

Research with **Market Proximity**



More than 180 research and development specialists from virtually every Schott production location worldwide recently spent two days at the headquarters in Mainz discussing innovation projects and market proximity.

Lively participation in an original atmosphere: The Schott technology conference took place for the first time in one of the company's production areas.

“**O**ur innovation pipeline is well stocked”, said Schott Management Board member Dr. Udo Ungeheuer at the Schott World Technology Conference. “Now it is a question in the next stage of successfully positioning these various initiatives in the market.” The meeting, which lasted for two days, brought together research and development specialists from throughout the Schott world to discuss products, markets, ideas and plans for the future.

Topics included high-tech optical materials for the semiconductor industry of the type manufactured for example by Schott Lithotec AG in Jena. Schott Lithotec is one of the leading manu-

facturers of optical materials and components for microlithography and is currently achieving an annual growth of 25 percent. Another company which is making very positive progress is Schott Advanced Processing which has successfully established itself with a new generation of laser cutting machines for clean rooms.

Since the acquisition of Schott Applied Power Corporation, the photovoltaics business counts as one of Schott's most promising innovation projects, with facilities in Washington, California and Massachusetts. Schott know-how in coating processes is a current focus in the new Schott HiCotec unit.

Dr. Ungeheuer: “Schott is on the right road. There is an increasing awareness outside the company of its transformation into an innovative high-tech company.”

Chairman of the Schott Management Board Dr. Leopold von Heimendahl, who stressed the importance of technology in fulfilling Vision 2010, also made the following point: “A yardstick for our success is always our customers' success in the marketplace” ■



Praise for the heavy emphasis of R & D: Carl-Zeiss-Stiftung Commissioner Dr. Heinz Dürr.

A round of discussion with Dr. Udo Ungeheuer (2nd from right), the Schott Board member responsible for research.

Good spirits and motivating lectures at the conference and workshops.

Appealing for the realization of Schott's Vision 2010: Chairman of the Board Dr. Leopold von Heimendahl.