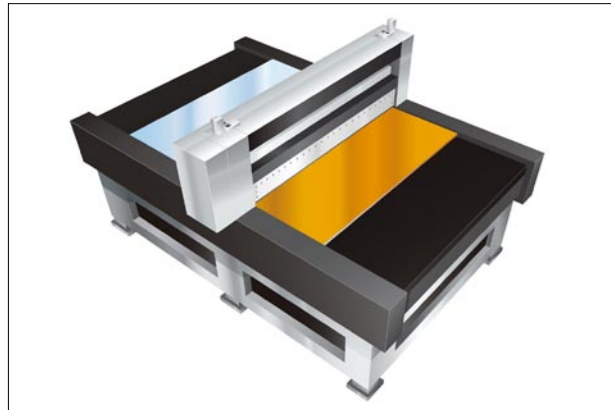


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## **Development of New Coating System for Large Glass Substrates** *— Utilizing Levitated Transfer Technology and Coating Technology to Improve Productivity and Reduce Running Costs —*

Kyoto, Japan — December 1, 2010 — Dainippon Screen Mfg. Co., Ltd., today announced the development of the Levicoater<sup>®</sup>, a new coating system that employs proprietary levitated transfer technology and coating technology to handle large glass substrates. The Levicoater will be incorporated in SK series coater/developers for flat panel displays (FPDs), which will go on sale from December 2010.



### **Levicoater<sup>®</sup>**

Please download the photo from  
<http://www.screen.co.jp/press/nr-photo/indexE.html>

In the LCD panel market, alongside the trend towards larger screens and 3D in LCD TVs, demand is expanding in emerging nations, with panel sizes expected to grow and demand forecast to expand further in the future. In response to these trends, panel manufacturers are aiming to improve production efficiency and enhance cost competitiveness by ramping up investment in production line facilities for eighth-generation glass substrates (2,200 x 2,500 mm), and are actively preparing for the introduction of facilities for handling tenth-generation (2,850 x 3,050 mm) and larger substrate sizes.

Anticipating these industry trends, Screen quickly developed the Linearcoater<sup>®</sup>, a slit-type coating system, in 2003. Incorporated mainly in eighth-generation coater/developers, the Linearcoater became the driving force that helped Screen's SK series coater/developers earn the leading share of the global market. The newly developed Levicoater is an advanced system based on the Linearcoater's proven technology and track record that is capable of handling further increases in substrate size. Inheriting the Linearcoater's superb coating performance, it employs proprietary levitated transfer and coating technology that lifts the glass substrate using pressurized air and moves it as a fixed nozzle applies photoresist. Compared to its predecessor, the Levicoater delivers a 20 percent improvement in productivity and reduces photoresist use by up to 20 percent. As the glass substrate does not have to be attached to the stage (coating platform), contaminants can be prevented from adhering to its rear surface and static during substrate removal can be reduced, ensuring stable coating

performance that contributes to improved yield. Moreover, as the stage can be split up for transport, it can address the transport issues associated with tenth-generation systems and beyond.

With the development of the new Levicoater, Screen will contribute to the development of the continually evolving FPD industry and the trend towards larger and larger substrates.