Press release



Organic Electronics Saxony - OES Presse- und Öffentlichkeitsarbeit Würzburger Str. 51· 01187 Dresden Telefon +49 351 68877180 Telefax +49 351 68877188 info@oes-net.de www.oes-net.de

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Organic Electronics – leading-egde research from Saxony becomes international Set-up of an innovation cooperation with Japan and Great Britain started / Wanka: "Germany should remain world-leader in export of hightech goods"

Organic electronics will revolutionise the present electronics! The innovation network Organic Electronics Saxony (OES) will significant influence this future market with its developments and products.

OES receives as one of eleven clusters a funding from up to four Million Euro from the Federal Ministry of Education and Research to internationalise the network. In cooperation with partners from the regions Yonezawa (Japan) and Cambridge (Great Britain) OES members will push the development of market-ready products in the area of organic, flexible and printed electronics. Dominik Gronarz, OES-Manager, is pleased about the success: "This funding enables our members in cooperation with the Japanese and British partners to bring this technology faster to marketability and helps to strengthen the Saxon leading position in organic electronics."

Within the funding programme "Internationalisierung von Spitzenclustern, Zukunftsprojekten und vergleichbaren Netzwerken" the Federal Ministry of Education and Research supports from now on eleven projects for the international networking of highly innovative regions from Germany.

"Germany should remain world-leader in export of high-tech goods. Therefore we support the worldwide networking of science and economy. This new initiative will help companies, universities and research institutes to participate as well as build international innovation processes" says Federal Research Minister Wanka.

The selected project "**Organic Electronics: Commercialisation through internationalisation of the network Organic Electronics Saxony**" has been appraised and recommended for funding by an independent expert committee chaired by Margret Wintermantel, President of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). The internationalisation of clusters and networks is part of the new high-tech strategy of the Federal Government to create innovations from ideas and to link science with economy and research with society. At the same time it is part of the action plan "International Cooperation" of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research. This is how prospects and jobs of tomorrow are created.

Besides OES ten more clusters and networks will be funded. Among them is also the Saxon cluster MERGE from Chemnitz with their application "Technology fusion for multifunctional light constructions structures" (<u>www.tu-chemnitz.de/MERGE</u>).

On June 30 the selected projects will officially be awarded during the 3. International Cluster Conference of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research by Minister Wanka. Two more funding turns are planned.

More information at <u>www.bmbf.de/de/25370.php</u> as well as <u>www.cluster-networks-international.de</u>

If you have any questions please contact: Organic Electronics Saxony Dominik Gronarz Phone: +49 351 46677180 Mail: gronarz@oes-net.de

About Organic Electronic

Organic electronics is compared to the classic electronic ultrathin, extremely lightwight, transparent, flexible and has an excellent environmental balance. Therefore completely new applications are possible. The design as well as the functionality of known devices will change sustainable. Currently organic electronics is commercially used in organic light-emitting diodes (OLED). Despite the pioneering developments in Saxony and Germany OLEDs are almost solely used by Asian companies in displays of smart phones and highend TV sets. Even though these devices implementknow-how, tools and materials from Syxony, no other component is being manufactured in mass production in Europe.

Other organic components such as solar cells, OLED lighting, sensors or batteries have not yet reached the level of maturity of mass production. Through the cooperation with Japanese and British partners the value chain can be completed and the development as well as the manufacturing of market-ready products can be fostered. Future application will focus on automotive, medical engineering, security technology, aeronautics, health care, architecture and mobile technology.

About Organic Electronics Saxony:

Organic Electronics Saxony (OES) is Europe's leading cluster for organic semiconductors. OES understands itself as a technological exchange platform and joins together the leading Saxon and Central German companies and research institutes in the field of organic electronics. The strategic objective is the continuous development of the know-how of organic, printed and flexible electronics in the global challenge.

More information: www.oes-net.de



Federal Ministry of Education and Research