

Get ahead of the curve

- In this MadeEasy report, we explain and explore the OLED-display technology now being used in an array of gadgets
- We expect OLED displays to rise in prominence given their superior image quality and potential to be cheaper than LCDs
- Find out about the next wave of flexible OLED displays and which companies stand to benefit as the market expands

OLED DISPLAYS

madeeasy

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Please also see:

Korea OLED-display Sector: Initiation: catch the next wave in OLED displays

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Get ahead of the curve

OLED displays: what they do today, how they do it, and what is next in the pipeline

In this report in Daiwa's *MadeEasy* series, we explain, in layman's terms, OLEDs – organic light-emitting diodes – along with their development and drivers. We examine how companies are embracing OLED displays in their latest products, and what the future holds for OLED displays of all shapes and sizes as the underlying technology is refined and production yields improve.

As of today, the main manufacturers of OLED displays are Korea's Samsung Display and LG Display. Samsung Electronics (SEC) and Sony were the first companies to launch commercial products featuring OLED displays. SEC first rolled out OLED displays in its mobile phones in 2007, and in the same year Sony launched an 11-inch OLED-TV. However, Sony discontinued its OLED-TV in 2010, primarily because the device was expensive (retailing for USD2,500) and the screen was too small compared with conventional TVs.

From smartphones to TVs, many makers of electronic products globally are facing slowing market demand and falling product prices, and thus are seeking ways to differentiate their products. For some applications, the current generation of OLED displays serves as a useful differentiating factor.

In January 2013, LG Electronics (LGE) (066570 KS, KRW71,900, Hold [3]) was the first company to launch a large (55-inch) OLED-TV. Nokia has adopted OLED screens in some of its line of smartphones, in preference to LCD displays, while Motorola's new flagship phone, the Moto X, sports a 4.7-inch OLED screen. Clearly, the adoption of OLED technology is accelerating.

■ Electronic devices currently using OLED displays



Source: GSMarena, Daily Tech, Instash.com

Smartphones: what's next?

Smartphone specifications continue to evolve, with the latest cutting-edge technologies, but innovation seems to have slowed. Displays are getting larger and image resolution is improving, but where is the 'wow' factor?

Imagine having a smartphone with a foldable display that can double as a tablet PC when the screen is unfolded. We believe future-generation OLEDs will emerge as a game-changing technology for smart devices, making them bendable and rollable, and allowing companies to innovate once more with fresh product designs.

TVs: what's next?

In the TV segment, compared with conventional LCD TVs, OLED-TVs offer better picture quality, higher contrast ratios (the blacks are really dark and whites are really bright), and lower power consumption. Both SEC and LGE already offer OLED-TVs featuring curved displays and super-thin designs. Product retail prices are still high, but we expect them to decline sharply as production yields improve. As we believe the LCD-TV market has matured, we expect an increasing number of LCD-panel makers to shift their production to OLED displays over the short to medium term.

Other applications

As well as for smartphones, OLED displays could be used in small devices such as cameras, music players and vehicle navigation systems. Moreover, we expect OLED lighting to gain a hold in the consumer market in the coming years, as future generations of the technology should have several advantages over existing solutions.

Major OLED players

The OLED supply chain is currently dominated by Korea companies, with Samsung Display (Not listed) accounting for more than 96% of global OLED production capacity for 2012. As investment in OLED technology is just taking off, we believe the key beneficiaries in the coming months will be related equipment companies, followed by materials companies.

Our top picks in the OLED space are Korea players:

- **Samsung Electronics** (SEC, 005930 KS, KRW1,309,000, Buy [1]) as the company is the largest user of OLED displays in its consumer devices, and because it has a major stake in Samsung Display (Not listed).
- **SFA Engineering** (SFA, 056190 KS, KRW50,700, Buy [1]) as it is an all-around equipment player and it is highly likely that it will provide the core deposition equipment used in OLED-TV production lines going forward.
- **Wonik IPS** (Wonik, 030530 KS, KRW6,570, Buy [1]) for its growing exposure to OLED-display equipment and to NAND flash.
- **Duksan Hi-Metal** (DHM, 077360 KS, KRW23,450, Buy [1]), on the back of the potential revenue growth that we see from the development of organic materials used to make OLED-TVs.

We trust that you find this *Made Easy* report a useful guide to the OLED industry, and look forward to receiving your feedback.

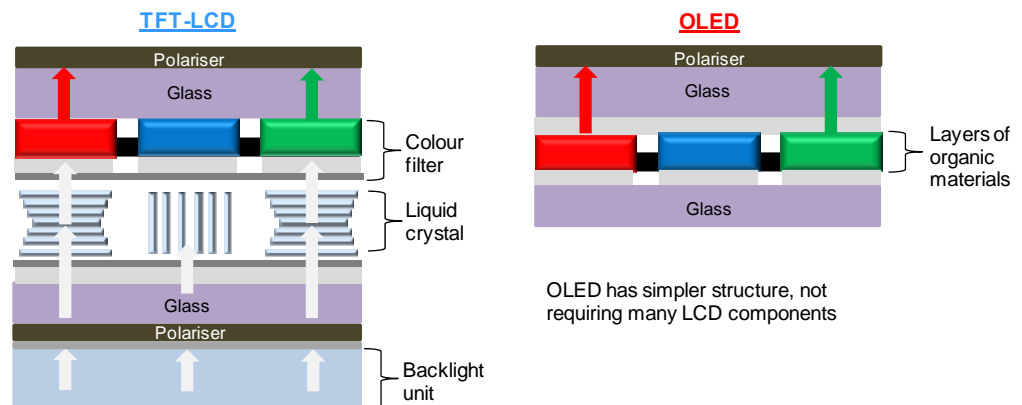
OLEDs explained

Unlike LCDs, OLEDs emit their own light

Simply put, OLED is a display technology in which organic materials are placed between two pieces of glass. When an electrical current is applied, a bright light is emitted from the display. The structure is somewhat similar to that of a conventional liquid-crystal display (LCD), which has liquid crystals between two glass substrates. However, the structure of an LCD is more complex because, unlike OLED, LCD requires backlighting and colour filters in order to emit light.

OLEDs have a simple structure

Comparison of the structure of OLED displays and LCDs



Source: Companies, compiled by Daiwa

Q. WHY IS IT CALLED ORGANIC?

A. This has nothing to do with organic food; it is because the core material is made up of carbon and hydrogen.

Q. HOW DO OLED DISPLAYS COMPARE WITH LCDS?

OLED displays consume less power and have a higher contrast ratio (the blacks are much darker and the whites much brighter) than LCDs, as OLEDs emit their own light. Therefore, they can simply turn pixels off and on, whereas with an LCD the backlight is constantly turned on and the liquid crystals are used to block or emit light. In addition, OLED displays have a broader colour spectrum, faster response time, and a lighter weight (as they have fewer components) than LCDs.

However, the current generation of OLED displays is not perfect. One major disadvantage is that they are more expensive than LCDs; OLED displays in handsets are typically priced at a 20% premium to LCDs, and the price premium is substantially larger for OLED-TVs (about 5-6x, according to our industry research). When OLED displays were first commercialised in 2007, their short lifespans and limited visibility in sunlight were also disadvantages. However, over the past few years we have seen steady improvements made in both aspects.

■ **Comparison of today's OLED displays and LCDs**

	OLED	LCD
Power consumption	Lower than LCD	Lower than plasma but higher than OLED
Backlight	No	Yes
Viewing angle	170 degrees	160 degrees (colour appears to shift when viewed from the side)
Contrast ratio	65,000:1 – 1,000,000:1	15,000:1
Production cost	High	Low
Flexible display	Yes	No
Lifetime	Up to 50,000 hours	50,000-100,000 hours
Thickness	4mm for OLED-TVs	8-15mm for LCD-TVs (with LED backlight)

Source: Companies, Daiwa

Q. WHAT ARE OLED DISPLAYS USED FOR TODAY?

A. OLED displays were initially used by SEC in its mobile phones in 2007. Since then, the company has expanded the use of the technology to all of its premium smartphone range, and we expect SEC to use OLED technology in its tablet PCs in 2014. Meanwhile, LG Electronics launched OLED-TVs in January 2013, selling at a retail price of USD10,000/unit.

Q. WHY DO SOME PEOPLE STILL PREFER LCDS OVER OLED DISPLAYS IN SMARTPHONES?

A. OLED displays have a much wider colour spectrum than LCDs. But bigger is not always better, as the colour in, say, photos, may seem over-saturated on OLED displays. Therefore, some people may feel that the colours produced by OLED displays differ too much from those in the actual image. Technical engineers we have spoken to tell us that as many people are used to watching LCD-TV screens at home and using LCD monitors at work, they may feel more comfortable with smart devices that feature LCD screens.

Q. WHY DOES MY SMARTPHONE WITH AN OLED SCREEN CONSUME AS MUCH POWER AS ONE WITH AN LCD?

A. Power consumption depends on the image, as OLEDs use power for each pixel that is illuminated. If the image has an all-white background, then the OLED display will consume more power than an LCD; the reverse applies for images with an all-black background.

