

Novares invests in FlexEnable to accelerate adoption of flexible displays in cars

Novares, a global plastic solutions provider serving the automotive industry, will make equity investments into FlexEnable totaling 5 million euros.

CAMBRIDGE, CAMBRIDGESHIRE, UNITED KINGDOM, May 8, 2018 /EINPresswire.com/ -- [FlexEnable](#), the leader in the development and industrialisation of plastic electronics for flexible displays and sensors, has announced that [Novares](#), a global plastic solutions provider serving the automotive industry, will make equity investments into FlexEnable totaling 5 million euros. This strategic investment will drive FlexEnable's engineering and manufacturing efforts to bring flexible organic LCD (OLCD) to automotive interiors, changing where and how displays are used in vehicles. Automotive designers now have the freedom to replace today's flat screens with bendable, wrappable, glass-free OLCD technology that is better suited to the shapes of the modern car interior while enabling 'smart surfaces'.

FlexEnable's proprietary organic thin-film transistor (OTFT) platform enables high-performance flexible displays and sensors on plastic substrates that can be applied to almost any surface. A core application of this disruptive technology are [organic LCDs](#) (OLCDs) which are light, thin and shatterproof, and can be bent (up to 10mm), conformed and shaped. OLCD is the lowest cost flexible display technology – it can be manufactured on existing flat panel display lines and utilises an already established supply chain. Its scalability to large sizes together with its high brightness and long lifetime, make OLCD uniquely suited to meeting automotive lifetime and reliability standards by using already qualified materials and processes.

Chuck Milligan, CEO of FlexEnable, says, "We are delighted to be working closely with and supported by Novares, who have taken a leadership position in bringing smart surfaces to the automotive supply chain. With the automotive display market valued at \$22 billion by 2022, this investment is a further validation of FlexEnable's glass-free display technology and licensing business model. Currently being transferred into mass production, OLCD is serving the growing demand for low-cost, high-reliability, conformable and shapeable displays to meet the rapidly changing needs of the automotive HMI."

"Open to current or future partners and co-innovators, Novares has created a Venture Capital Fund of 50 million euros to invest in the development of technological innovations over the next five years, with a first equity investment in FlexEnable. This will support Novares' new solutions for clean, light, connected and autonomous cars that are user-friendly, incorporating HMIs (Human Machine Interfaces) with an improved passenger experience." says Pierre Boulet, Novares CEO.

In March 2018 Novares unveiled its Nova Car #1 demo which features FlexEnable's flexible OLCD in the design of the cockpit. Called FlexView, this innovation uses augmented reality to improve security and can be easily integrated into modern cockpits.

In July 2017 FlexEnable began the industrialisation of OLCD following a technology transfer and license agreement with Chinese display manufacturer Truly Semiconductors. OLCD is expected to be in mass production by the end of 2018 with target markets including automotive, consumer

electronics, smart home appliances and digital signage.

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About FlexEnable

FlexEnable has developed the world's first flexible electronics technology platform that allows electronics made of organic materials to be manufactured on flexible plastic film, the thickness of a sheet of paper. Compatible with existing manufacturing lines, it is the key to truly flexible and cost effective electronics over large and small surfaces. The core applications of this technology are glass-free, flexible displays and sensors that enable game-changing products across a variety of industries including consumer electronics, automotive, digital signage, wearables, medical and security. FlexEnable's customers include OEMs, component manufacturers and materials suppliers. The company offers a comprehensive range of services-based packages for its technology platform including: ProductEnable™, MaterialsEnable™ and FabEnable™. www.flexenable.com

Companies interested in working together with FlexEnable should contact info@flexenable.com.

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