1046-46-243 **Dietmar Bisch*** (`dietmar.bisch@vanderbilt.edu`), Vanderbilt University, Department of Mathematics, SC 1326, Nashville, TN 37240. *The Free Product of Planar Algebras.*

Given two planar algebras $\mathfrak{A}$ and $\mathfrak{B}$, one can define a new planar algebra $\mathfrak{A} * \mathfrak{B}$, the *free product* of $\mathfrak{A}$ and $\mathfrak{B}$. We explain this construction and discuss properties of this planar algebra. Applications to the structure theory of subfactors will be presented as well. This is joint work with Vaughan Jones. (Received August 22, 2008)