Different types of OLED displays

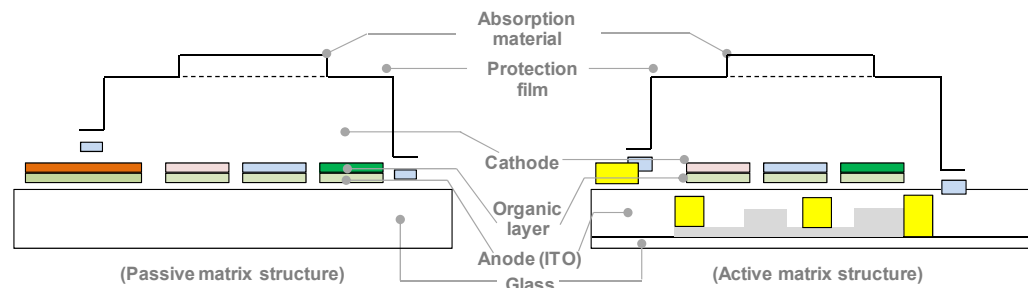
AMOLEDs vs. PMOLEDs

AMOLED displays use a TFT backplane

In pure technology terms, there are two types of OLEDs: active-matrix OLEDs (AMOLED) and passive-matrix OLEDs (PMOLED). The main difference between them is the driving electronics, ie, how the display is controlled.

With PMOLED, the display is controlled by switching on rows and columns, so there is no need for individual transistors. AMOLED displays, by contrast, require a thin-film transistor (TFT) backplane (shown in the chart below as bottom glass) to switch each individual pixel on or off, but they can be made into higher-resolution, larger-size displays than PMOLED.

Comparison of the structure of AMOLED and PMOLED



Source: Companies, Daiwa

Because PMOLED does not require a backplane, it is easier and cheaper to produce than AMOLED. However, the use of PMOLEDs is limited to small-size screens (normally less than 3"), which are used for displays in portable music players and as sub-displays for clam-shell type (folding) feature phones. With AMOLEDs, each pixel is controlled directly, so less power is consumed than with PMOLEDs, and therefore they are used in a wide range of displays, from 5" smartphones to 55" TVs.

■ **AMOLED and PMOLED display technology in use today**



Source: Luxatic, OLED-Info, GSMarena

What about Super AMOLED, Super AMOLED Plus, and HD Super AMOLED and full HD AMOLED?

Same OLEDs, but with different sub-pixels

Samsung Display has developed a number of variants on AMOLED technology, which collectively it terms Super AMOLED. With its Super AMOLED displays, touch sensors are integrated on the top glass layer of an AMOLED before encapsulation, in which the display is sealed in a vacuum to protect it from moisture and oxygen. This results in a thinner display that uses less power and reflects less light than standard AMOLED displays, resulting in better viewing outdoors.

■ **Comparison of TFT-LCD, AMOLED and Super AMOLED displays**







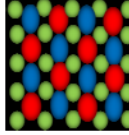
Source: Android Playa

The only practical difference between Super AMOLED, Super AMOLED Plus, and high-definition (HD) Super AMOLED display is the structure of sub-pixels in the display. Normally, within one pixel there are three sub-pixels – red, green, and blue – which are combined to create different colours. However, Samsung Display applied the PenTile method for the AMOLED display used in SEC’s Galaxy S smartphone in 2010, which has a different sub-pixel layout compared with conventional LCD screens and previous OLED displays. Rather than having three (RGB) sub-pixels, Pentile uses alternating red-green and blue-green sub-pixels, which take advantage of the human eye’s sensitivity to the colour green to display the same image using fewer sub-pixels.

The Pentile method is cheaper to produce but has inferior colour fidelity and text crispness than displays that use three sub-pixels for each pixel. Super AMOLEDs were used in SEC’s first Galaxy S series smartphone. However, for the Galaxy S II smartphone, the company switched to Super AMOLED Plus, which uses all three (RGB) sub-pixels within each pixel to improve visual sharpness. For the Galaxy S III smartphone, Samsung Display developed HD Super AMOLED, which increased the display resolution to 1,280x720, from 800x480 previously.

For its latest Galaxy S4 smartphone, SEC uses full HD AMOLED, which uses the same underlying technology as HD Super AMOLED but has a resolution of 1,920x1,080. S4’s full HD AMOLED has a 44% higher pixel-per-inch count than that of the Galaxy S III, and is 25% brighter and 20% more power-efficient. The screen for the Galaxy S4 smartphone also uses AMOLEDs utilising the Pentile method, but the layout of the sub-pixels is diagonal rather than in horizontal blocks (see the following pictures), so as to increase the pixel count, resulting in a substantial improvement in visual sharpness.

■ **Comparison of Super AMOLED displays in Galaxy-series smartphones**

	Galaxy S	Galaxy SII	Galaxy SIII	Galaxy Note2	Galaxy S4
					
Layout for pixels	PenTile	RGB stripe	PenTile	S-stripe (RGB)	PenTile (diamond pattern)
Deposition method	FMM	FMM	FMM	FMM	FMM
PPI	233	217	306	267	441
Resolution	800X480	800X480	1280X720	1280X720	1920X1080
Size	4.0-inch	4.3-inch	4.8-inch	5.5-inch	5.0-inch

Source: HDTV Magazine, Companies, Daiwa

Note: FMM = fine metal mask; PPI = pixels per inch

From a user's perspective, resolutions are fairly similar

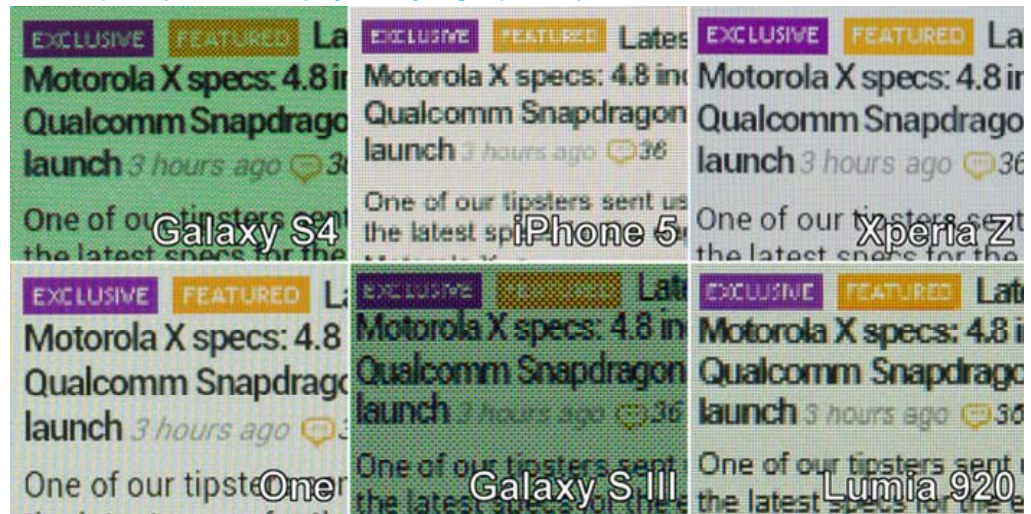
How does OLED compare with IPS LCDs?

IPS, or in-plane switching, is technology used in some LCDs. IPS LCDs are typically found in high-end smartphones, tablets, and monitors, and offer better colour representation and viewing angles than conventional LCD panels. Apple's Retina Displays use LCD screens based on IPS technology. The term Retina Display refers to screens that have a high resolution and pixel density, such that users cannot distinguish individual pixels at a normal viewing distance.

As smartphone makers are increasingly using high-end components to differentiate their handsets, when it comes to displays, full-HD resolution and high-pixel density are becoming extremely important. Although many high-end smartphones now feature 1080p screens (full HD resolution), the HTC One (made by HTC Corp) has the highest pixel density currently of 468ppi, while the Galaxy S4 (SEC) and Xperia Z (Sony) have a pixel density of 441ppi, followed by the Lumia 920 (Nokia) with 332ppi, the iPhone 5 (Apple) with 326ppi, and the Galaxy S III (SEC) with 306ppi.

When comparing close-up images of the displays used in various smartphones, we notice that the resolution of the AMOLED display used in the Galaxy S4 has improved substantially compared with that used in the Galaxy S III, and that it is difficult to discern the Pentile layout of the pixels on the display of the Galaxy S4 – a common criticism of earlier models featuring Pentile layouts.

■ Close-up comparison of displays in key flagship smartphones



Source: phoneArena

Q. WHICH DISPLAY IS BETTER: AMOLED- OR IPS LCD-BASED?

A. Each display has its own strengths and weaknesses, and at similar resolutions we believe they are now quite comparable. LCDs currently offer sharper and more vibrant colours than AMOLED displays, and as a result, Apple's CEO Tim Cook argues that LCDs are a superior choice. However, AMOLED is an emerging technology and has the potential to challenge the best performance of the best LCD, in our view. In addition, the unbreakable and flexible features that AMOLED displays will offer in the future cannot be overlooked.

