# The Past, Present & Future of LCDs: The Black Swan Matures & Prospers

Frederic J. Kahn, president



Palo Alto, CA fjkahn@post.harvard.edu

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## **World of 1967:** Color TV gaining market share



# Today's LCD success was a black swan\* in 1967

\* a high impact event that is extremely difficult to predict





#### First Commercial LCDs –1971

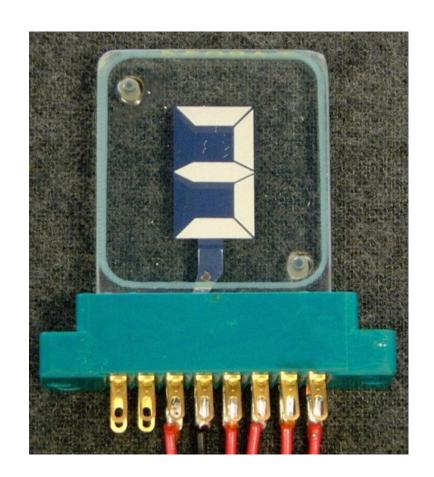
**Current driven** 

**Scattering mode** 

0.75" high

7-segment numeric

**Product of RCA Solid State Division** 



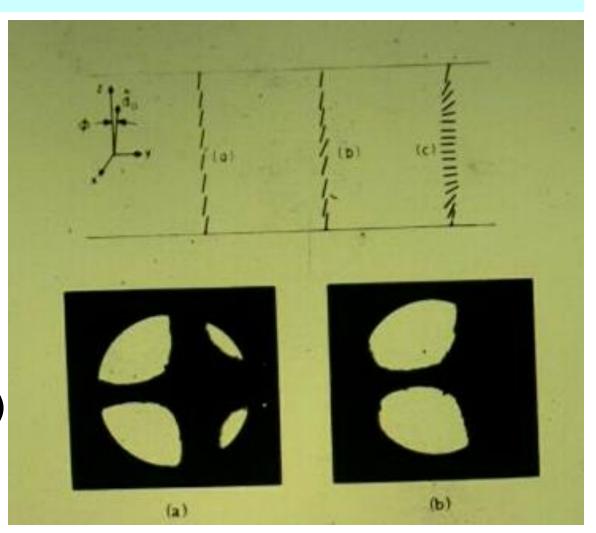
Courtesy of Dr. Sun Lu, Landmark Technologies



#### Vertically aligned nematic (VAN) LCD

**Edge view** 

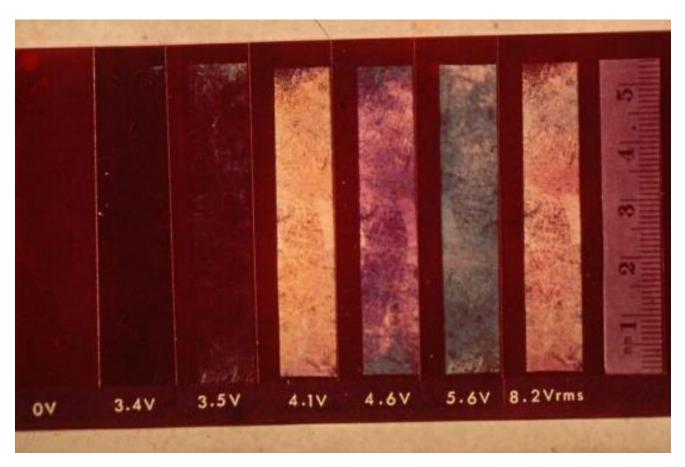
Conoscopic view (converging light)







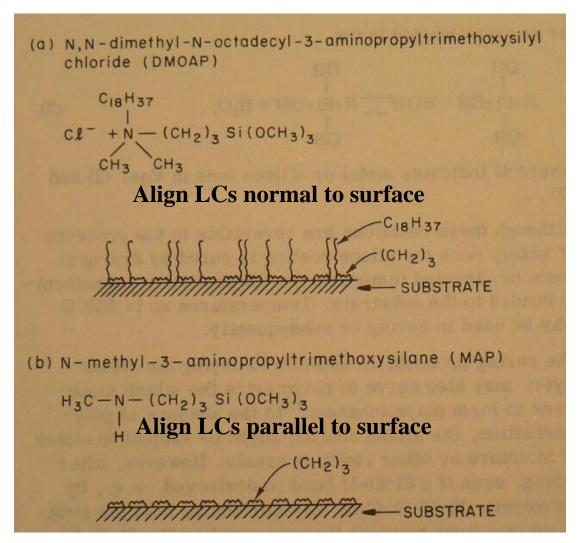
#### VAN LCD photos - 1971\*



\*F.J. Kahn, IEEE Device Research Conference, Ann Arbor, June 30, 1971; US Patent 3,694,053, filed June 22, 1971



