∞ iTec

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Japan's Infinite Technologies Updates Comprehensive Report on Global LCD/FPD Market

Values worldwide market at $60 billion in 2006

TOKYO, JAPAN — JANUARY 18, 2002 — Infinite Technologies, Inc. (iTec), a consulting and market research organization specializing in the information technology industry, announces the impending release of a major update to its LCD/FPD Market Strategies 2001 report. **Global LCD/FPD Market Strategies 2002**, the latest English language revision due for release in April, forecasts that the global flat panel display market will be valued at ¥7.8 trillion ($60 billion) in 2006, of which ¥4 trillion ($31 billion) will be TFT-based displays, and ¥230 bn ($1.77 billion) organic EL displays. The active matrix organic EL market is expected to take off from 2004 onwards according to iTec.

iTec estimates indicate that the worldwide flat panel display market grew 2.3% in 2001 to a value of ¥3.1 trillion ($23.8 billion). The root cause of this relatively low growth level, according to iTec principal George Ohgaki, was the full-fledged start up of large TFT panel lines in Taiwan, which placed considerable downward pressure on prices. And while manufacturers held high hopes for cell phone displays, these hopes were somewhat dashed as the market played a waiting game whereby many consumers put off purchases due to the impending release of CDMA handsets. Profitability-wise, market conditions turned adverse in 2000, and this trend continued throughout 2001, with numerous market players reporting losses.

iTec forecasts that the LCD market for cell phone, PDA, and other portable device applications will grow to ¥960 billion ($7.4 billion) by 2006. Unit prices, however, will likely drop to one-half of their current level, and coupled with excess competition amongst suppliers, sufficient profitability levels will be difficult to maintain. The onus will be on market players to create new application segments, promote value-added strategies, or restructure.

Included in the report are:

1) market forecasts in terms of volume, value, and screen size through to 2006
2) pricing forecasts through to 2006
3) application breakdowns for all forecasts

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4) color display trends
5) manufacturer overviews, market shares, and profit and competitive analyses

A special feature of iTec's latest report is its focus on the LCD business for portable devices such as cell phones and PDAs. The report analyzes display panel costs from the perspective of cell phone costs, analyzes sector profitability, and looks at the relative competitive strengths of market players.

The following display types are covered in detail:

TN-LCD, STN, Color-STN, aSi-TFT, High temperature pSi-TFT, Low Temperature pSi-TFT, Reflective LCD, Plastic LCD, PDP, O-ELD, I-ELD, VFD, FED, LED, DMD, CRT, Flat CRT

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ABOUT INFINITE TECHNOLOGIES

Infinite Technologies, Inc. (iTec) was established in April 1999 by George Ohgaki, previously a consultant at Yano Research Institute. The company's staff of six specialize in analysis of three key areas: information technology; electronics; and new materials.

Major projects to date include consultation on marketing and R&D strategies at major Korean electronic component manufacturers, a study on merger & acquisition targets for European companies in the Japanese automotive component manufacturer sector, a survey on computer peripherals technology, an analysis of management at major U.S. semiconductor manufacturers, and a report on B-to-B and B-to-C E-commerce in Japan.