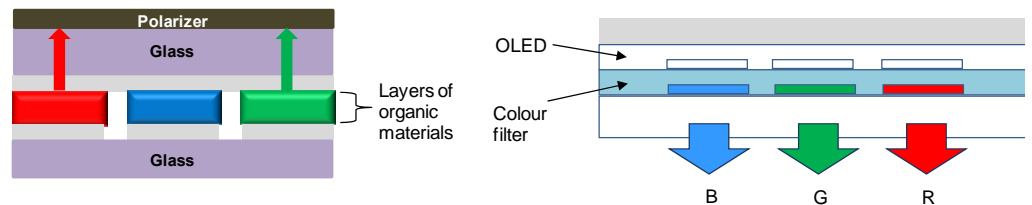
White OLED displays use a colour filter

RGB and white OLED displays

In the TV market, there are currently two different types of OLED-TV: RGB-OLED-TVs (manufactured by Samsung Display) and white-OLED-TVs (produced by LG Display). Although both types function similarly, RGB-OLED-TVs use separate red, green, and blue sub-pixels to emit colours, while white-OLED-TVs use white pixels with colour filters. White OLEDs are less efficient than RGB OLEDs, as some of the light is filtered out by colour filters and more emitting material may be required to improve its brightness.

However, white OLEDs are easier to produce, as an open mask is used to deposit white organic materials, rather than having a separate mask for each colour. Although white OLEDs could be cheaper to produce as they require less manufacturing investment, at the end of the day, we believe that having a high production yield is more important.

■ **Comparison of the structure of RGB and white OLEDs**



Source: Daiwa

Q. WHY ARE OLED-TVS SO EXPENSIVE?

A. LGE's 55" OLED-TV retails currently for KRW11,000,000 (USD10,000) in Korea, which is expensive in anyone's book. However, OLED companies expect OLED-TVs to sell at similar prices to those of existing high-end LED-TVs (the current retail price in Korea is about KRW3,000,000 [USD2,700]) within 2-3 years. The production yield for OLED-TV panels is only about 50% currently, pointing to significant room to improve production efficiency and bring down costs.

Q. WHICH OLED-TV IS BETTER: ONE MADE WITH RGB OLEDs OR ONE WITH WHITE OLEDs?

A. Many experts contend that the picture quality of an RGB-OLED-TV is superior to that of a white-OLED-TV. For its part, LGE argues that white OLEDs have greater colour accuracy than RGB OLEDs, as they have one extra white pixel in the colour filter compared with RGB OLEDs.

If the quality of two display technologies is similar, the production cost is likely to be a factor in determining which technology ultimately secures the biggest share of the market. Since white OLEDs are easier to manufacture currently, their cost is likely to be lower. However, the production yields for white OLEDs and RGB OLEDs are similar, at less than 50%, so the key factor, in our view, is which company can reduce manufacturing costs the fastest: producers of white OLEDs or RGB OLEDs.

Flexible display: a game-changing feature

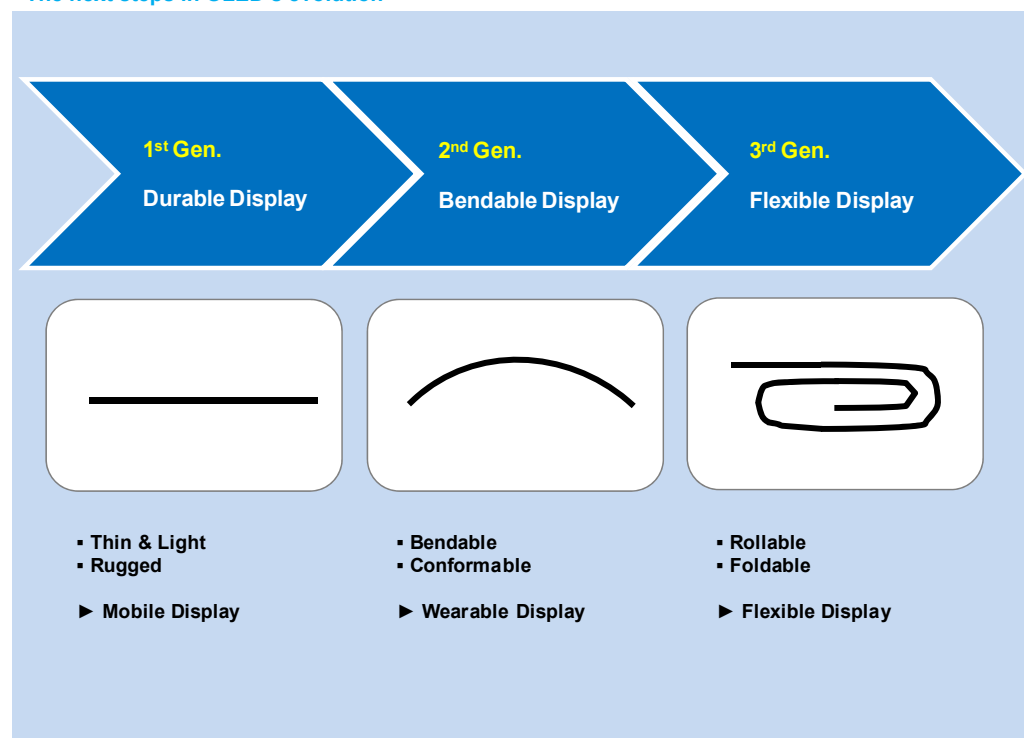
Flexible displays

One of the exciting features of the OLED technology is the potential for end-products to be physically flexible. Although there are currently no products on the market that take advantage of this trait (due to difficulties in the manufacturing process), both Samsung Display and LG Display plan to launch first-generation products featuring a flexible substrate before the end of 2013.

Plastic-based substrates should allow for lighter, thinner and unbreakable products. We believe that the first-generation products are likely to be durable displays, ie, essentially unbreakable. Both Samsung Display and LG Display (034220 KS, KRW29,350, Hold [3]) are targeting to launch related products in 4Q13, though neither has offered further details.

Based on our research of the OLED makers, we believe that second-generation products will evolve into bendable or curved displays, and that later generations could ultimately take the form of a display that is foldable and/or rollable.

▪ **The next steps in OLED's evolution**



Source: Daiwa

Q. WHY IS IT SO DIFFICULT TO MAKE A FLEXIBLE DISPLAY?

A. Firstly, there are limitations to the current manufacturing process for non-glass (plastic or film) substrates that expand or change form at high temperatures. In addition, encapsulating (ie, vacuum-sealing) organic materials is challenging as these are extremely sensitive to water vapour and oxygen, causing rapid degradation.

Samsung Display is currently adopting a film-type encapsulation, in which seven layers of organic and inorganic materials are stacked together using an atomic-layer-deposition system in order to protect the product from vapour and oxygen.

How OLED technology will affect our lives

OLED displays have the potential to be used in exciting new applications

OLED technology is evolving rapidly and is likely to lead to many new exciting applications in the future. Although the technology is used mostly for the main displays in smartphones today, we will soon see it used more in TVs, information displays (in buildings and automobiles), and general lighting. We also believe mobile devices that have a flexible display will be a game-changer. Imagine unfolding a smartphone and it immediately becoming a tablet, or rolling out the display from a pen-like cylinder.

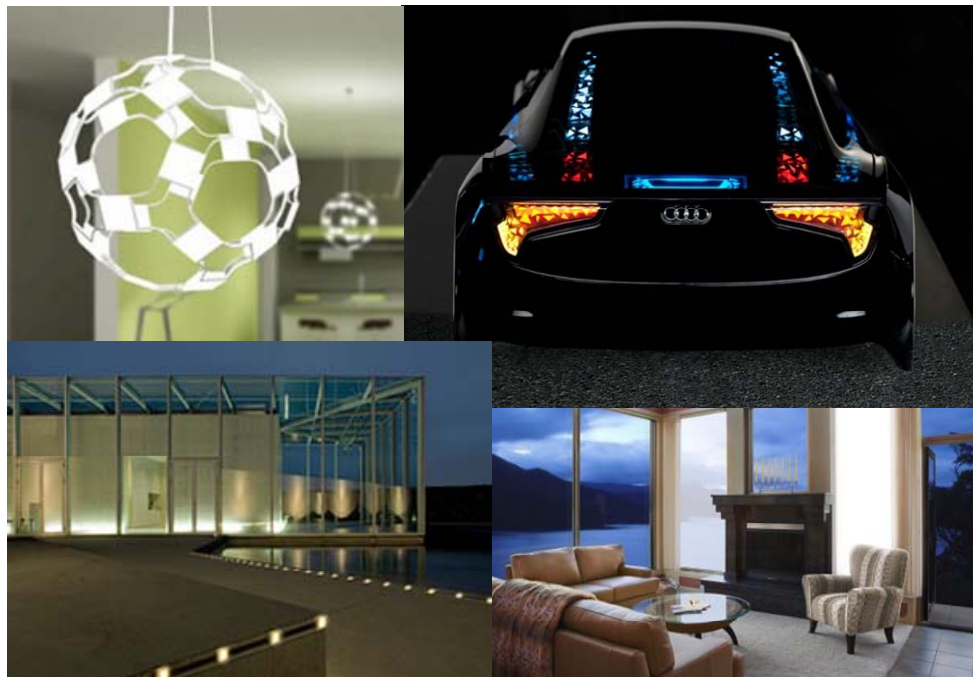
■ Potential applications for OLED in mobile devices



Source: Companies

Meanwhile, as a light source, OLED lighting promises to be thinner, lighter, and more transparent than a piece of glass emitting light. This means your window could let in sunlight during the day, and at night, the same surface could turn into a light. It will likely be a few more years before OLED lighting makes it to the mass market.