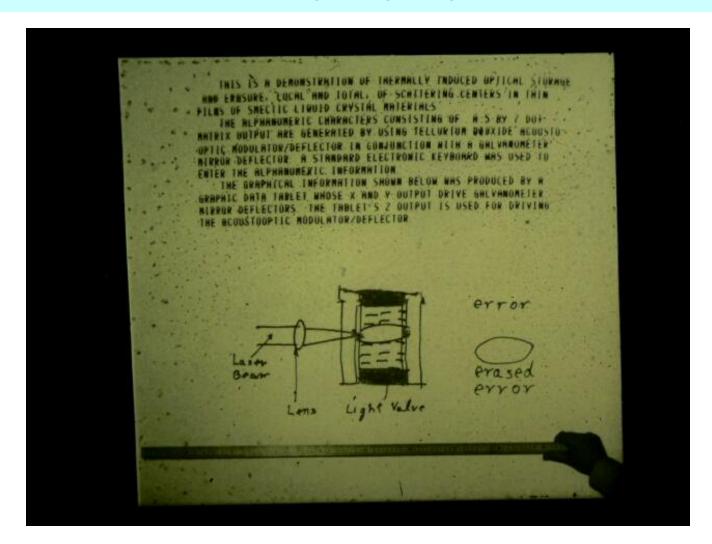
#### Coupling agents align liquid crystals



F. J. Kahn, Appl. Phys. Lett. <u>22</u>, 386-389 (1973)



# Laser (thermal) Smectic LC Light Valve Projector 12.25 Mpixel (1973)



## The dark gray LCD swan





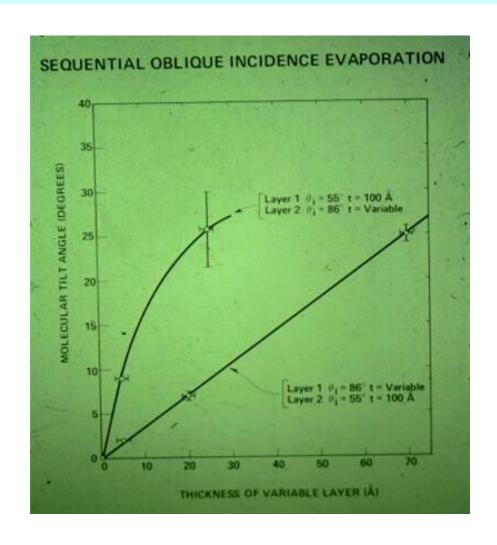
# High reliability calculator display prototype (1974)



