/23

OLED display/lighting around wrist



Holst



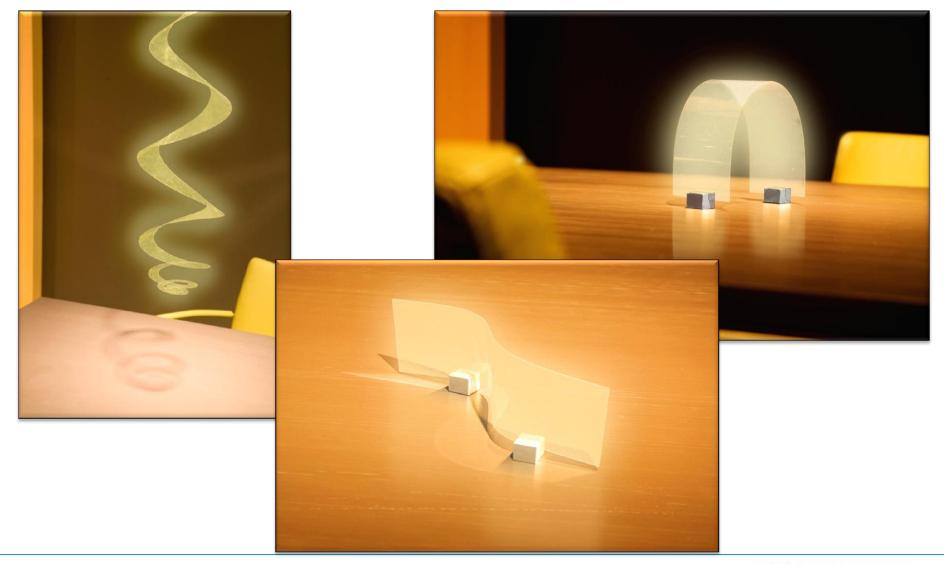
http://www.cypher-sec.org/blog/wp-content/plugins/wp-o-matic/cache/d972a_oled_wrist_2.jpg



Universal Display Company

http://www.oled-info.com/udc-deilvered-8-flexible-wrist-mounted-oled-displays-us-army

Foil based light sources - Holst visions



Smart bandages/blankets

- Low cost leads to the possibility of disposable products
- @ 100 EUR/m² → 1 EUR for 10x10 cm² foil
- This leads to the possibility for Smart bandages/blankets for light therapy
 - It has been known for a long time that light has healing properties,
 e.g. light treatment for TBC patients
 - But light can also be used for treating seasonal disorders

It can be used to heal a large range of conditions (from acne

treatment to cancer treatment)



http://getacnehomeremedies.info/images/www.lemedspa.com/images/beforeafters/acne5L.jpg



Example - jaundice treatment of neonatals

Old treatment

Static light sources necessitating eye protection of neonatal

 Jaundice treatment: photochemical conversion and excretion of bilirubine (yellow colour treatment)

New possibility

- Wearable light source
- less interfering with care
- including bonding with parents



Source flickr: 1542122226_5e43a1d008 and 2538039854_e67b67926c



Philips BilitXTM
Blue LED based

OLEDs in phototherapy

From fluorescent → LEDs → conformable OLEDs



http://www.uvbiotek.com/he althcareProfessionals.asp



http://www.prolightaesthetics.com/page/page/5066261.htm





http://www.shizukany.com/skincare/facials/gentlewaves.html



Source: Polymertronics



Source: Ambicare Health Ltd



Source: MedX Health Corp.



Source: Gentlewaves

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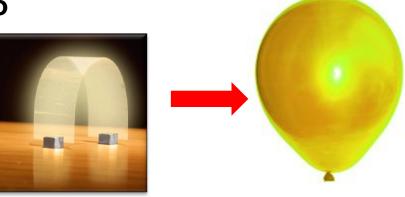
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Conformable OLEDs

