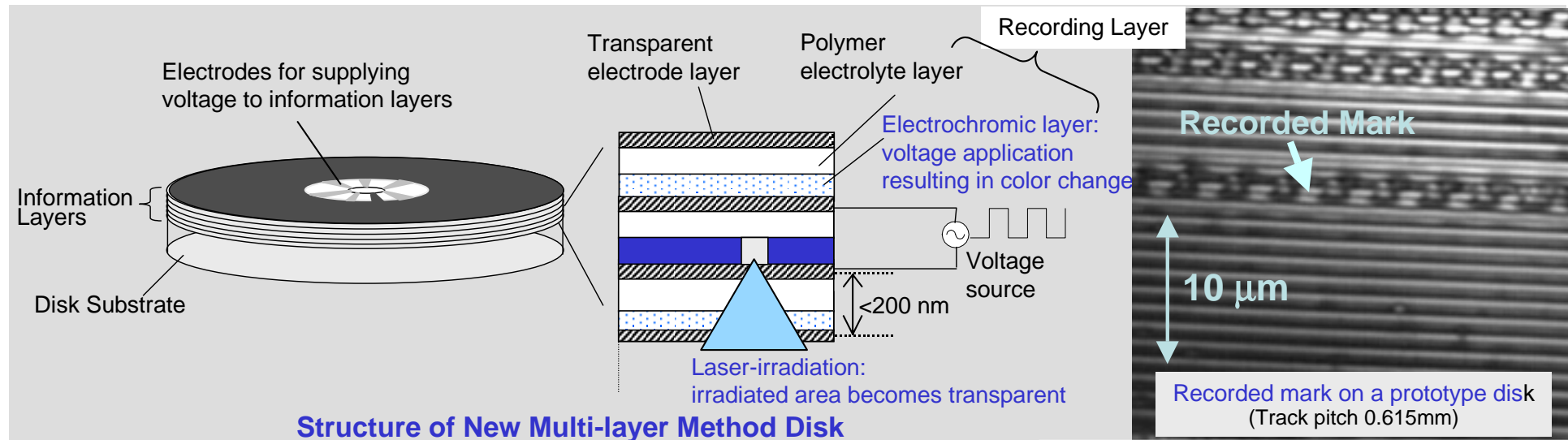


2003/5/16 Release

Development of basic technology for terabyte-class optical disk with new concept multi-layer method - Use of electrochromic material in the information layers -



The R&D Group of Hitachi, Ltd. (President: Dr. NAKAMURA Michiharu) in conjunction with Hitachi Maxell, Ltd. (President: Mr. AKAI Norio) have developed fundamental technology for a new concept multi-layer optical disk which can achieve terabyte level memory capacity. This technology enables read-write in a multi-layer structure up to 100 layers, by adopting the use of an electrochromic material which changes color upon voltage application in the information layers, and by causing non-target information layers to become transparent during write/read. As the demand for increased optical disk memory capacity continues to increase, this fundamental technology will open the road to achieving ultra-large capacity through multi-layering.