Research Triangle, NC, USA, based LED Lighting Fixtures adds three executives. Mike Rogers has been appointed president of LLE; having spent the past 8 years as VP of sales for Cree, Inc. and Cynthia Merrell joins LLF as CFO. Most recently, she served as CFO and treasurer for Cree, Inc., and brings nearly 25 years of experience to LLF and is a Certified Public Accountant.

The third new member is Mike Fallon who has joined as VP sales and marketing. He is the former VP sales for CooperTools, a $500m division of Cooper Industries.

"Mike Rogers is a proven leader," said Neal Hunter, LLF's chairman and CEO. "He's been involved in complex negotiations on a global basis, and he understands the LED business. Cindy Merrell has an impeccable track record as a financial leader and is well respected in the investment community. Cindy will be a key member of our business planning team. Mike Fallon's tenure at Cooper Industries will prove invaluable in our efforts to launch a new product line in an existing distribution structure. He has experienced all aspects of the sales and marketing process."

The company also announced its Board of Directors, consisting of Gerry Negley, CTO; Tony van de Ven, MD, Hong Kong; Cynthia Merrell, CFO, Mike Rogers, president; and Neal Hunter, chairman and CEO.

"These executive appointments bring together a group that is arguably one of the most experienced technology management teams on the East Coast," Hunter added. "We will continue to add expertise from the lighting industry as we finish building our team."

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For more details, visit: www.led-lightingfixtures.com

A name very familiar to readers, Steven J Sharp was recently elected Non-Executive Chairman of Power Integrations’ board of directors. He succeeds Howard Earhart, the company’s CEO from 1995 until 2002, who served as Non-Executive Chairman from 2002 until his resignation in early May. Sharp had served as a director of Power Integrations since the company’s inception in 1988, and is also a member of the board’s nominating and corporate governance committee.

Notably, from 1991 until 2002, Mr Sharp was Chairman and CEO of TriQuint Semiconductor where he currently serves as Non-Executive Chairman. In addition, he is Vice-Chair of the Oregon chapter of the American Electronics Association, and heads a private foundation that funds research to find the causes of ADD (attention deficit disorder).

Sharp is a 45-year veteran of the semiconductor industry and has served in director/officer roles in the formative years of Power Integrations, TriQuint, Megatest (now Teradyne), Crystal Semiconductor (now Cirrus Logic), Silicon Architects (now Synopsys) and Volterra.

Sharp said: ‘I believe that Power Integrations has an extremely bright future as the leader in high-voltage power conversion technology, and I look forward to working with CEO Bhal Balakrishnan as he and his management team continue to execute their growth strategy’. While one familiar name re-emerges - though not in compounds - another takes a step away. IQE plc, the global supplier of customised epitaur products and outsourced wafer services to the semiconductor industry, announced that as part of the normal three yearly re-election of officers by rotation, Dr Mike Scott, currently Sales & Marketing Director, has decided not to seek re-election. He will therefore retire from the Board at the AGM. However, he will continue his involvement with the Group as he has accepted a part-time Group Business Development Advisor role. He had been gradually been reducing his overall Group Sales & Marketing role and his responsibilities have been re-allocated to the Sales & Marketing Executives of the four Group operating companies who will each report directly to Dr Drew Nelson, Group CEO. Mike was one of the founders of E.P.I., the company that subsequently became IQE plc. Prior to that he served in various capacities such as in IR materials and devices R&D at Plessey Research Caswell.

Avago Technologies has appointed Hock E. Tan as president and CEO; he will also join the board of directors. Tan succeeds Dick Chang, who has been named chairman of Avago’s board of directors. Tan has more than 25 years of senior management experience, most notably at Integrated Circuit Systems, Inc. (ICS). In his six-year tenure as president and CEO, ICS became a global leader in silicon timing devices, more than tripling earnings. Under his leadership, Tan also played a critical role in managing the successful merger of ICS with Integrated Device Technology, Inc., last year. Freescale Semiconductor named Arman Naghavi VP and GM of its Analog, Mixed Signal and Power Division overseeing development of the analog and mixed-signal business, with special emphasis on integrated, cost-effective embedded connectivity for automotive, industrial control, and rapidly growing consumer categories. He will be based in Tempe. He had previously worked for 19 years at Analog Devices, where his career spanned worldwide business development and product marketing.

R. Gregory (Greg) Miller has been appointed WJ Communications’ new Chief Financial Officer. He brings 30 years of financial experience from Fortune 500 companies as well as several high-growth corporations. He served most recently as vice president and CFO of California Micro Devices Corp.; he has also held senior financial positions at LSI Logic, National Semiconductor, and Texas Instruments.

