December 16, 2015

Mark Your Calendars

It's clear that we're in the midst of a sea change in lighting that will reshape the industry in multiple ways — from how light is delivered, to what it can do, to who the major players will be. But with that sea change, it's easy to overlook the fact that solid-state lighting is still at a relatively early stage of development, with much of its potential yet to be tapped. The 13th annual DOE SSL R&D Workshop, slated for February 2–4 in Raleigh, NC, will focus on what it will take to unlock this potential — which will not only save enormous amounts of energy, but will also create headroom for improving lighting quality and performance, lowering costs, and adding new services that result in breakthroughs in many other areas in addition to lighting.

So mark your calendars and make your reservations, because this year we've got another all-star lineup. Jeff Quinlan of **Acuity Brands** will take a look at the new lighting paradigm, sharing his company's vision for SSL technology, connected lighting systems, the changing lighting market, and R&D directions. A panel featuring experts from **Intel**, **Enlighted**, and **GE Lighting** will discuss directions in connected lighting from a variety of viewpoints, focusing on the R&D needed to create a platform that brings new lighting performance, capabilities, and benefits.

Decai Sun of **Luminus Devices** will offer insights on the development of the SSL industry in China and the global impact of competitive Asian manufacturers, and a panel representing leading global manufacturers such as **Zumtobel**, **MLS**, and **Cree** will present their visions of the future of SSL technology and discuss what it will take to realize them.

Kevin Reilly of **Peak Lighting & Energy** will team up with Eric Kerley of **Jack in the Box** to talk about how the fast-food chain's system-wide use of LED lighting has impacted energy use, the environment, and the bottom line. A panel featuring **Ephesus Lighting**, **OSRAM Sylvania**, **OSRAM OLED**, and the **U.S. Navy** will review SSL products that were designed for particularly challenging lighting applications, and another panel will discuss

how SSL affects human color perception and physiological responses, and also consider the impact of blue light on health. A panel on quantifying system reliability, featuring experts from such groups as **Hubbell Lighting**, **RTI International**, **Lumileds**, and the **State of North Carolina**, will discuss key failures and what barriers must be overcome to certify 10-year fixture warranties with less risk to the manufacturer and less impact to the end user.

On the OLED side, David DeJoy of **OLEDWorks** will describe how his company is leveraging technologies from research labs at Kodak and Philips to establish OLED panel manufacturing in the U.S. and Europe, applying new approaches to scale up production capacity using limited capital resources. He will also consider the remaining challenges that stand in the way of bringing OLED lighting panels and products to market, as well as how the OLED industry can collaborate on the path forward and contribute to U.S. competitiveness in a global lighting market.

You'll get a chance to meet all of these folks one-on-one at an evening reception and poster session, where attendees can browse through about 50 posters from top scientists who'll share updates on their work, exchange ideas, and accelerate advances in SSL. This year, the poster session will also highlight the winners of a new DOE student poster competition. And you'll have ample opportunity to make your voice heard during the workshop itself, because all panels and presentations are followed by Q&A sessions in which everyone's input is valued and encouraged. In fact, a major purpose of DOE's SSL R&D Workshop is to gather input to help update the DOE SSL R&D Plan, which is widely consulted by industry here and abroad and also guides DOE's SSL funding solicitations. To that end, in Raleigh we'll be splitting up into separate LED and OLED track sessions to enable deeper discussions on specific issues.

Top experts will lead LED track sessions on droop, LED package and power supply, new manufacturing methods and tools, and new lighting product concepts. OLED track sessions will focus on manufacturing challenges, OLED materials, light extraction and integrated substrates, and developing OLED lighting products.

The Raleigh workshop is a not-to-be-missed event, where top experts and thought leaders from universities, labs, and companies large and small will converge to share the latest on SSL advances, examine market forces that are shaping the technology, and explore how that technology is defining new market opportunities. Join us for three packed days of lively discussions and nonstop networking. I'm looking forward to seeing many of you there. To register or for more information, please visit the DOE SSL website. And to get a feel for the DOE workshop experience, check out this video.

As always, if you have questions or comments, you can reach us at postings@akoyaonline.com.