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## Liquid Crystals Today

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## FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

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# FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

DATE:	CONFERENCE:	VENUE:	CONTACT:
1993 7 — 12 March	European Liquid Crystal Conference	Flims, Switzerland	Dr M Schadt, F Hoffmann La Roche, ZFE/RLC 64/1227, CH 4002 BASEL, SWITZERLAND Fax: 41-61-688-1466
29 — 31 March	British Liquid Crystal Society Annual Conference	Manchester, UK	Prof H Coles, Dept of Physics, Univ of Manchester, MANCHESTER, M13 9PL, UK Fax: 44-61-273-2925
20 — 22 May	Hauptversammlung der Deutschen Bunsen-Gesellschaft: Flüssigkristalle	Leipzig, Germany	Prof H Stegemeyer, Dept of Chemistry, Univ of Paderborn, POB 1621, D-4790 PADERBORN, GERMANY Fax: 49-5251-602519
3 — 5 June	Third International Symposium on Metallo-Mesogens	Castellon, Spain	Dr Mercedes Marcos, Quimica Organica, Facultad de Ciencias- IMCA, Universidad de Zaragoza-CSIC, 50009- ZARAGOZA, SPAIN Fax: 34-76-567920
21 — 25 June	Gordon Conference on Liquid Crystals	Wolfeboro, Mass, USA	Prof J W Doane, Liquid Crystal Institute, Kent State University, KENT, OHIO 44242-0001, USA Fax: 1-216-672-2796
18 — 21 July	First International Conference on Materials Chemistry	Aberdeen, Scotland UK	Prof A West, Dept of Chemistry, Univ of Aberdeen, ABERDEEN AB9 2UE, Scotland, UK Fax: 44-224-272938
27 Sept — 1 Oct	Europhysics Conference on Macromolecular Physics 1993: Transitions in Oligomer & Polymer Systems	Ulm, Germany	Prof Dr H G Kilian, Universität Ulm, Experimentelle Physik, Albert-Einstein Allee 11, D-7900 ULM, GERMANY FAX: 49-731-502-3036
28 Sept — 1 Oct	FLC '93, Tokyo: Fourth International Conference on Ferroelectric Liquid Crystals	Tokyo, Japan	Prof Atsuo Fukuda, Tokyo Institute of Technology, Faculty of Engineering, Dept of Org. & Polymeric Materials, O-okayama, Meguro-ku, TOKYO 152, JAPAN Fax: 81-3-3748-5369
4 — 8 October [NOTE: Changed date]	V International Meeting on Optics of Liquid Crystals	Lake Balaton, Hungary	Dr I Janossy, Central Research Inst. for Physics, H-1525 BUDAPEST 114, POBox 49, HUNGARY Fax: 36-1-1695-380

## **Commercial Comment:** *(continued from front page)*

'Fast' F-STN LCDs were introduced in 1991. The current price for a 10.6 inch, 640 x 480 pixel, monochrome model in quantities of 100,000 is approximately \$215. They have a response time of 220 milliseconds and can display 16 grey levels. Prototypes with even faster operation (120 to 150 milliseconds) have been shown but production of 16 grey level panels with this speed is difficult. The latter types are not expected to be

on the market until 1993.

Prices for 10.4-inch, 640 x 480 pixel, TFT LCDs are high because yields are lower than originally hoped for; however prices are expected to drop to approximately \$1,500 by the end of 1992. Larger screen TFT-LCDs (14 to 15 inches) are still unlikely to appear until 1994 or 1995. The 10.4 inch, 1,024 x 768 pixel, TFT LCD is in the prototype stage, but the price for a 256-colour model is expected to be

approximately \$3,000, although 100,000 unit quantities are several years away.

During the next five years, liquid crystal displays will dominate in portable/transportable computers as well as portable/table model colour TV in the 5-9 inch screen size range. Cost will still be the major problem facing the high information content LCD industry and the one major factor which will limit market penetration.