

## Press release

2011/04/14

Henkel and Holst Centre announce partnership

### Henkel joins Holst Centre research network on flexible electronics

Henkel – the world market leader in adhesives, sealants and surface treatments for consumers, craftsmen and industrial applications, and Holst Centre – an open-innovation initiative by imec (B) and TNO (NL), announce their partnership in the field of flexible electronics. Henkel’s knowhow in adhesives brings a new field of expertise to the Holst Centre’s shared research programs. It aligns with a large number of Holst Centre activities, such as the research towards large-area flexible OPV and OLED lighting and signage.

Adhesives with functional properties like electrical conductivity or moisture barrier protection have great potential in future electronics applications. Think about heterogeneous integration of silicon and plastic electronics. Or lamination and interconnection of functional foils to form working devices such as flexible solar cells (OPV), OLED lighting devices or flexible displays. Henkel plans to bring many of its technologies to these applications, drawing on expertise in electronics adhesives, pressure sensitive adhesives and more.

Within its program on “Integration technologies for flexible systems”, Holst Centre built a track record of generic technologies that can decrease the design complexity of flexible electronic devices and therefore the future cost of fabrication. Henkel adds a new field of expertise to the existing eco-system of industrial partners in the shared research program. Adhesives can potentially impact a large number of the investigated processes.

The partnership allows Henkel to further evaluate and develop its optically clear, electrically conductive and moisture barrier technologies, amongst others, on actual devices and not just on isolated material samples. This makes it more efficient to assess the market readiness of new developments.

Jeroen van den Brand, Program Manager at Holst Centre: “I am really excited about this new partnership with Henkel. It opens up a lot of new options within our technology roadmap. I am looking forward to see the impact on our existing processes and technology choices. As a leading player in the field, Henkel is an excellent party to make rapid progress towards emerging technologies and applications.”

“This partnership brings for Henkel a great opportunity to evaluate adhesives in real (organic) electronic devices, allows us to create and test new adhesive concepts with technical experts in flexible electronics and key future end-users, says Thomas Kostka, R&D Manager at Henkel. “Our customers will also benefit as this allows Henkel to bring innovative fit-for-use technologies significantly faster to the market.”

**Photo material is available at <http://www.henkel.com/press>**

#### **About Henkel**

Henkel operates worldwide with leading brands and technologies in three business areas: Laundry & Home Care, Cosmetics/Toiletries and Adhesive Technologies. Founded in 1876, Henkel holds globally leading market positions both in the consumer and industrial businesses with well-known brands such as Persil, Schwarzkopf and Loctite. Henkel employs about 48,000 people and reported sales of 15,092 million euros and adjusted operating profit of 1,862 million euros in fiscal 2010. Henkel's preferred shares are listed in the German stock index DAX and the company ranks among the Fortune Global 500.

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Henkel AG & Co. KGaA

#### **About Holst Centre**

Holst Centre is an independent open-innovation R&D centre that develops generic technologies for Wireless Autonomous Sensor Technologies and for Flexible Electronics. A key feature of Holst Centre is its partnership model with industry and academia around shared roadmaps and programs. It is this kind of cross-fertilization that enables Holst Centre to tune its scientific strategy to industrial needs. Holst Centre was set up in 2005 by imec (Flanders, Belgium) and TNO (The Netherlands) with support from the Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs and the Government of Flanders. It is named after Gilles Holst, a Dutch pioneer in Research and Development and first director of Philips Research.

Located on High Tech Campus Eindhoven, Holst Centre benefits from the state-of-the-art on-site facilities. Holst Centre has over 170 employees from around 25 nationalities and a commitment from over 30 industrial partners.

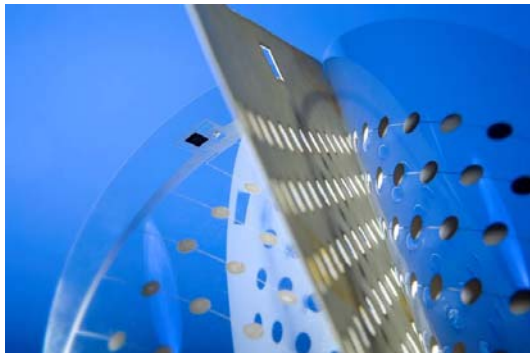
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**The following material is available:**



*Electrically conductive adhesives from Henkel are for example designed for assembly of thin-film solar substrates.*



*At Holst Centre, adhesive technologies are used in a number of activities, such as research towards lamination of functional foils.*