1. PREFACE

Vorwort

The year of 2004 was dominated by the fact that our long lasting project "Christian Doppler Laboratory for Plastic Solar Cells" ended at 31. December 2004. During this seven-years-long project we have established a world wide leading science and technology on organic, polymeric photovoltaic devices. Efficiencies of such devices are uplifted from around 0.3 % up to 4-5 %. Many students, doctors and one habilitant have progressed the knowledge in this field and our alumni have a well established reputation and positions worldwide. The spin off corporation Quantum Solar Energy Linz (QSEL) has merged with Konarka Inc and recently also all together with Siemens Erlangen organic photovoltaic division. Now, this research is well taken up by the Konarka Austria here in Linz, Konarka Germany in Nürnberg and Konarka Inc. headquarters in Massachusetts, USA (www.konarka.com). Our institute has fulfilled the mission of the "innovation transfer from academia to the industry" during these seven years of Christian Doppler Laboratory project as expected from the logic, ideology and operation principle of the Christian Doppler Forschungsgesellschaft. An international symposium at 8th of October, 2004 at the University of Linz with international collaborators, competitors and all partners has marked this closing event.

In this report, I want to thank and acknowledge all staff members of our Institute, students, post-docs, assistants, international collaborators as well as competitors and the entire CD Gesellschaft for the very nice and successful project both scientifically and personally.

During the year of 2004 a second spin off corporation of our institute "NanoIdent AG" was established with the Incubator Tech2B in Linz. This newly established company will be operating in the field of optoelectronic detector arrays for bio-identification. They already moved to the new building across the Danube river and are heavily involved in technology and product development (www.nanoident.com).

During the year 2004 we have further moved to the 8th floor of the TNF tower and the laboratories are operational in most of the newly adopted rooms. Other parts are still "under construction" as this report was edited and we shall hope that all systems and rooms will be finished and settled during the year of 2005.

As the year of 2004 was also the first year of the new University Law in Austria settling, the adaptations were severe and the administration of projects was heavily effected. This can be described as the "bigger construction site".

Since our Institute is progressing in different parts of the organic electronic devices research and development, in next future we shall further crystallize many nice scientific knowledge as well as promising applications.

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Niyazi Serdar Sariciftci