Demonstrated to William Hewlett and David Packard, May 1974



#### Precision alignment control for calculator LCDs

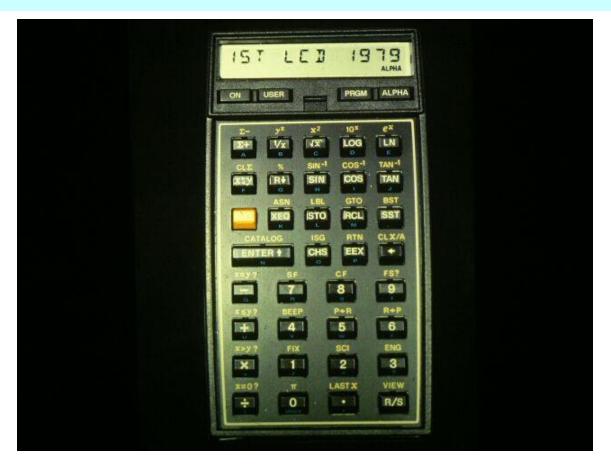


#### The first HP calculators used LEDs



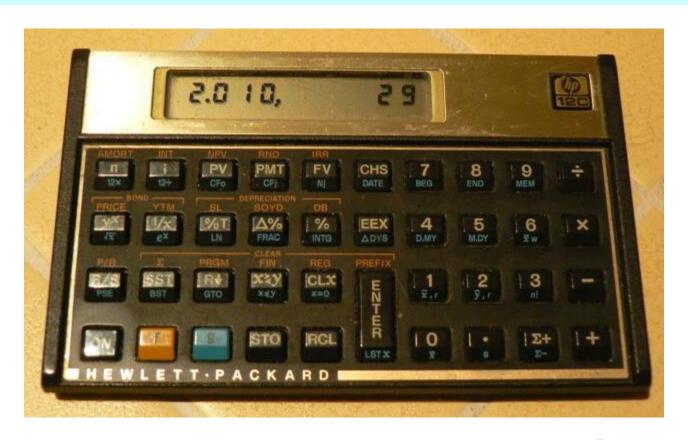


#### The first HP LCD calculator (1979)



"The alpha-numeric LCD screen of the HP-41C revolutionized the way a calculator could be used." (Wikipedia)

#### HP12c Financial Calculator (1981-)

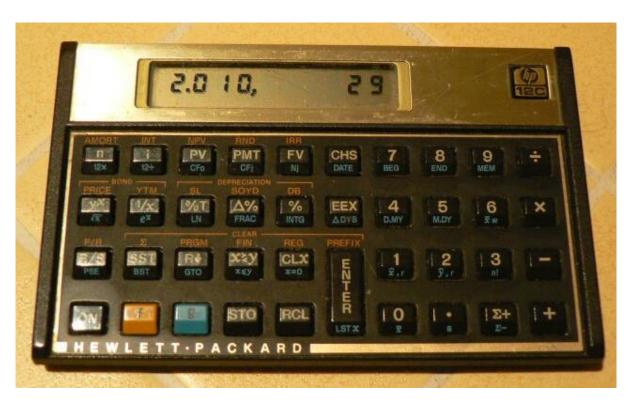


"the oldest consumer electronic device still in production" and "still HP's best selling calculator" (Hewlett-Packard, <u>Jan. 2004</u>)

http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2004-01-10/business/0401100187\_1\_calculator-best-selling-device



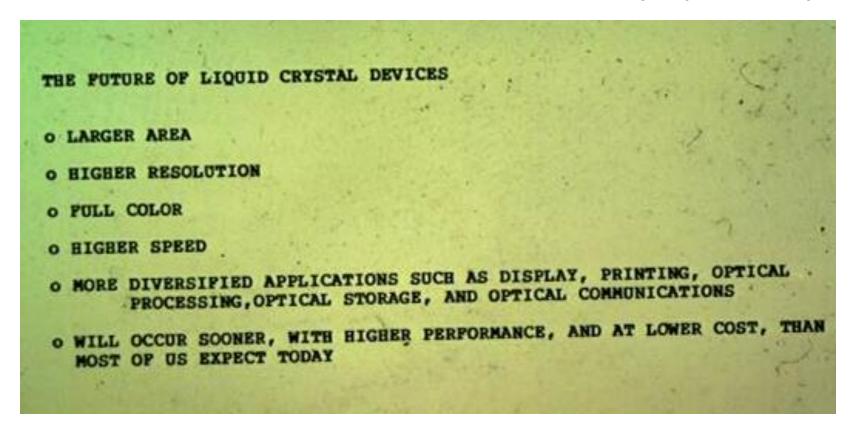
### HP12c Financial Calculator (1981-)



Still selling today, 35 yrs after introduction, 42 years after tech demo to Hewlett & Packard. Amazon \$63.85, March 2016)

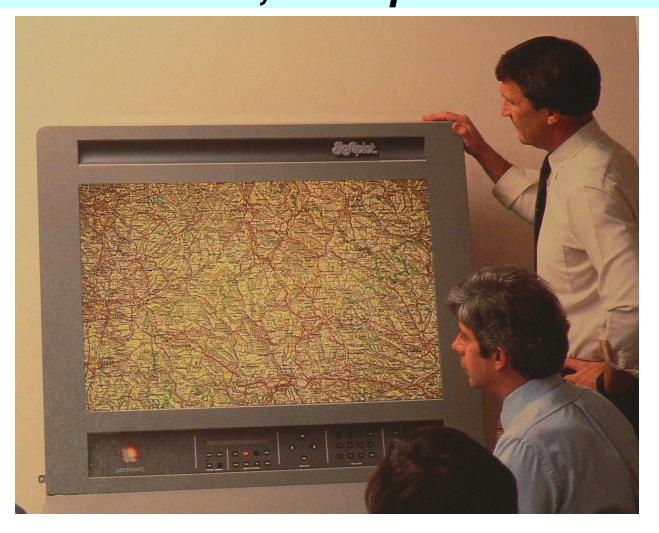
# On the future of LCDs (1985)