Our Vision

From flexible to conformable

Flexibility not sufficient for 3-D surfaces



Platform for Large Area Conformable Electronics by InTegration FP7 - EU funding



















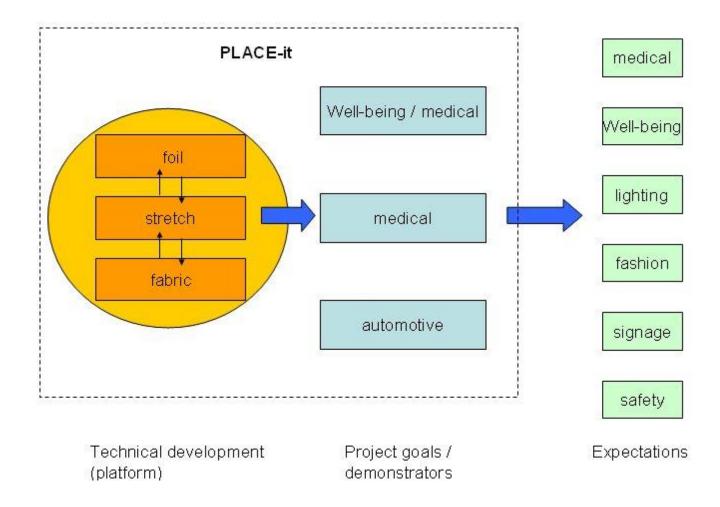


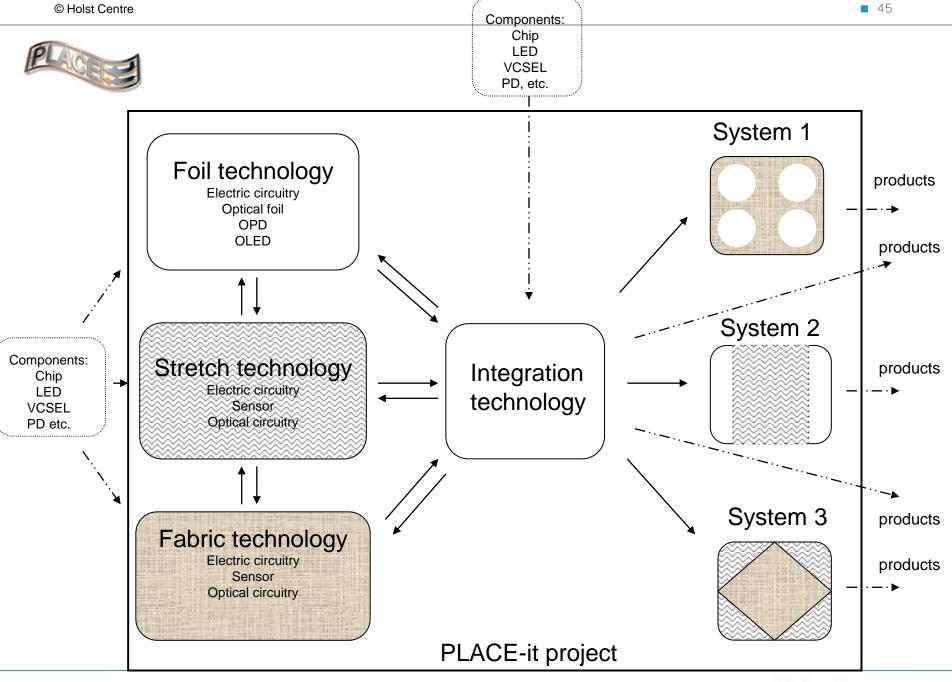












Place-it project: conformable light technology

- Light from carriers with the following properties:
 - Thin
 - Large Area
 - Wearable
 - Flexible / elastic
 - Breathing
 - Lightweight

