

1. PREFACE

Vorwort

The year of 2007 was dominated by the preparation of new projects as well as of our international symposium “Towards Organic Photovoltaics” which took place in February 6-8, 2008 at the Johannes Kepler University. The full documentation of this conference is displayed at our homepage www.lios.at with video streams of the lectures of invited plenary lecturers. The speakers were Dr. Laurence Lutsen (IMEC, Belgium), Prof. Dr. Alan Heeger (Univ. of California, Santa Barbara), Prof. Dr. Niyazi Serdar Sariciftci (LIOS, Linz, Austria), Prof. Dr. Michael Grätzel (EPFL Lausanne, Switzerland), Prof. Dr. Paul Alivisatos (Univ. of California, Berkeley), Prof. Dr. Karl Leo (IAPP, TU Dresden, Germany), Dr. Albert Plessing (Fa Isovolta, Austria), Dr. Jan Kroon (ECN, The Netherlands).

In this elaborate meeting all the different technologies for organic photovoltaics have been discussed, compared and undertaken to a roadmap analysis. The demonstration of a roll to roll manufactured plastic solar cell by Konarka (see Alan Heeger lecture) has attracted considerable scientific and media interest. The meeting had over 300 participants from all over the world and collected the “who-is-who” in this field of science and technology.

Furthermore, a new spin off company has started from the incubator of LIOS (www.prelonic.com) which will specialize in plastic battery systems. With Konarka Austria (formerly QSEL www.konarka.com), NanoIdent AG (www.nanoident.com, www.bioident.com), Plastic Electronic GesmbH (www.plastic-electronic.com, www.green-lama.com) over 100 High Tech industrial jobs have been created in Linz until now from our LIOS institute. An extended effort to summarize these companies and LIOS institute with partners under a roof name “Plastic-IT-Valley” is underway. This technology of “plastic optoelectronic devices” will make an important impact in future and can be a very fruitful strategy for local economical development.

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