Advances "will occur sooner, with higher performance, and at lower cost, than most of us expect today." (F.J. Kahn)





## Greyhawk Softplot (1986) 40"D, 7.5 Mpixels

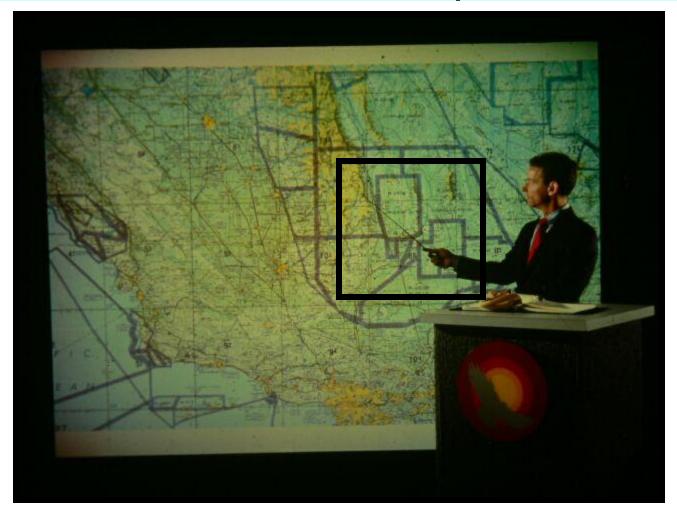


Display of the Year, *Electronic Products Magazine*, 1986



#### Greyhawk Large Area Display (1988)

144 inch D, 37.5 Mpixels





# Close-up view of "print-quality" image detail





# Ilford/Greyhawk Digital Photolmager for short-run color printing

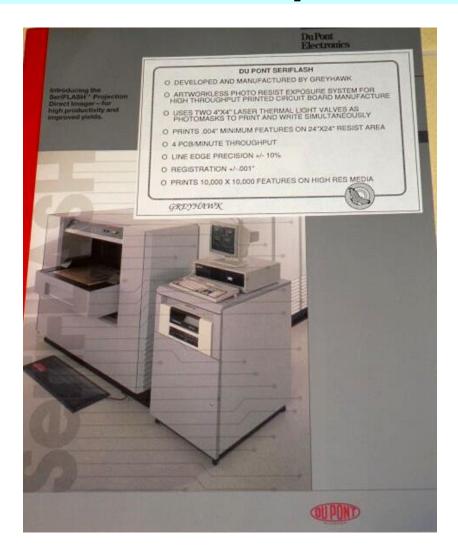


Prints up to 200 full-color 35 mm slides, overhead transparencies or 8.5x11" prints per hour.