Avanex Corp. named Cal R. Hoagland as chief financial officer and succeeds Tony Riley, who served as the company’s acting CFO since September 2005. Riley will continue with the company as VP of finance. Hoagland is a 25-year veteran of corporate finance and accounting and has a proven track record managing and advising...
public technology growth companies. Before joining Avanex, he provided CFO consulting services to public and private companies as a principal at Financial Leadership Group, LLC, a firm specializing in financial management, equity and debt financings, corporate governance and Sarbane-Oxley compliance.

Yoshikazu Isada, Senior Vice President, and Vice President of 5th Systems Operations Unit has been appointed to the NEC Electronics Corporation board of directors, whilst Kaoru Tosaka has resigned from the board. These changes will become effective on June 27, 2006.

Vitesse Semiconductor announced the appointment of Jay Zhang as China Country Manager to drive the growing market demand for the company’s high-performance, cost-competitive semiconductor solutions. As China Country Manager, Mr. Zhang will manage all sales and customer support activities in the company’s newly expanded China operations. Mr. Zhang will report directly to Phil Richards vice president of sales for Asia Pacific.

SiGe Semiconductor announced that Alistair Manley has been promoted from senior director of marketing to VP, partner development. Leveraging over 34 years experience in business development, marketing and sales, Manley will manage worldwide development and communication activities for the company’s strategic reference design partners.

“Alistair has been a tremendous asset to the company over the past four years striking many important alliances with industry-leading technology providers,” commented Jim Derbshire, CEO, SiGe Semiconductor. “We are pleased to announce his new position in partner development, which will further strengthen our business strategy to deliver to OEMs the performance, integration, and power efficiency required for next-generation wireless communications devices.”

Alistair joined SiGe Semiconductor in 2002 bringing with him extensive industry contacts, market knowledge and an impressive background in RF ICs for set-top box, home gateway and wireless applications. Previously, Manley was at Zarlink Semiconductor, where he managed business development, product definition, field sales and training, and strategic accounts for the company’s set-top box and cellular products. Prior to this, Manley held various marketing and engineering positions at Psleys Optoelectronics and Microwave, and Texas Instruments.

Quintessence Photonics Corporation, the subsidiary of QPC Lasers, Inc., manufacturer of high brightness, high power semiconductor lasers, announced that Timothy Franey has joined QPCI as Vice President of Manufacturing as of May 1, 2006.

Mr. Franey brings over 20 years of high tech manufacturing experience to QPCI, including 12 years producing complex laser based products. Tim comes to QPCI from JDSU Corporation where he most recently led the operational integration of JDSU and Lightwave Electronics Corporation, an OEM Manufacturer of Diode Pumped Solid State Laser Products.

“Tim is a highly regarded laser industry veteran with an enviable and well deserved reputation for operational excellence. We are very pleased to welcome Tim to the QPCI team,” stated Jeffrey Ungar, Ph.D., President, Chief Executive Officer and Co-Founder of QPCI.

Brian Cockayne (1936-2006)

It is with great sadness that we record the death of Brian Cockayne, an ex-President of the International Organisation for Crystal Growth (IOCG). He served IOCG as a member of the Executive Committee from 1977 to 1983, then as its Vice President from 1983-89 and finally as its President from 1989 to 1992. Brian was also an early and active committee member of the British Association for Crystal Growth and he went on to become Chairman during the period 1975-77. He fostered the influence of BACG in the international development of crystal growth as a research discipline. He chaired the 8th International Conference on Crystal Growth in York, England in 1986.

He graduated from Birmingham University, England with a first class honours degree and a PhD in Physical Metallurgy. Later he received a DSc from the same University and was appointed an Honorary Professor there. Having lectured at Birmingham University for a couple of years after completing his PhD, he moved to what was then the Royal Radar Establishment (now QinetiQ) at Malvern, Worcestershire, England. His first, and sustained, scientific contribution was in the field of Czochralski growth of high melting point oxide single-crystals, as laser host-lattice materials, as non-linear optical materials and as substrate materials.

From about 1980 he became progressively more involved in III-V and II-VI compounds, first in the LEC growth of InP and of magnetic GaAs-based alloys and later in OMVPE of MnAs and MnAsSB and also of Zn based II-VI epitaxial layers. With colleagues he made pioneering studies of the effects of melt stoichiometry and other growth parameters on defect formation in bulk InP. In 1990, his research team and a team from the UK precursor company, Epichem, jointly won a prestigious UK award – the Queen’s Award for Technology – “for the development of new chemical precursors for crystal growth of oxides and of semiconductors”. He retired in 1996 from the UK Civil Service with the rank of a Deputy Chief Scientific Officer.

To both work and leisure he brought a combination of enthusiasm, leadership, and an unquenchable sense of fun. In retirement, his love of wildlife and of the countryside led to a developing interest in landscape, geology, walking and ornithology, which was cut short by an untimely death. A true gentleman and a devoted husband and family man, he is sadly missed.

Don Hurle
Keith Barracough
Tony Vere
May 2006