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## Electronics in Taiwan: two key successes in TFT-LCD

*press release*

### Contacts :

**Corporate Communication**  
Corinne Estrade-Bordry  
+ 33 (0)1 40 62 51 31

**Investor Relations**  
Virginia Jeanson  
+33 (0)1 40 62 57 37  
Aude Rodriguez  
+33 (0)1 40 62 57 18

**Air Liquide Electronics**  
Caroline La  
+ 886 (0)2 6617 8963

### Air Liquide Far Eastern

Founded in Taiwan in 1987, **Air Liquide Far Eastern** is a joint-venture between the **Air Liquide Group** and the **Far Eastern Group**. With locations in Taipei, Chupei, Hsinchu, Taichung and Kaohsiung, it employs nearly **350 people** mainly dedicated to the **electronics and industrial markets**.

### Air Liquide Electronics

With **3,000 employees** and **€44 million** sales in 2007, Air Liquide Electronics has activities in **ultra-pure** and **specialty gases**, **new molecules**, **related equipment** and **customized services**.

The Electronics division management is based in Tokyo to enhance its proximity to the booming semiconductor market in Asia.

In 2007, Taiwan became the world's leading manufacturer of flat panel displays, with about 45% of the global production. Strong growth is again expected this year, reinforced by the announcement of some new fab projects from the island's main players. **Air Liquide is taking advantage of this growth with two important successes.**

**InnoLux Display Corporation** has signed an agreement with Air Liquide for the supply of ultra pure gases to its future TFT-LCD fab in **Hsin-Chu** Southern Science Industrial Park. As part of the agreement, Air Liquide will supply **ultra pure carrier gases**, including nitrogen produced locally by an on-site **High Purity Nitrogen (HPN) generator**. Operations are expected to start in 2009.

**ChiMei Optoelectronics (CMO)** has also awarded Air Liquide a long-term contract to provide **ultra pure nitrogen** from an on-site generator and carrier gases (oxygen, argon, helium and hydrogen) for its new fab in **Luchu, Kaohsiung**. Air Liquide will also provide and install Electronics Specialty Gases dispensing equipment.

The two High Purity Nitrogen (HPN) generators will be designed and built at Air Liquide's Japanese site located in Harima, near Kobe. **Total investments amount to €15 million.**

**Christophe Fontaine**, Vice-President Electronics Group, declared: **"We are very proud to partner with Innolux and ChiMei, two of the country's first class high tech players. The flat panel display industry is growing very rapidly and will enable us to accelerate our growth in Taiwan and North East Asia."**

*With more than 40,000 employees in 72 countries, Air Liquide is the world leader in industrial and medical gases and related services. The Group offers innovative solutions based on constantly enhanced technologies and produces air gases (oxygen, nitrogen, argon, rare gases...) and many other gases including hydrogen. The Group contributes to the manufacturing of many everyday products: bubbles in sparkling beverages, protective atmosphere for packed foods, oxygen for hospitals and homecare patients, ultra-pure gases for the semiconductor industry, hydrogen to desulfurize fuels...*

*Air Liquide is committed to sustainable development and helps to protect life. Founded in 1902, Air Liquide has successfully developed a long-term relationship with its shareholders built on trust and transparency and guided by the principles of corporate governance. Since the publication of its first consolidated financial statements in 1971, Air Liquide has posted strong and steady earnings growth. Sales in 2007 totaled 11,801 million euros, with sales outside France accounting for almost 80%. Air Liquide is listed on the Paris stock exchange and is a component of the CAC 40 and Eurostoxx 50 indices (ISIN code FR 0000120073).*