

SAES Getters and Aeronex Settle

Aeronex Inc and SAES Pure Gas Inc have fine-tuned their global settlement agreement to end patent litigation which concerned ammonia and hydride purification.

Each party will dismiss their respective patent infringement claims and, additionally, SAES will dismiss its false advertising and unfair competition claims

against Aeronex. SAES originally filed suit charging that Aeronex's line of ammonia purifiers infringed its US Patent No. 5,716,588, while Aeronex counterclaimed that SAES Getters ammonia purifiers infringed its US Patent No. 6,241,955.

Neither party will refund damages, and each will sustain its own attorneys' fees.

Massimo della Porta, SAES Getters Group's CEO, anticipated that: "Aeronex will assign its US Patent No. 6,241,955 to SAES Getters and they will progressively stop manufacturing and marketing purifiers falling under the scope of both US patents No. 5,716,588 and 6,241,955. Until January 31, 2004 Aeronex will be granted a

license under both patents in order to assure customers a smooth transition period."

"We are satisfied with the agreement", said Jeff Spiegelman, CEO of Aeronex. "Aeronex can now focus on its core business objectives. We will continue to help our customers develop critical processes for emerging opportunities."

IOFFE repeats order for Aixtron

IOFFE Physico-Technical Institute has ordered another Aixtron AIX 200/4 system for R&D and the production of epi-structures for solar cell manufacture.

Dr. Vladimir Lantratov, the senior researcher at IOFFE's

Photovoltaics laboratory, said: "Based on the good experience of my colleagues made with the Aixtron MOCVD equipment, at the Semiconductor Hetero-structures Physics laboratory, we have chosen the AIX

200/4 MOCVD system for our research project."

Dr. Bernd Schulte, executive vice president and COO of Aixtron's Compound Semiconductor unit added: "We are very proud to have the

internationally well renowned IOFFE Technical Institute as our partner. We are sure that the AIX 200/4 state-of-the art research tool will soon deliver to IOFFE fast quality results providing excellent film thickness and composition."

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