■ Potential OLED applications for general lighting



Source: Siemens, fubiz.net, oled-display.net

How OLEDs work

We have looked in broad terms at the technical differences between OLED displays and LCDs, and highlighted the advantages of OLED displays as the underlying technology continues to mature. For readers seeking an understanding of the technical underpinnings of OLED displays and the complex production processes needed to manufacture them, we now dig deeper.

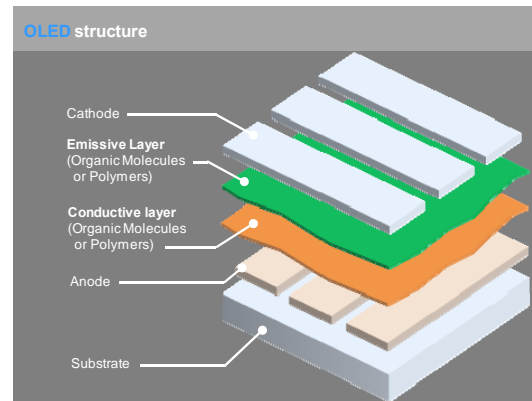
We have made this section as “easy” as we can, but readers who did not excel at physics in high school can skip to pages 23-25, on which we show where the major players fit into the OLED value chain and provide a glossary of terms.

Targeting more efficient devices, some companies now use 7-10 layers in their designs

Basic structure

The basic structure of an OLED comprises a **cathode** (which injects electrons when a current flows through the device), an **emissive layer** (where the light is made) and an **anode** (which removes electrons when a current flows through the device). However, in an effort to create more efficient devices, some companies apply 7-10 layers in their design. The chart below shows the OLED structure adopted by Samsung Display, which has 8 layers including the glass substrate.

■ OLED structure



Cathode
Electron Injection Layer (EIL)
Electron Transport Layer (ETL)
Emissive Layer (EML)
Hole Transport Layer (HTL)
Hole Injection Layer (HIL)
Anode
Substrate

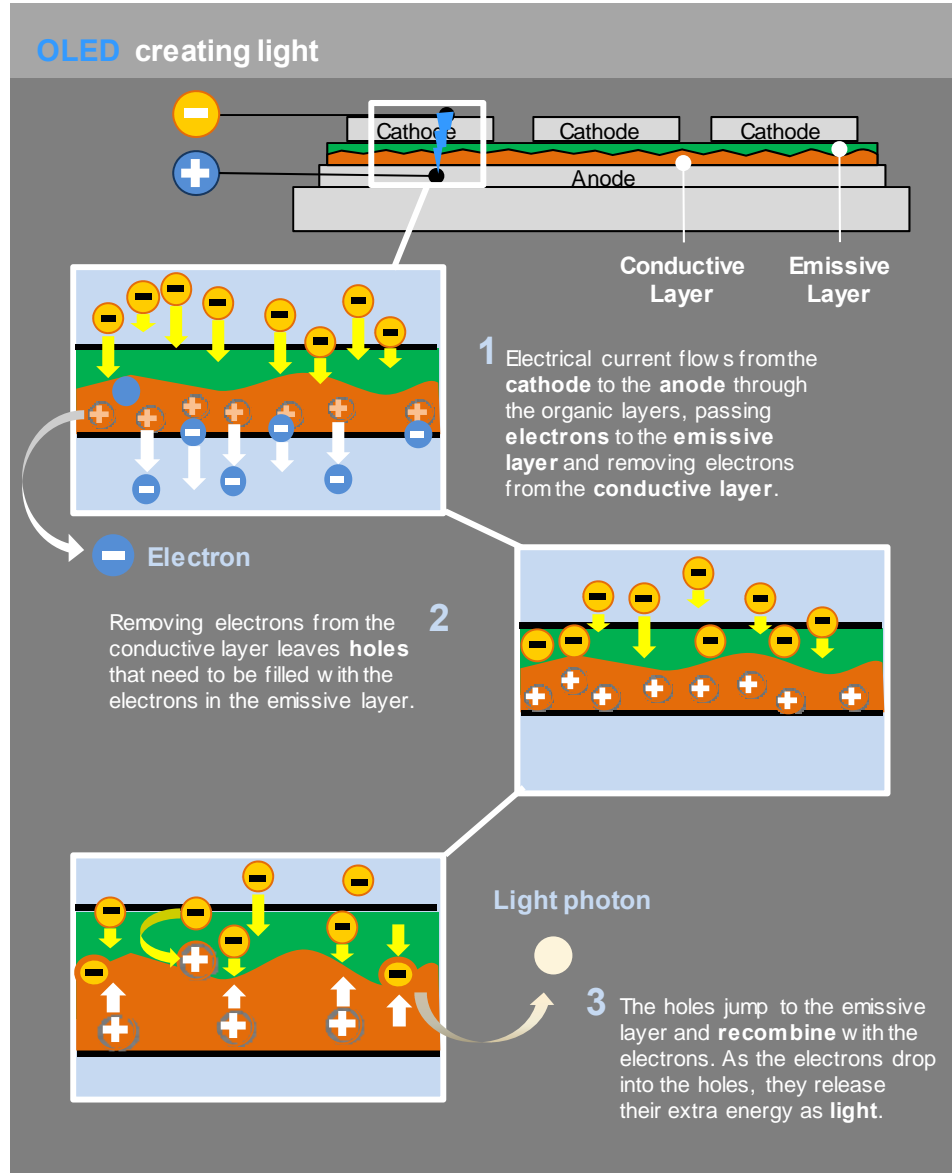
Source: HowStuffWorks, Daiwa

How light is created with an OLED

With an OLED, electrical current flows from the cathode to the anode through several layers of organic material. The cathode passes electrons to the emissive layer, and the anode removes electrons from the conductive layer (creating holes in the conductive layer). At the boundary, between the emissive and conductive layers, electrons find electron holes and in the process create a photon of light.

Electrons move from the cathode to anode through layers of organic material

■ **OLED: how light is created**



Source: HowStuffWorks, Daiwa

How OLEDs are made

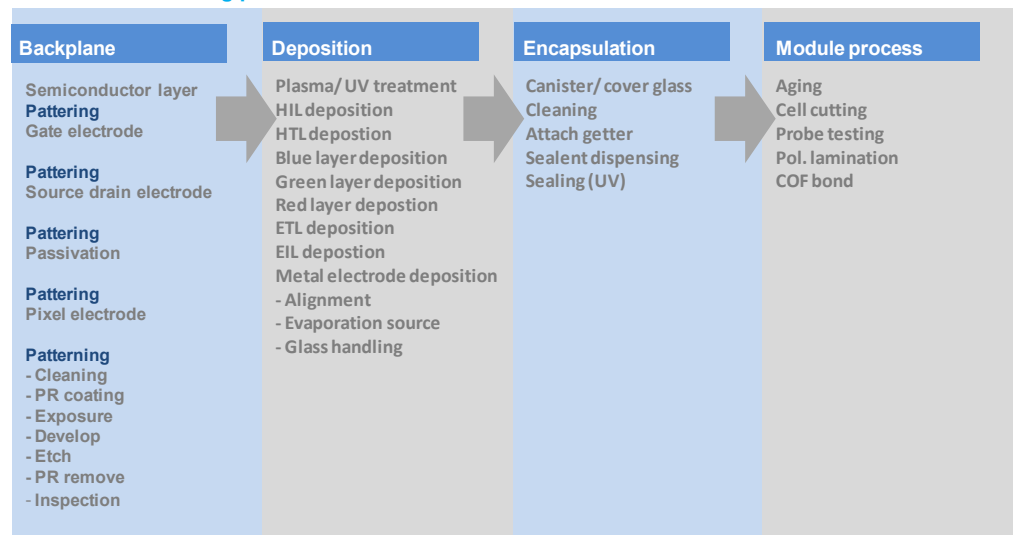
Main manufacturing processes

Manufacturing OLEDs involves four major processes: backplane, deposition (evaporation), encapsulation and modularisation.

