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As AUO's CTO, **Dr. Luo** is dedicated to developing a system of intellectual property rights and innovations, leading the company to become Taiwan's top applicant and assignee for patents among the TFT-LCD industry for both 2003 and 2004. Under his leadership, AUO accumulated a great quantity of patents within recent years leading to the "Outstanding Industry Contribution Award", to AUO's Chief Technology Officer, Dr. Fan Luo.

In 1974, Dr. Luo successfully developed the world's first TFT-LCD panel during his stay in the United States, a significant historical breakthrough for the flat panel industry. Known as the pioneer of TFT-LCD, he was first to apply TFT-LCD panels onto avionic applications. From 1997 to 2003, as Director of SID, Taipei Chapter, Dr. Luo had greatly contributed in promoting Taiwan's technological standards and uplifting its international positioning in the TFT industry. He served as Chairman of Technology Committee and the Principal Investigator for the Advanced Research Project, TTLA (Taiwan TFT LCD Association) leading various research activities.

## **Key Note**

## The World Is Flat: The Taiwan experiences

Since 1998, Taiwan has built up a major TFT-LCD manufacturing industry from practically nothing. This year, Taiwan has ranked number one in the number of manufactured TFT-LCD panels in the world. How have they done it? This paper will analyze the factors driving the Taiwan's TFT-LCD developments from an insider's point of views.