——35 mm slide example



# DuPont/Greyhawk SeriFLASH printed circuit board exposure system

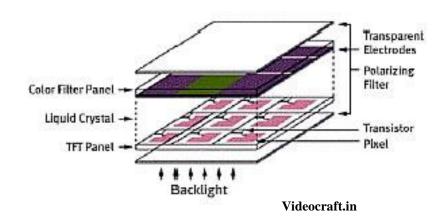


## Two Earthquakes: October 1989



Paul Buckley, Wordpress

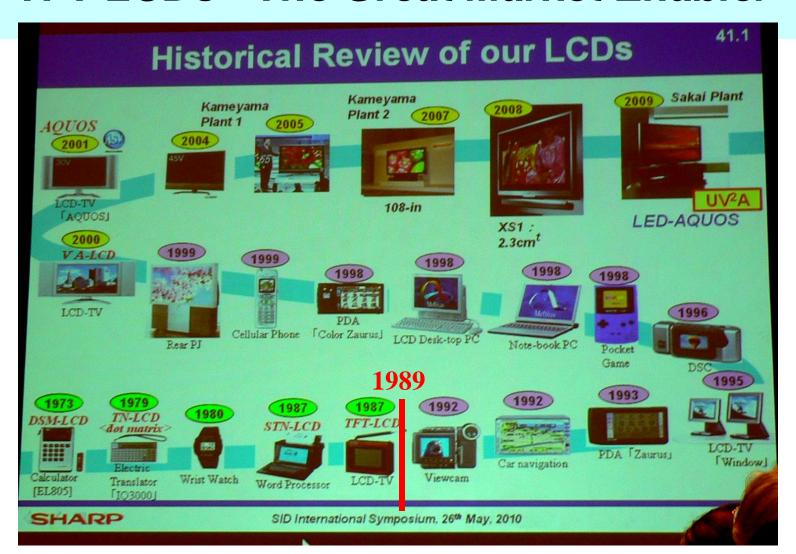
Loma Prieta quake shakes California.



TFT LCDs from Sharp shake and transform display world.



#### TFT LCDs - The Great Market Enabler



# White LCD swan continues to ascend





## HDTV comparison

(at constant pixel density)

Potential <u>future</u> HDTVs <sup>~8K: 7680x4320</sup> 33 Mpixels with Greyhawk "print-quality" definition (>37 Mpixels, wall-size, 8K class)

**NHK Japan:** 

4K broadcasting, June 2014 8K test broadcasting, 2016 widespread, 2020 Tokyo Olympics

2K: 1920x1080

Today's HDTVs (2 Mpixels)



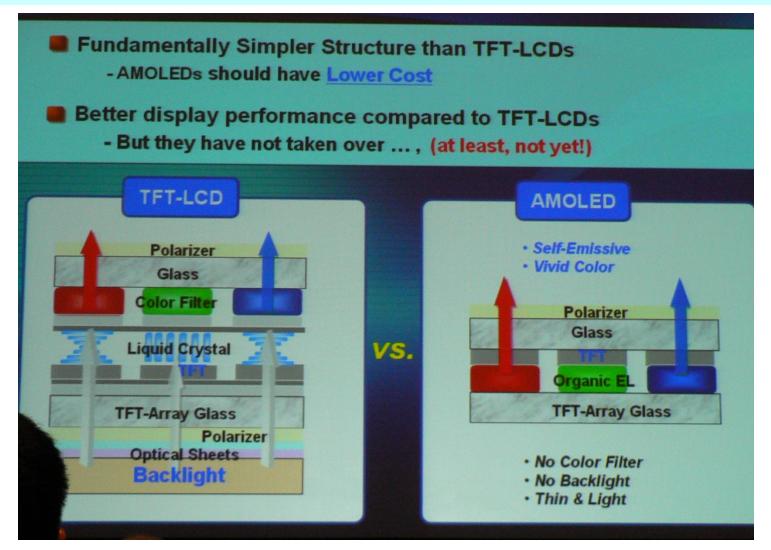
# **BOE (China) UHD 10K 82in LCD**Best of show – Display Week 2015