Four major manufacturing processes for an OLED

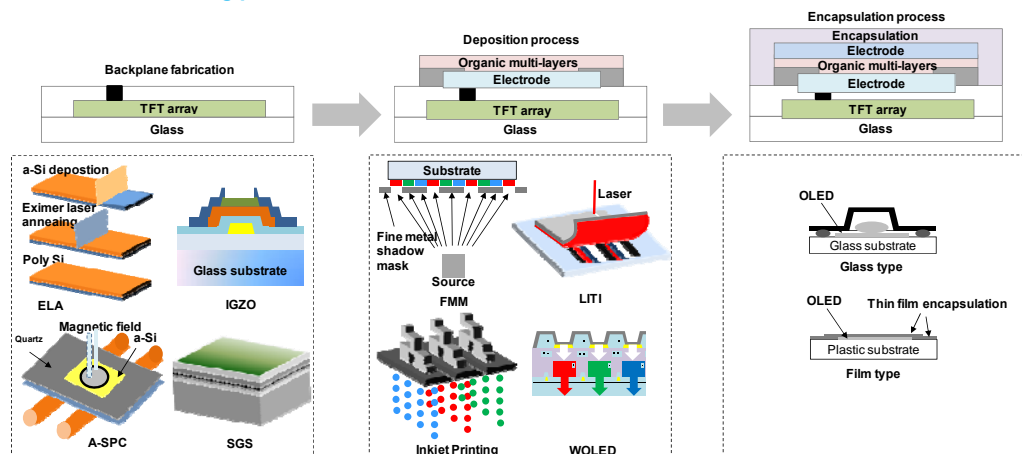
- The **backplane** process entails creating switches and a driving mechanism for the OLEDs.
- The **deposition** process is the formation of sub-pixels and depositing organic materials onto the substrate.
- **Encapsulation** involves placing an additional protection layer to seal and protect the OLED from water vapour and oxygen.
- Finally, the **module** process involves cutting substrates into smaller sizes, etching the glass to make it thinner, attaching electronic circuitry, and testing.

■ OLED manufacturing processes



Source: YAS, Daiwa

■ OLED manufacturing processes: illustrated



Source: Daiwa

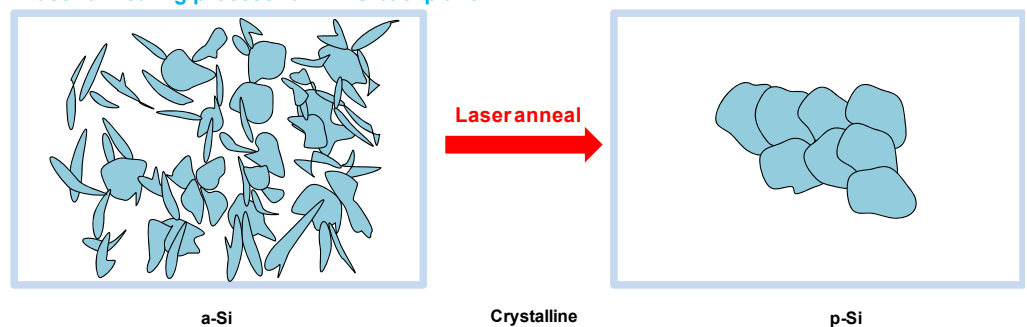
Three major backplane technologies

OLED backplane

The backplane is responsible for turning the individual pixels on the display on and off. It is composed of thin film transistors (TFT), which act as switches. There are three major backplane technologies: amorphous-silicon (**a-Si**), low-temperature poly-crystalline silicon (**LTPS**) and **oxide** (indium gallium zinc oxide [IGZO]).

a-Si TFT technology is widely used in the manufacture of TFT-LCDs. However, electron mobility, or the speed of electrons, is slow and is not appropriate for OLED backplanes. Meanwhile, LTPS allows for smaller, faster-switching LCDs, meaning that the electron mobility is 100 times greater than with a-Si TFT technology. The key difference between a-Si and LTPS is that LTPS uses a laser-annealing process to change amorphous silicon to poly-crystalline silicon, since poly-crystalline silicon has better carrier (electron and hole) mobility. Therefore, a user of OLED displays based on LTPS technology would not see ghosting on the display or become dizzy watching pictures moving at high speed.

▪ **Laser-annealing process for LTPS backplane**



Source: Daiwa

However, LTPS is an expensive technology because of the large initial investment and ongoing maintenance costs. LTPS has higher manufacturing costs compared with a-Si due to its longer manufacturing process, extra masking steps required, and the additional laser-annealing process needed to crystallise the silicon. In addition, there are limitations on the laser-beam length, while the largest equipment available currently is applicable only to Gen6 (a glass substrate with a size of 1,500 x 1,850mm). Hence, the costs associated with LTPS may not decline as quickly as other processes, as companies need to work on larger glass substrates in order to cut more panels.

Oxide backplanes are better suited to large displays

Meanwhile, metal oxide, or simply a backplane that is made using the oxide technology, has properties somewhere between those of a-Si and LTPS. An oxide backplane is easier to manufacture than a LTPS backplane as it can utilise the existing a-Si facility in the LCD production line and fewer mask steps are required to create the transistors. In addition, the electron mobility is greater than that of a-Si, at 10-40cm²/V-sec. Therefore, OLED displays with an oxide backplane could be cheaper to produce than OLED displays with a LTPS backplane.

However, an oxide backplane is not well-suited for the OLEDs used in small displays. Oxide transistors are not stable and may cause pixel-to-pixel variations. An additional transistor is needed to compensate for signal variations, but since each pixel in an OLED requires two transistors (one to switch the pixel on and off, and the other to control the current), there is not enough room on small displays to place three metal-oxide transistors per pixel. Therefore, OLED displays using an oxide backplane are more suited for use in TVs than mobile applications.

We believe oxide backplanes are well suited for use in displays for large-sized high-resolution TVs (LCD or OLED). In fact, LGD currently uses oxide backplanes to produce its OLED-TVs. However, for Samsung Display, LTPS is the preferred technology, even for OLED-TV backplanes, as the company believes LTPS is more stable for now. In addition, according to a few equipment companies, Samsung Display has managed to scale up LTPS for its Gen8 line substrates.

■ **Comparison of backplane technologies**

	a-Si TFT	LTPS	Oxide
Substrate	Gen8	Gen5.5	Gen8
Semiconductor	Amorphous silicon	Poly-crystalline silicon	Amorphous IGZO
Channel mobility	1cm ² /V-sec	100cm ² /V-sec	10-40cm ² /V-sec
Number of masks	4-5	5-11	4-5
Production cost	Low	High	Low
Circuit integration	No	Yes	Yes
TFT uniformity	Good	Poor	Good
Stability	Poor	Excellent	Poor

Source: Information Display

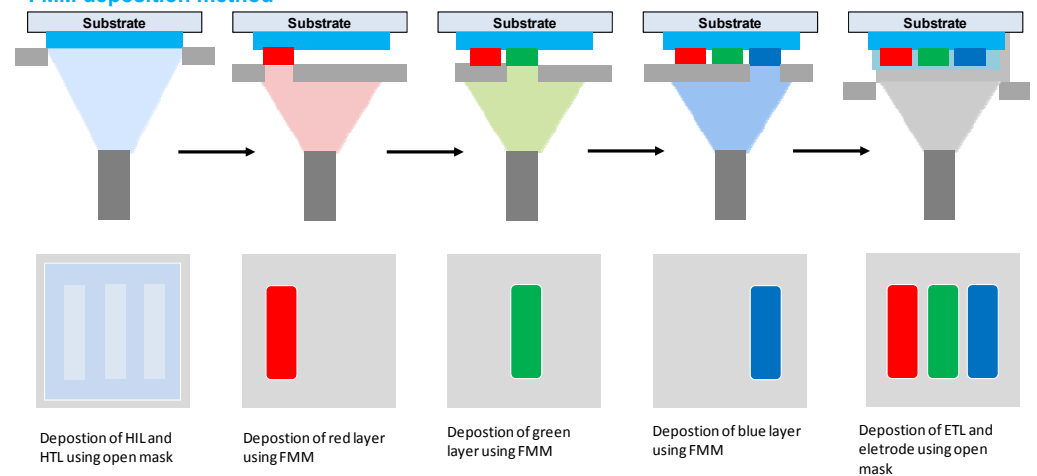
Three major deposition technologies

OLED deposition

In the OLED deposition process, organic materials are deposited or evaporated onto the backplane and individual sub-pixels are patterned. There are three major deposition technologies: using a fine metal mask (**FMM**) in vacuum evaporation, laser induced thermal imaging (**LITI**), and **inkjet printing**.

FMM is the deposition method most commonly used by OLED companies (particularly for small displays), and almost all of Samsung Display's Gen4 and Gen5.5 production lines are based on this technology. In the vacuum chamber, organic materials are heated, evaporated and then condensed on to the substrate. By using a metal mask with fine slits, organic layers are created on the substrate. However, it is difficult to form a superfine pattern, and difficult to apply it to large displays due to deformation of the mask. In addition, this method is expensive, as most of the organic materials end up on the walls of the vacuum chamber, rather than just small portion being evaporated directly on the substrate.

