

Dr. Andrew J. Ouderkirk

Dr. Andrew J. Ouderkirk earned a PhD. in Physical Chemistry from Northwestern University in 1983. He worked at Du Pont from 1983 to 1985, and started with 3M's Corporate Research group in 1985.

Andy formed and led the team developing 3M's Multilayer Optical Film (MOF) technology platform. MOF products have wide-ranging, innovative applications, such as light-polarizing products, ultra high efficiency light reflectors, and wavelength-selective products. The lead MOF product, Dual Brightness Enhancement Film (DBEF), is the world's first commercially successful reflective film polarizer. DBEF is now being widely used in LCDs in applications ranging from mobile phones to large displays. Other major applications of MOF include window films, Smart Cards, and solar lighting.

The MOF opportunity was identified and developed in 3M using a new framework for managing market-disruptive products. Andy is one of the lead developers of this framework, called New Business Platform Architecture. Under Andy's leadership, its most recent application is in the development of advanced LED technologies and LED-based mobile projection systems within 3M, and it has resulted in the introduction this year of the world's first handheld LED illuminated projector.

Andy is an inventor on 149 issued US patents and more than 40 publications and invited presentations. Recognition includes the 2000 Fast Company Fast 50 award, the 2003 Finance and Commerce Innovator of the year, and the 2004 American Chemical Society National Award for Creative Invention. He was elected into the US National Academy of Engineering in 2005.

Andy is a 3M Carlton member, is a corporate scientist, and currently serves as the technical director for 3M's Projection Systems Department.