**Information Display** 



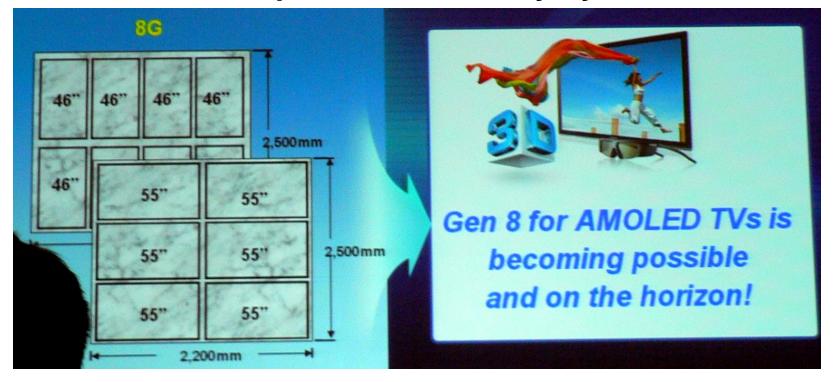
#### AMLCD vs. AMOLED Structures



S. Kim, Samsung, SID 2010

## Samsung's AMOLED-TV Vision

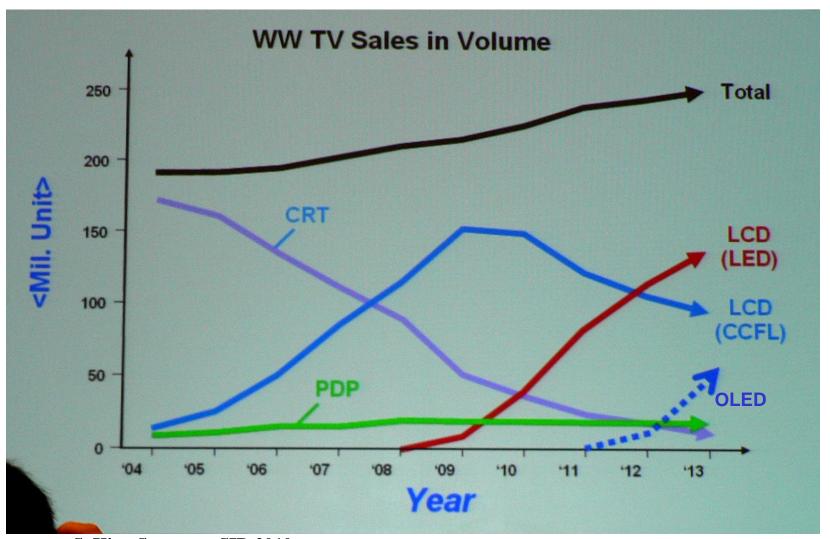
Targets mainstream technology for "Premium TVs" in Gen 8 production facility by 2015



S. Kim, Samsung, SID 2010



#### World wide TV market View 2010 (units)









## China Rising, How Fast?

© 2015 IHS

#### Large Area TFT LCD/OLED Shipment Shares by panel makers, unit base

Shipment Share	Year		
Supplier	2014	2015	2016
AUO	16.2%	15.2%	14.6%
BOE	8.4%	12.0%	15.7%
CEC-Panda	1.7%	1.7%	1.6%
China Star	• 3.4%	3.7%	4.4%
CPT	0.8%	1.1%	1.0%
HannStar	0.4%	0.6%	1.0%
Hydis	0.0%		
InfoVision	1.7%	1.9%	1.9%
Innolux Corp.	19.3%	17.7%	16.3%
Japan Display	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%
LG Display	23.7%	23.4%	22.1%
Mitsubishi	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%
NLT	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
Panasonic LCD	1.0%	1.3%	1.1%
Samsung	19.8%	17.9%	17.6%
Sharp	2.9%	2.8%	2.1%
Tianma	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Shipment Share	Year		
Region	2014	2015	2016
Japan	4.3%	4.6%	3.6%
China	15.4%	19.5%	23.7%
Taiwan	36.7%	34.6%	32.9%
Korea	43.6%	41.3%	39.7%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Large Area TFT LCD/OLED Shipment Shares by panel makers, Area base

Display Area Share	Year		
Supplier	2014	2015	2016
AUO	14.7%	13.3%	12.1%
BOE	5.5%	9.3%	13.1%
CEC-Panda	1.3%	1.6%	1.7%
China Star	5.4%	6.1%	7.3%
CPT	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%
HannStar	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%
Hydis	0.0%		
InfoVision	0.4%	0.3%	0.2%
Innolux Corp.	18.6%	16.3%	15.1%
Japan Display	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%
LG Display	24.5%	24.9%	23.3%
Mitsubishi	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
NLT	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Panasonic LCD	1.0%	1.3%	1.0%
Samsung	22.5%	21.5%	21.9%
Sharp	5.8%	4.9%	3.9%
Tianma	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Display Area Share	Year		
Region	2014	2015	2016
Japan	6.8%	6.3%	5.0%
China	12.7%	17.4%	22.4%
Taiwan	33.5%	29.9%	27.4%
Korea	47.0%	46.5%	45.2%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

