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According to DisplaySearch Q4 2011 LCD 3DTV panel shipments total 7.8M with 26% Q-o-Q growth-- with 2011 3DTV panel shipments reaching 21.2M, or 10% of total LCD TV panel shipments for the year.

As a result panel makers are predicting strong 138% Y-o-Y growth for 2012 3D panel shipments, or 50M units shipped with a penetration rate of 21.6% of all LCD TV panel shipments.

“As brands continue to promote 3D, end-user awareness and interest is growing. While there are still concerns about the lack of 3D content and services, as well as end-users' needs, LCD TV panel makers have pushed 3D capability via lower prices and the introduction of new, cost-effective technologies,” the analyst says.

Shutter glass technology accounts for 6.2% of total 2011 LCD TV shipments while patterned retarder shipments make 3.9%, with DisplaySearch forecasts saying 2012 penetration rates will increase to 11.6% for shutter glass and 10% for pattern retarder.

Panel makers are also aggressively promoting 3D monitor panels for consumer entertainment and gaming PCs. In 3D LCD monitor panels, pattern retarder manufacturers are more aggressive than shutter glass makers. Panel makers are targeting shipments of more than 1.5M per quarter from Q2 2012-- up from 235K in Q4 2011.

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