



LCD module maker Ampire to run at full capacity in July on AUO orders

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With orders from AU Optronics (AUO) for its TFT LCD modules (LCMs), Ampire will be running at full capacity in July, according to sources.

AUO needs around one million small- to medium-size LCMs from LCM makers while Ampire takes up around one third of the order amount, the sources noted.

Ampire plans to expand its capacity in the fourth quarter, with the newly-increased capacity to mainly come from a plant in Dongguan, China, the sources added.

The monthly capacity at Ampire currently stays at 1.5 million units for small- to medium-size LCMs, with own LCM production accounting for 70-80% of Ampire's capacity, the maker said. In the future, Ampire will allot 25% of remaining capacity for outsourcing orders from other panel makers, the maker added.

The company is now seeing steady shipments of modules for TFT LCDs, STN LCDs and color STN (CSTN) LCDs, with modules mainly shipped to makers in China, Europe and the US, Ampire said. With the gross margin for the segment approaching 20%, the maker will still aim at keeping the proportion of its overall shipments of own LCM production at 70-80% in the second half of 2007, Ampire noted.

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