■ **FMM deposition method**

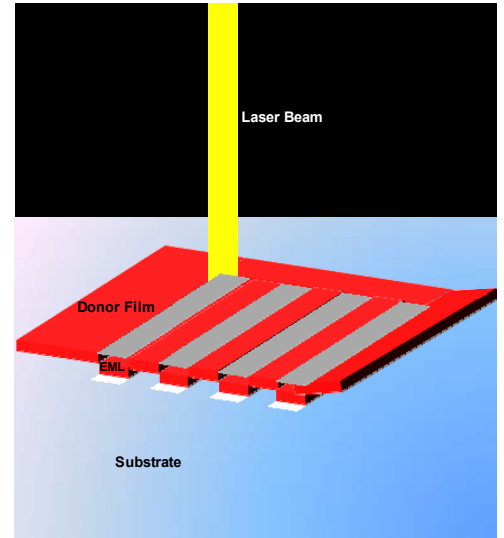
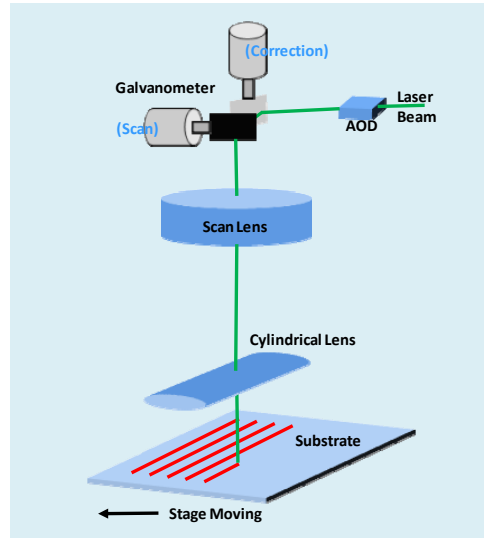


Source: Daiwa

LITI allows for high-resolution patterning of organic materials. In LITI, an imaging layer (a donor film with organic materials) is closely adhered to an acceptor substrate and then organic materials are transferred by scanning a laser to a donor film. However, LITI may induce thermal transfer defects within OLED materials. In addition, there are particle issues to deal with when laser is scanned to a donor film.

Using a laser beam to adhere organic material to a substrate

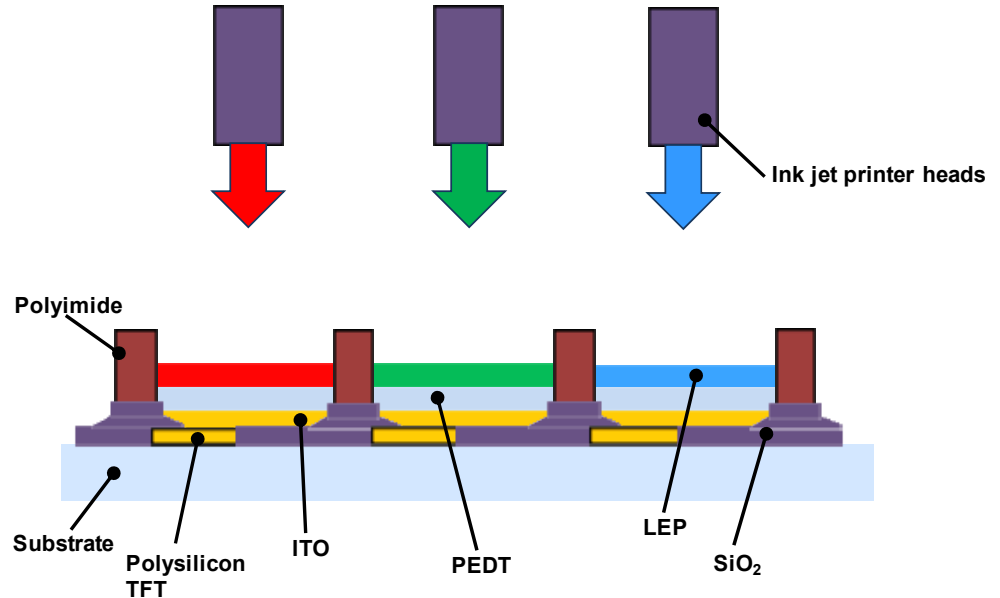
▪ LITI deposition technology



Source: Daiwa

In the inkjet process, an organic layer is formed by discharging an organic solution from inkjet printer heads, similar to those used in inkjet printers. The discharged solution is produced by dissolving or dispersing a light-emitting material in a solvent. The inkjet process is relatively simple, but the major drawbacks are controlling the uniform thickness and the fact that it is difficult to apply this technology to a large-size display.

▪ Inkjet printing for OLED materials



Source: Daiwa

Q. WHAT IS THE BEST DEPOSITION TECHNOLOGY?

A. FMM is currently the most reliable method. However, as OLED is a relatively new technology, we expect further improvements in production methods. As there are limitations with FMM technology, variations include white OLEDs (described earlier) and small mask system (SMS) technology, which is used to produce large displays.

SMS solves one issue with FMM – sagging, where a single large mask may not be uniformly level. Imagine you are spraying dots on a piece of paper. If you were to do this using a template the size of a daily newspaper, you would likely end up with sagging. But if you were to use a template the size of a business card, it would be easy to hold up the card, spray on top of it, and create circles on the paper without encountering sagging.

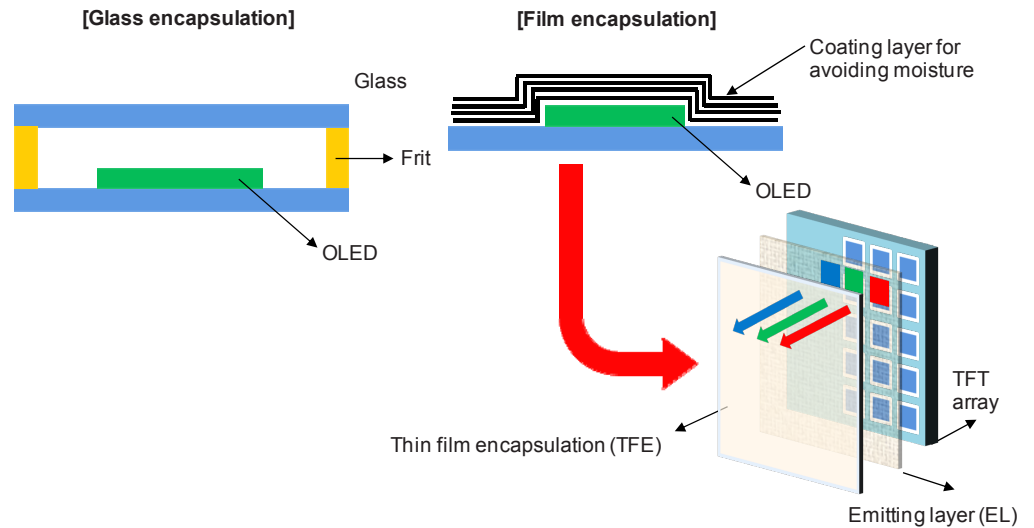
It is important to protect OLED displays from air and moisture

OLED encapsulation

For OLED displays, moisture and oxygen can cause material degradation (a decrease in the display's electroluminescence efficiency) and dark spots. In order to increase the lifespan of an OLED, encapsulation is required.

The most common method of encapsulation is using frit (a specially made ceramic composition) sandwiched between the substrate and cover glass. Although glass provides a strong barrier, it is rigid and thick. A film layer is a better alternative for use in a flexible display. We note that Samsung Display experienced production-yield issues with its flexible-display technology, but recently resolved this issue by using layers (organic and inorganic) of film encapsulation.

■ Comparison of glass and film-type encapsulation



Source: Daiwa

Your guide to the key players

The OLED supply chain is dominated by Korea companies

The OLED supply chain is dominated by Korea companies, with Samsung Display accounting for more than 96% of the OLED production capacity globally for 2012. LGD, on the other hand, has focused mainly on large displays and launched its first OLED-TV through LGE in January 2013.

As OLEDs, unlike LCDs, do not require any backlights or optical film, the supply chain is much simpler and is essentially limited to the processing-equipment and materials makers. As Samsung Display and LGD are the two companies in the world making commercial products using OLEDs, most of the small firms in the OLED supply chain are from Korea, supplying equipment and materials to these two OLED makers.

■ OLED equipment supply chain by process

	Samsung Display	LGD
Backplane process:		
Cleansing / wet processing	Semes (Not listed), DMS (068790 KS)	DMS (068790 KS) KC Tech (029460 KS)
Crystallisation	AP System (054620 KS) Tera Semicon (123100 KS), Viatron (141000 KS)	Unlisted local companies
Deposition (PE-CVD / sputter)	Ulvac (6728 JP), SFA (056190 KS) Applied Materials (AMAT US)	Ulvac (6728 JP) Jusung Engineering (036930 KS)
Photo lithography	Nikon (7731 JP), Canon (7751 JP)	Nikon (7731 JP), Canon (7751 JP)
Etching	ICD (040910 KS), Wonik IPS (030530 KS)	LIG ADP (079950 KS)
Deposition process:		
Evaporator	Canon Tokki (Not listed) Hitachi Hi-tech (8036 JP), SFA (056190 KS)	Canon Tokki (Not listed) YAS (Not listed)
Encapsulation process:		
Encapsulation system	AP System (054620 KS), LTS (138690 KS) SNU (080000 KS), Wonik IPS (030530 KS)	Avaco (083930 KS) Jusung Engineering (036930 KS)
Module process:		
Scriber / Grinder	SFA (056190 KS)	Top Engineering (065130 KS)
Bonder	SFA (056190 KS)	

Source: Companies, Daiwa

■ OLED: material supply chain

	Samsung Display	LG Display
Charged layer		
HTL	Duksan Hi-Metal (077360 KS), CS Elsolar (159910 KS)	Idemitsu Kosan (5019 JP), Merck (MRK GR), Hodogaya (4112 JP)
HIL	Duksan Hi-Metal (077360 KS)	Idemitsu Kosan (5019 JP), Merck (MRK GR), Hodogaya (4112 JP)
ETL	LG Chemical (051910 KS), Cheil Industries (001300 KS)	LG Chemical (051910 KS), Idemitsu Kosan (5019 JP), Merck (MRK GR), Toray (3402 JP)
EIL	LG Chemical (051910 KS)	LG Chemical (051910 KS), Idemitsu Kosan (5019 JP), Merck (MRK GR), Toray (3402 JP)
Emissive layer		
Red phosphorescent	Host	Dow Chemical (DOW US)
	Dopant	Universal Display (OLED US)
Green phosphorescent	Host	Universal Display (OLED US)
	Dopant	Universal Display (OLED US)
Green fluorescent	Host	CS Elsolar (159910 KS)
	Dopant	Universal Display (OLED US)
Blue fluorescent	Host	SFC (Not listed)
	Dopant	SFC (Not listed)

Source: Companies, Daiwa

Since, in our view, the OLED market has greater sales-growth potential than that of LCDs, we expect an increasing number of LCD panel makers to shift to OLED production. Moreover, we believe the current operating-profit margin for Samsung Display's OLED business of more than 20% could attract new entrants. This migration likely won't happen immediately, due to production-yield issues and the large investment required to build an OLED fab.

