

PRESS RELEASE

Fascinating brilliance due to new displays

Sharp presents innovative IGZO technology

Sharp and Semiconductor Energy Laboratory (SEL) have jointly developed a new type of high crystalline oxide semiconductor on an IGZO basis. This technology facilitates the construction of touch-sensitive screen displays for tablet PCs or smart phones with significantly improved and higher resolution. The innovative displays have a clearly higher translucency and therefore use less power than those currently on the market.

IFA, Berlin 2012- Unrivalled touch-sensitivity from an ultra-low power screen technology that delivers a brilliant picture; this is why IGZO (indium gallium zinc oxide) technology which Sharp will show during IFA 2012 is causing such a stir. "IGZO is a real quantum leap in display technology. The technology can be used for, among others, mobile terminal devices such as smart phones, for which the demands on screen resolution are constantly increasing, but also in TVs", explains Alberico Lissoni, Vice President Consumer Electronics at Sharp Europe. Compared to traditional LCD TFT displays, IGZO products have a significantly higher translucency. This improvement means that smaller or fewer LEDs are needed for the backlighting. These new displays are not only smaller, they also have a much less power consumption

Both Sharp and SEL have agreed to accelerate the developments concerning useful life and production costs to meet the substantial demand in the market. Lissoni continues, "Sharp will be introducing LCD displays with the new IGZO technology worldwide. We are only at the start of this new development and we strongly believe IGZO has a huge potential."

Sharp announced that it will be producing three panel varieties with IGZO technology: a 10-inch LCD panel with 2560 x 1600 pixels, a 7-inch panel with 1280 x 800 pixels and a 32-inch panel with 3840 x 2160 pixels. At the same time Sharp is working on possible future uses and is researching other areas of application.

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About Sharp

Sharp is a leader in the research and development of high-quality technological products. The Japanese electronics company's consumer electronics range extends from LCD TVs and audio systems to white goods (e.g. fridges and microwaves) and on to air purifiers which ensure a perfect room climate. New developments such as the Steamwave (3-in-1 steam oven), Quattron technology in LCD TVs and plasma-cluster ion technology used in white goods underline the company's innovation leadership claim. In addition, the corporate environmental strategy is one of the core items in its philosophy and is central to the development and manufacture of all products. Our resource-friendly raw materials, low energy consumption and good recyclability are state-of-the-art.