# Presseinformation
# Press release

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## OE-A's 5th Anniversary

## From Pioneers to a Global Industry Association

Frankfurt, Germany, March 10, 2010 — „With its 135 members all over the world, the OE-A has become a highly dynamic and constantly growing network of leading international companies and institutes in the past five years", said Wolfgang Mildner, Chairman of the OE-A and Managing Director, PolyIC GmbH & Co. KG, Germany, on the occasion of the 5th anniversary celebration of the OE-A – the industry association for organic and printed electronics – in late February at the Holst Centre in Eindhoven, The Netherlands. In December 2004, 35 members founded this working group within VDMA. "One of the founding principles of the OE-A five years ago was the goal to build an international industry association to jointly develop this future multi-billion Euro market", emphasized the Chairman of the OE-A. "Cooperation all along the value chain is essential in this phase; no company can achieve it alone."

Organic photovoltaics, OLED lighting, flexible displays, printed memory, RFID or sensors, as well as integrated smart systems are just a few examples of new applications which are made possible by organic and printed electronics.

### Network has driven international cooperation

"When OE-A was created five years ago, printed electronics was an industry known to a small number of pioneering companies," said Andrew W. Hannah, Vice Chairman of OE-A and CEO of Plextronics. "Now, we are part of a global industry and OE-A has led the way in that transformation. The OE-A has helped

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German Engineering Federation

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raise the visibility of printed electronics which is invaluable to its member companies."

**OE-A continues to grow activities in Asia**

The next step in globalization after OE-A's inception in Europe and establishing the North American office in 2008 is the continued growth of activities in Asia. An important milestone is the recent addition of Sumitomo Chemical, a leading company from Japan, to the OE-A.

"Sumitomo Chemical has joined OE-A in the belief that for an emerging technology such as organic electronics, a strong body representing the interests of companies engaged in the technology is essential," said Dr. David Fyfe, Sumitomo Chemical, Tokyo, Japan. "We have chosen OE-A in view of its growing global strength."

About the **OE-A:**
The OE-A (Organic Electronics Association) is a working group within the German Engineering Federation (VDMA) and was founded in December 2004. The OE-A is the leading international industry association for organic and printed electronics and represents the entire value chain of this emerging industry. Our members are world-class global companies and institutions, ranging from R&D institutes, component and material suppliers to producers and end-users. More than 130 companies from Europe, North America, Asia and Australia are working together to promote the establishment of a competitive production infrastructure for organic electronics. The vision of the OE-A is to build a bridge between science, technology and application. More than 3,000 member companies from the engineering industry make VDMA the largest industry association in Europe.

The OE-A is the host of the premier international conference and exhibition, LOPE-C – the Large-area, Organic and Printed Electronics Convention, which addresses end-users, manufacturers, investors, engineers, and scientists. In 2010, LOPE-C will take place from May 31st to June 2nd, 2010 at Messe Frankfurt, Germany.

Additional information at: **www.oe-a.org** and **www.lope-c.com**

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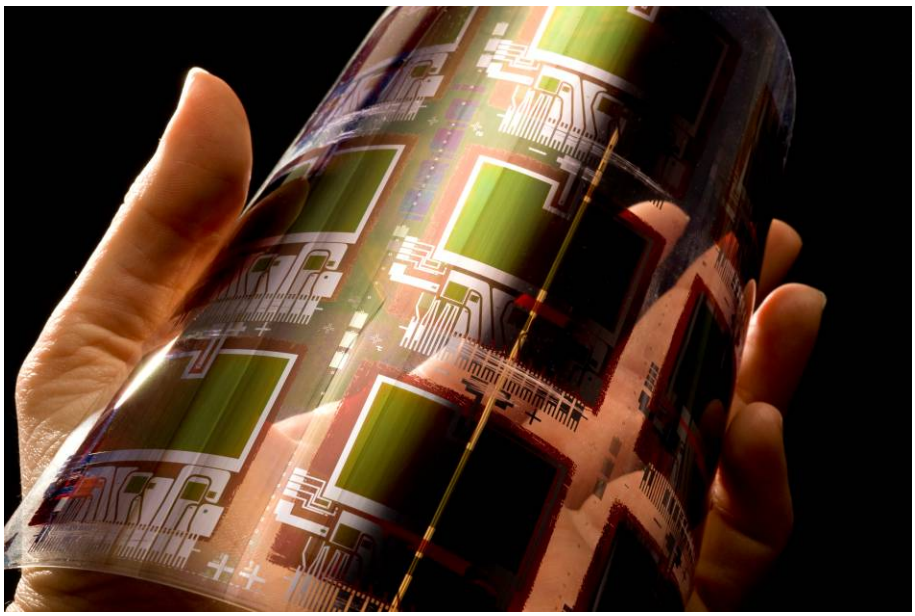

Photo: Flexible, light-weight and robust: organic and printed electronics enable new applications. Sample of a printed solar cell (photo: Holst Centre, The Netherlands).