Given the likelihood that OLED displays will replace LCDs in the future, Samsung Display and LGD are committed to building additional OLED production lines as production yields improve. No other OLED makers have yet confirmed that they have mass production under way. Although we believe that most display companies have OLED R&D or pilot lines in place, production yields remain a major hurdle. Once yields stabilise, we expect these other players to commence volume production.

Glossary

AMOLED	The acronym for active-matrix organic light-emitting diode, a type of OLED requiring a thin-film transistor (TFT) backplane to switch each pixel on or off.
a-Si	Short for amorphous silicon, which is widely used in the manufacture of TFT-LCD backplanes. The manufacturing process is simpler than for other backplane technologies but the movement of electrons is slower.
Backlight	As LCDs do not emit their own light, backlights are used to illuminate an image and make it visible. The light source of the backlight is commonly made of cold cathode fluorescent lamps and light-emitting diodes.
Backplane	The backplane is composed of thin-film transistors, which are responsible for turning individual pixels on the display on and off.
Colour filter	This creates a colour image by transmitting or absorbing the white lights emanating from the backlight of the display. In producing a colour filter, a primary three-colour pattern of red, green, and blue is formed over a black matrix.
Contrast ratio	The difference in luminance between black and white shown on the display. A contrast ratio of 500:1 means that white areas are 500 times the brightness of black areas.
CVD	The acronym for chemical-vapour deposition. This is a common deposition method in the semiconductor manufacturing process, in which materials are deposited on the surface of a substrate through a chemical reaction.
Deposition	One of the core manufacturing process for OLEDs, in which organic materials are deposited or evaporated on to the backplane and individual sub-pixels are patterned.
EIL	The acronym for electron injection layer – an additive to speed up the transport of electrons to the emissive layer.
ELA	The acronym for excimer laser annealing, in which a 308nm excimer laser line beam disrupts the surface of a film of amorphous silicon, leading to the formation of poly-crystalline silicon.
EML	Short for emitting layer of organic material, in which electrons hit holes and emit light.
Encapsulation	In order to increase the lifespan of an OLED, the encapsulation process is used to seal OLED displays using glass or film to protect them from moisture and oxygen.
ETL	The acronym for electron transport layer, which transports the electrons to the emitting layer.
Flexible display	It uses plastic-based substrates in OLED production, allowing the product to be lighter, thinner, foldable, and rollable.
FMM	The acronym for fine metal mask. This is the most common deposition method used by OLED companies. In a vacuum chamber, organic materials are heated, evaporated, and then condensed on to the substrate.
Full HD-TV	Refers to a television that has a resolution of 1,920x1,080, compared with an HD-TV resolution of 1,280x720.
Gen5.5/Gen8	Describes the size of the glass substrate used for manufacturing flat panel displays. Gen5.5 glass is 1,300x1,500mm and Gen8 glass is 2,200x2,500mm.
HD-TV	A high-definition television produces an image that has a substantially higher resolution than traditional television systems. CRT-TVs have 576 lines and HD-TVs have 720 or 1,080 lines (progressive scanned).
HIL	The acronym for hole injection layer – an additive used to speed up transporting the holes to the emissive layer.
HTL	The acronym for hole transport layer, which transports the holes to the emissive layer.
Inkjet printing	A deposition method in which organic layers are formed on the substrate by discharging a solution of organic material from the head of an inkjet printer.
IPS	The acronym for in-plane switching. This is the technology used in LCDs to improve the colour representation and viewing angle compared with conventional LCD panels. Apple's Retina Displays are based on IPS technology.
LITI	The acronym for laser-induced thermal imaging, which allows the high-resolution patterning of organic materials. In LITI, organic materials are adhered to a substrate through the scanning of a laser.
LTPS	The acronym for low-temperature poly-crystalline silicon, which allows for small, fast-switching LCDs, ideal for high-resolution small displays.
OLED	Short for organic light-emitting diode, which is a self-emitting display that has a higher colour contrast and thinner form factor than TFT-LCD.
Oxide backplane	A backplane that uses metal-oxide technology and shares the advantages of a-Si and LTPS. The manufacturing process is simpler than for an LTPS backplane.
Pixel	Short for picture element, which is the smallest element in a graphic image.
PPI	The acronym for pixels per inch. It refers to the number of pixels contained within a vertical or horizontal inch. A ppi of 300 means there are 300 pixels contained in each one-inch row.
PMOLED	The acronym for passive-matrix organic light-emitting diode, which is type of an OLED controlled by switching on rows and columns.
p-Si	Short for poly-crystalline silicon, which offers significantly higher carrier (electron and hole) mobility than a-Si. Using the excimer laser annealing process, a-Si is converted to p-Si.
Retina Display	Refer to IPS. Retina Display is a marketing term used by Apple to describe its LCDs based on IPS technology.
Resolution	Refers to the sharpness and clarity of an image. In display devices, the resolution is the number of pixels in each dimension that can be displayed.
RGB OLED	Uses separate red, green, and blue sub-pixels to emit colours. Samsung Display uses RGB OLEDs for its OLED-TV.
Super AMOLED	Samsung Display's OLED display for mobile handsets, in which touch sensors are integrated on the top glass layer, resulting in a thin display design.
TFT	The acronym for thin-film transistor, which is formed by sequentially depositing thin films of materials on glass substrates.
UHD-TV	Short for ultra-high-definition televisions or 4K TVs, which have four times the resolution of current full HD-TVs (3,820x2,160 pixels compared with 1,920x1,080 pixels).
White OLED	Uses white OLED pixels with colour filters, and is less efficient than RGB OLEDs as some of the light is filtered out by colour filters. LG Display uses white OLEDs for its OLED-TV.

Source: Daiwa







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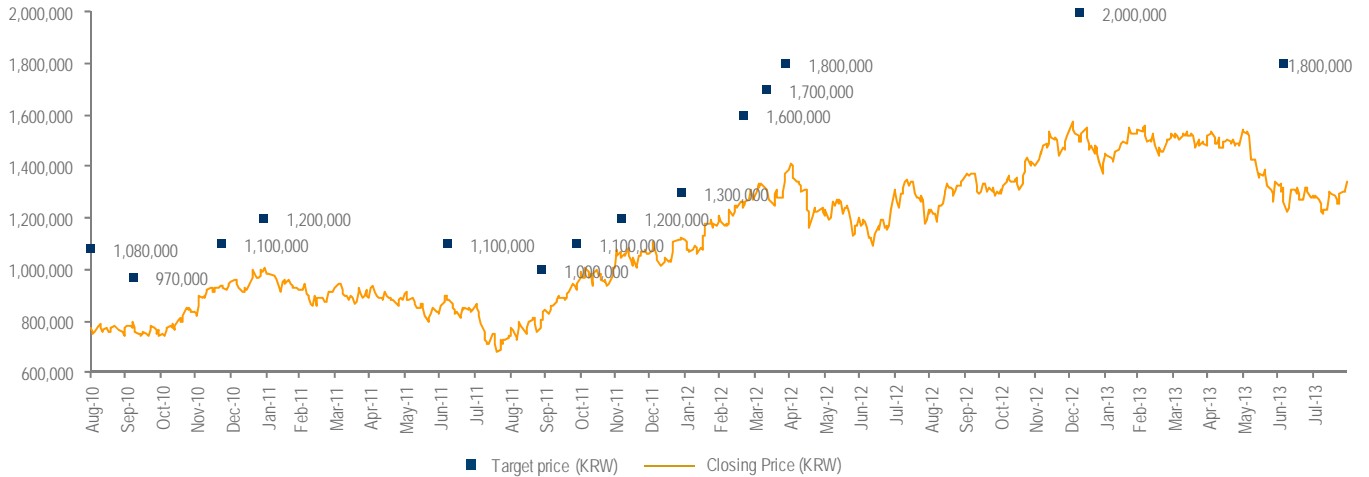
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Share price and Daiwa recommendation trend