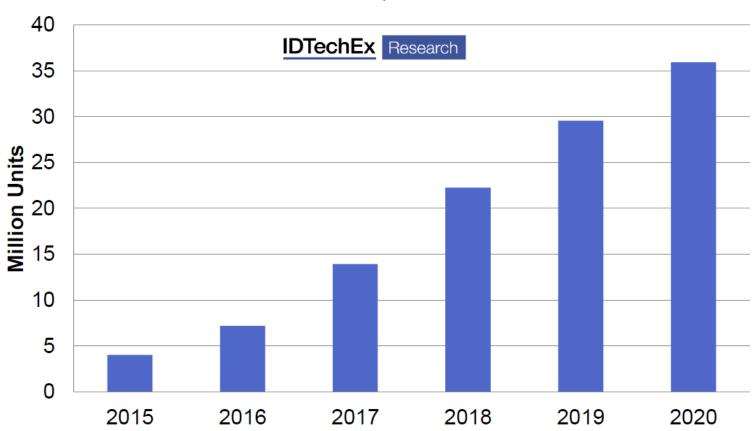
Source: IHS © 2015 IHS



Source: IHS

## Quantum Dot LCD TVs: OLED performance, LCD prices

#### **LCD TV with Quantum Dots**



Sri Peruvemba,, Marketer International



# 2016 OLED Status: TVs struggle; Small area OLEDs succeed

LGD OLED TVs introduced but continue to struggle due to high price, low yields, low production volume.

LGD operates Gen 8 OLED production facility.

Others adding this capability

Panasonic's impressive & pricey OLED TV uses LGD panels.

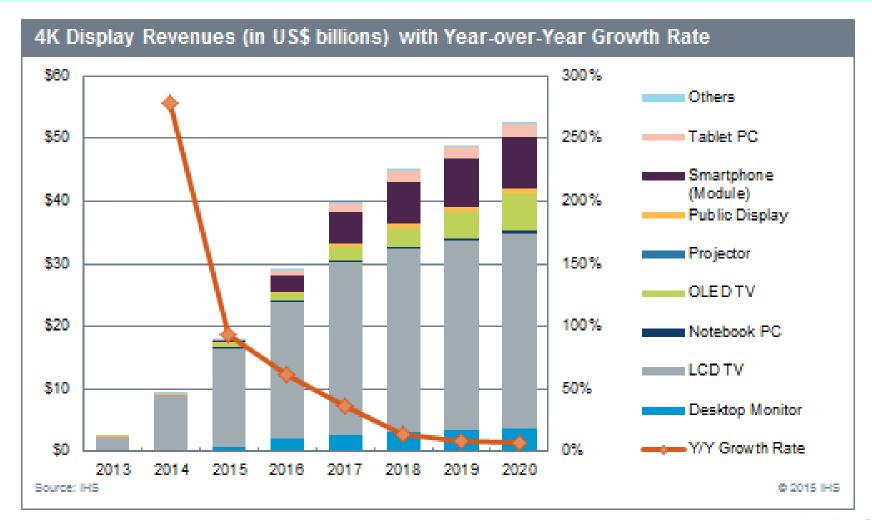
Major success: <u>small area OLEDs</u> for SmartPhones (Samsung) and watches (Apple)

Apple 2017 next gen iPhone:

Samsung to supply flexible OLEDs says ETNews. LGD, Sharp/Foxconn, Japan Display, others are potential second sources.



### 4K LCDs dominate beyond 2020!





#### Total LCD Market Dominance Continues

- WW display market
  - 2015: \$116B (Marketsandmarkets)
    - Mostly LCD TV panels (Research MOZ, Kahn Intl)
  - 4K displays, Major growth 2015 to 2020 (IHS)
    - Mostly 4K LCD TV panels (~\$32B 2020) (IHS)
- WW OLED market (<< LCDs through 2022)</li>
  - 2015: \$13B (LG/IHS)
  - 2022: \$29.1B (LG/IHS)



# Potential future improvements to extend LCD dominance

#### **Evolutionary**

Higher production throughput

Lower cost backlight structures and LEDs

Lower cost materials, e.g., thinner glass, polarizers

Higher image quality, e.g., QD LCDs

**Higher information content** 

Larger area, lower weight per unit area

#### Revolutionary

**New faster LC effects** 

Elimination of color filters: >3X brighter

Flexible and/or rollable substrates

**Smart and interactive panels** 

Full wall displays



#### **Conclusions**

The LCD Black Swan is now a soaring, ascending White Swan.

LCDs are the world's most successful display industry.

Continuous improvement & high R&D expenditures

continue to protect LCD dominance.

**OLEDs** are the most likely potential competitor.

OLED TVs sales now limited by price, production and yield.

Major OLED markets: small area for SmartPhones, watches, autos.

Potential mainstream competition with LCDs in 2021 - 2025.

I have enjoyed surfing the liquid crystal wave for 49 years.

I thank the 1000s of people who have helped me stay afloat and you for your attention this morning.

