

## **Firecomms Announces Appointment of New Chief Operations Officer**

**Cork, Ireland—June 12, 2006**—Firecomms Ltd., a leading compound semiconductor company that develops high-speed light sources in visible range wavelengths, today announced the appointment of industry veteran Dr. Torsten Wipiejewski as chief operations officer. Thomas Moriarty, who was acting COO, will focus his efforts on new product development in his role as chief engineer.

In his new role, Dr. Wipiejewski will create an effective execution strategy for Firecomms, build out the team, and drive volume mass production of VCSEL chips and fiber optic transceivers. The increase in production capacity and manufacturing capability follows the latest round of funding to meet customer demands.

Dr. Wipiejewski was most recently vice president and R&D director of Material and Packaging Technologies Group at ASTRI in Hong Kong where he led the development of ultra low-cost photonic components for information transmission and smart optical sensors. Previously, he managed the market introduction of two tunable laser product lines as director of advanced technology and program manager at Agility Communications in California. He also was general manager of the Optoelectronic Components Group of Infineon Fiber Optics in Munich, Germany. His responsibility included R&D and production of vertical-cavity surface-emitting lasers (VCSELs) and edge emitting lasers.

Dr. Wipiejewski received a Ph.D. summa cum laude for his work on low threshold, tunable VCSELs from the University of Ulm, Germany, and a M.Sc. in Electrical Engineering from the Technical University of Braunschweig, Germany. He spent two years as a post-doctoral researcher at the University of California, Santa Barbara and at the University of Ulm.

Dr. Wipiejewski was elected to the ECTC Executive Committee in 2004. He is the Opto-Committee chair of ESTC, served as program chair of the 2005 POF Conference, and has been committee member of SPIE Photonics West and EPTC for many years. Dr. Wipiejewski chaired the Optoelectronics Chip-Level Roadmap development for the U.S.-based National Electronics Manufacturing Initiative (NEMI) in 2004.

Dr. Wipiejewski is a senior member of IEEE LEOS (Laser & Electro-Optics Society) and CPMT (Components, Packaging and Manufacturing Technology Society) and has authored or co-authored more than 120 publications and over 30 patents. He was honored with Agility's "Patent Award" in 2001 and 2002, Infineon's "Inventor of the Year Award" in 1999, the "Project Innovations Award" of the Siemens Semiconductor Group (now Infineon) in 1999, and the "Best Ph.D. Thesis Award" in 1994.

"With extensive experience in high-volume compound semiconductor manufacturing, Dr. Wipiejewski brings a deep understanding of back-end processes for Firecomms' device level and transceiver level mass production," says Firecomms CEO Declan O'Mahoney. "His experience in high-volume environments and his knowledge of high-end devices for automotive networks are invaluable to this company."

Thomas Moriarty, Firecomms' co-founder and chief engineer adds, "Having respected Dr. Wipiejewski's work for several years, I recognize his decision to join our team as a great vote of confidence in our technology and customer relationships."

#### **About Firecomms Ltd.**

Firecomms, a compound semiconductor company based in Ireland, develops visible light sources and sensors that light the way for next-generation consumer devices, automotive and home networks, and medical equipment. These devices provide the groundwork that will revolutionize optical data communications for small area networks, such as in-car networks and home networks.

Firecomms' unique technology provides its key customers with a major competitive advantage in high-volume consumer electronics, including handheld devices, cell phones, personal computers and laptops. This same technology also is the foundation for critical solutions in the home networking and automotive markets.

Additional information about Firecomms is available at [www.firecomms.com](http://www.firecomms.com).

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#### **Further Information:**

Rene' Williams

Firecomms Ltd.

Tel. 949.360.7770

[rene@firecomms.com](mailto:rene@firecomms.com)