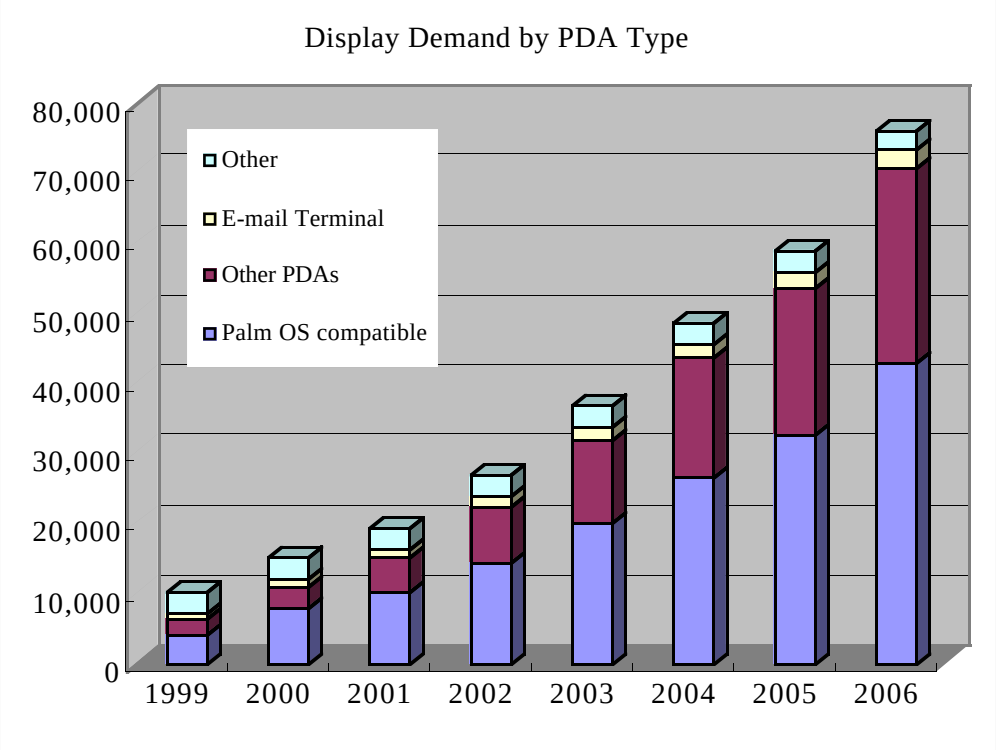
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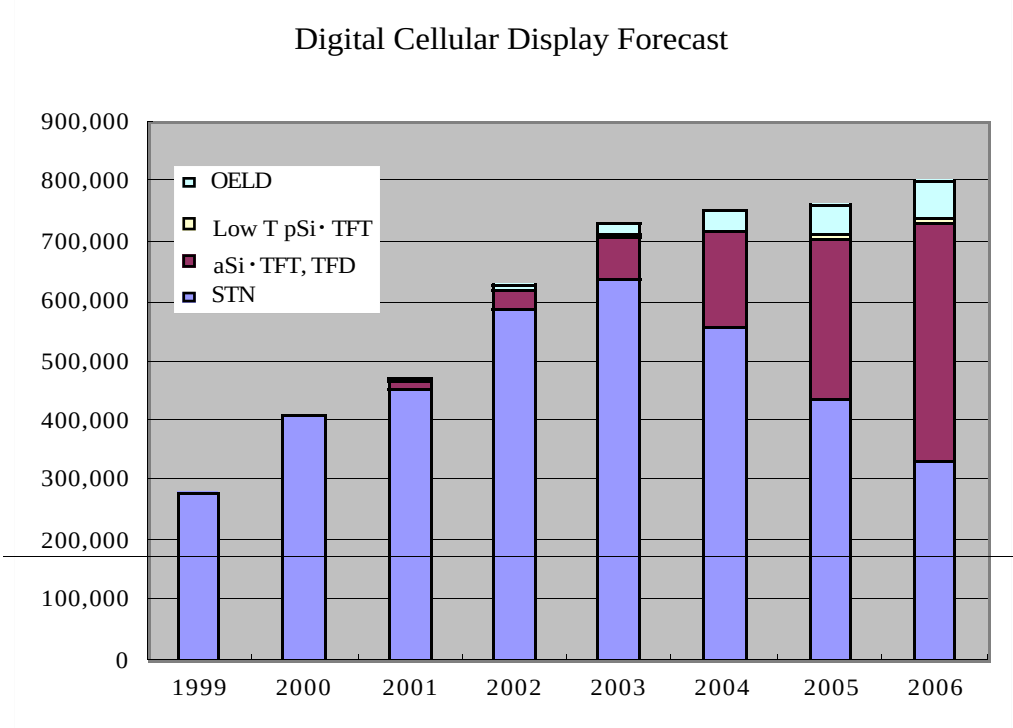
Sample data (Source: Infinite Technologies, 2002)

—Desktop monitor display demand by screen size (1000 units)

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	CAGR
<CRT>									
14"	10,500	6,500	1,000	500	0	0	0	0	-100.0%
15"	31,490	26,500	24,500	18,000	16,000	14,000	12,000	9,000	-16.4%
17"	45,600	58,500	67,500	72,500	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	7.4%
19"	5,500	6,800	7,700	11,500	14,000	17,500	17,800	18,200	18.6%
21"-	3,300	2,980	3,580	3,770	4,100	6,200	6,500	6,800	10.9%
Total	96,390	101,280	104,280	106,270	109,100	112,700	111,300	109,000	1.8%
<STN>									
10-12"	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-100.0%
<Si-TFT>									
10-12" (12.1")	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-100.0%
13"	130	50	20	0	0	0	0	0	-100.0%
14"	1,650	600	400	100	0	0	0	0	-100.0%
15"	2,280	6,000	11,600	17,900	25,900	39,000	51,500	66,000	61.7%
16-18"	100	300	880	1,800	2,800	4,400	6,600	9,600	91.9%
19-20"	0	20	60	140	200	400	600	1,000	
21-24"	10	30	40	60	100	200	300	400	69.4%
Total	4,180	7,000	13,000	20,000	29,000	44,000	59,000	77,000	51.6%
<pSi-TFT>									
15"	0	0	0	0	50	90	150	300	

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—ENDS—

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