■ **Samsung Electronics: share price and Daiwa recommendation trend**

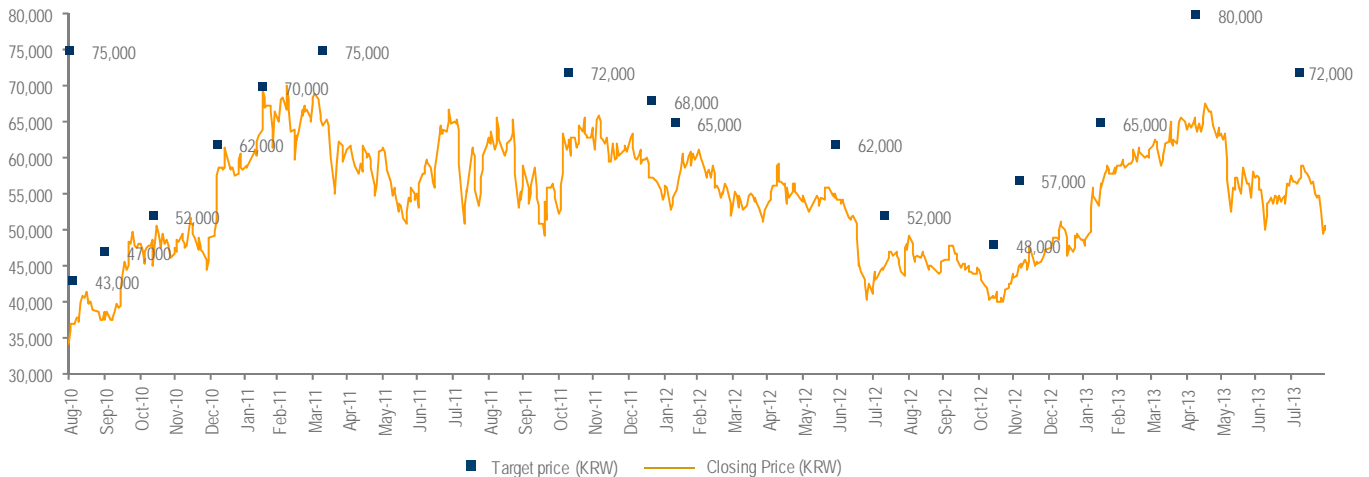
Date	Target price	Rating	Date	Target price	Rating	Date	Target price	Rating
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28/01/11	1,200,000	Outperform	06/12/11	1,200,000	Outperform	27/04/12	1,800,000	Buy
07/07/11	1,100,000	Outperform	27/01/12	1,300,000	Outperform	08/01/13	2,000,000	Buy
27/09/11	1,000,000	Outperform	21/03/12	1,600,000	Buy	05/07/13	1,800,000	Buy



Source: Daiwa

■ **SFA Engineering: share price and Daiwa recommendation trend**

Date	Target price	Rating	Date	Target price	Rating	Date	Target price	Rating
30/09/10	47,000	Outperform	08/11/11	72,000	Outperform	13/11/12	48,000	Outperform
11/11/10	52,000	Outperform	20/01/12	68,000	Outperform	05/12/12	57,000	Buy
06/01/11	62,000	Outperform	09/02/12	65,000	Outperform	14/02/13	65,000	Buy
14/02/11	70,000	Outperform	28/06/12	62,000	Outperform	08/05/13	80,000	Buy
08/04/11	75,000	Outperform	10/08/12	52,000	Outperform	06/08/13	72,000	Buy



Source: Daiwa

■ **LG Display: share price and Daiwa recommendation trend**

Date	Target price	Rating	Date	Target price	Rating	Date	Target price	Rating
13/04/11	44,000	Outperform	28/09/11	19,000	Hold	08/06/12	23,000	Hold
15/06/11	38,000	Outperform	20/10/11	21,000	Hold	27/10/12	30,000	Hold
21/07/11	36,000	Outperform	30/01/12	27,000	Hold			



Source: Daiwa

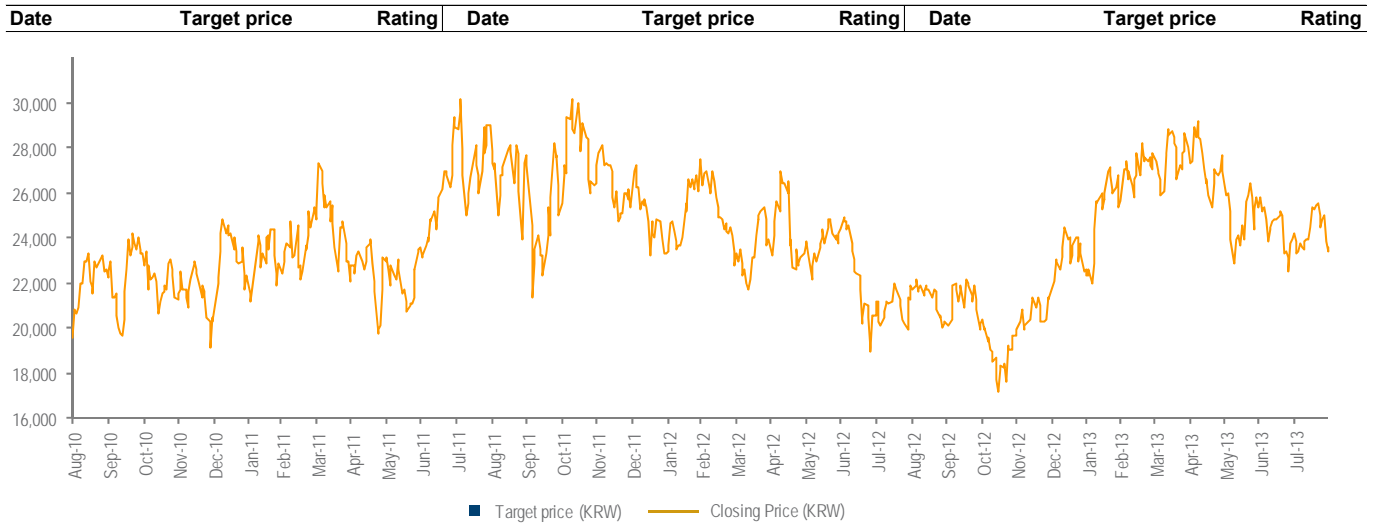
■ **LG Electronics: share price and Daiwa recommendation trend**

Date	Target price	Rating	Date	Target price	Rating	Date	Target price	Rating
07/01/11	130,000	Outperform	10/09/12	72,000	Hold	18/04/13	82,000	Hold
27/04/11	120,000	Outperform	11/10/12	70,000	Hold	12/06/13	78,000	Hold
04/07/11	90,000	Hold	20/02/13	75,000	Hold	24/07/13	75,000	Hold



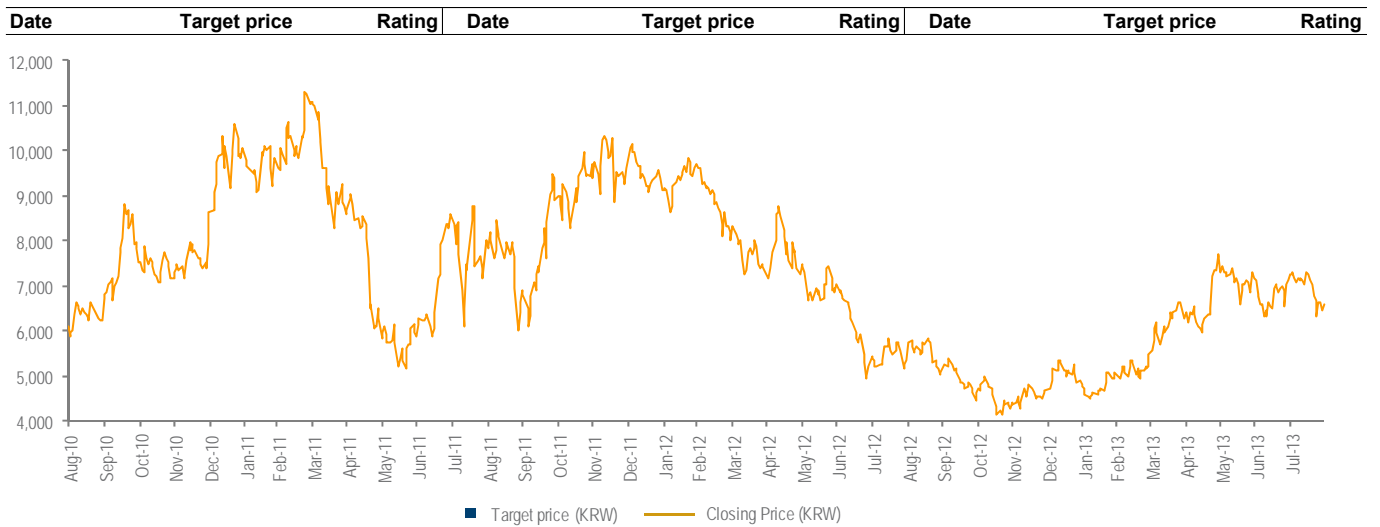
Source: Daiwa

■ **Duksan Hi-Metal: share price and Daiwa recommendation trend**



Source: Daiwa

■ **Wonik IPS: share price and Daiwa recommendation trend**



Source: Daiwa

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