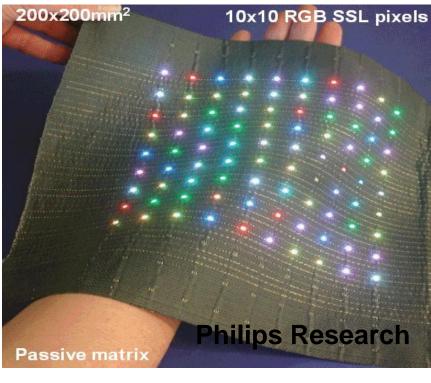






Examples textile: LED technology







Examples textile: applications

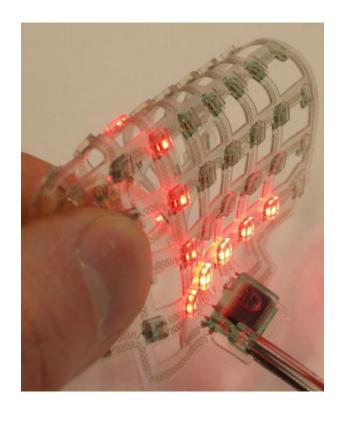






Examples stretchable electronics







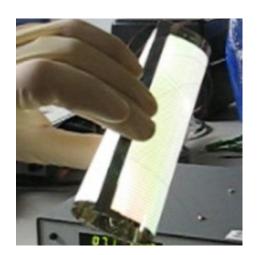
Examples stretchable applications

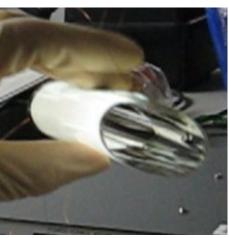




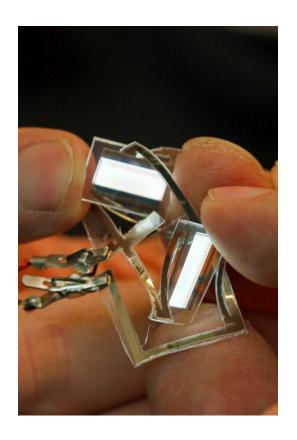


From bendable OLEDs to transformable











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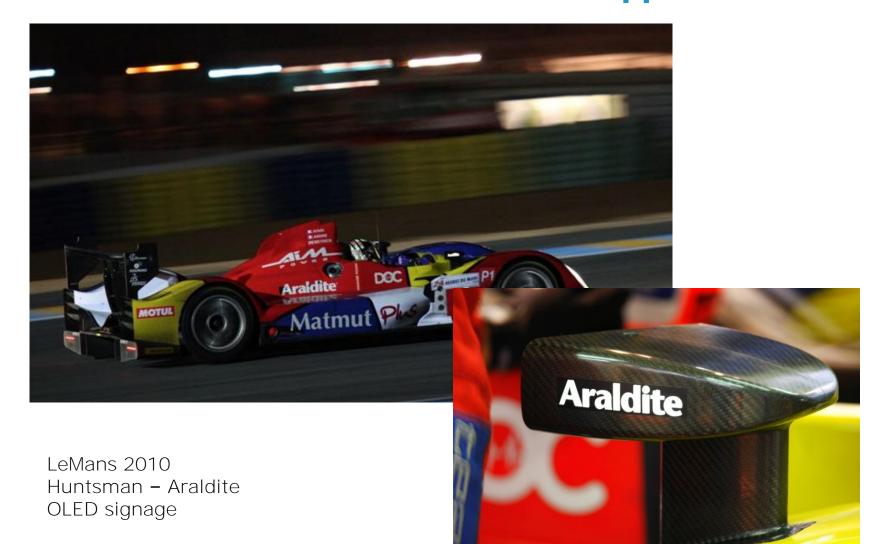
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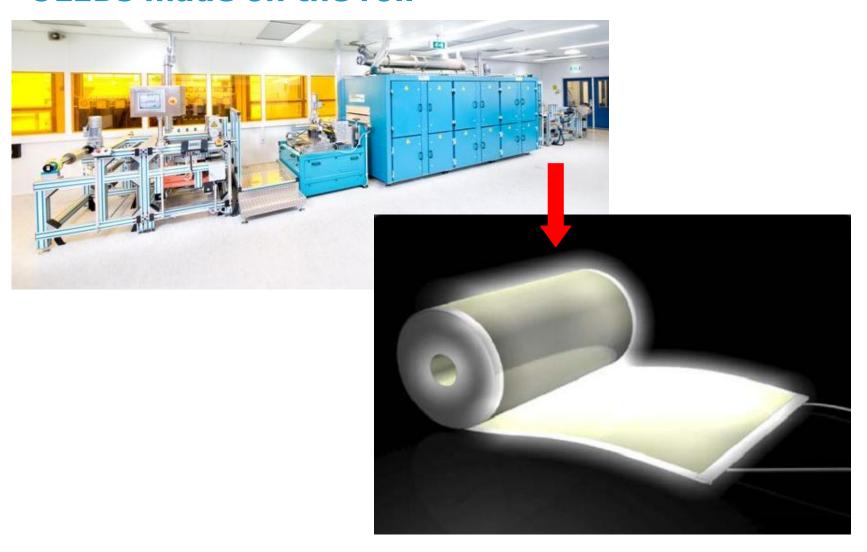
Our Vision



First Flexible OLED used in real life application

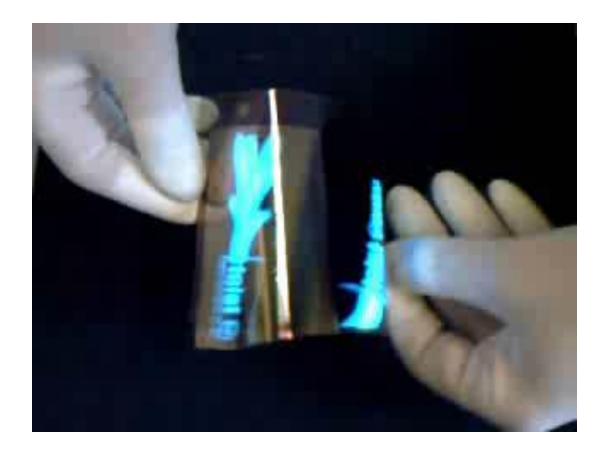


OLEDs made on the roll



Our vision

Is that in the near future it will be possible to cut-and-paste with lighting foils to make any shape you want....



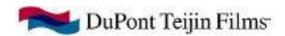
Acknowledgements

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PLACE-It funded by EU



























Thank you for your attention!

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www.holstcentre.com