

Michelson Diagnostics Goes Into Non-Medical Market

Kent, UK (cb) – Reacting to strong customer demand, Michelson Diagnostics Ltd (MDL) announced broadening the commercial application of its unique ‘multibeam’ Optical Coherence Tomography (OCT) technology into markets outside its core target of cancer diagnosis. These include such diverse areas as industrial metrology, product inspection, tissue engineering and developmental biology. „We are reacting to customers who have realised that the superior image definition provided by our patented multi-beam OCT technology is very advantageous in their applications“, said MDL CEO Jon Holmes. „For a given depth of focus, you get twice the resolution, (or, for a given resolution, four times the focal depth), compared with single beam OCT systems – which means crisper, clearer images.“ He cited applications such as MEMS metrology, inspection of

ceramic composite materials and industrial coatings, fine art conservation, gemstone quality, stem cell research and dentistry as examples. The company currently markets OCT microscope, the only commercially available OCT product with < 10 µm lateral resolution, by virtue of its multi-beam optical design. Holmes is keen to emphasise that medical imaging remains a central objective of MDL. „We are developing clinical products for launch in 2009,“ he said, „and we are looking for business partners with experience in other fields to collaborate with or license to, allowing us to maintain our focus on cancer.“ MDL, which has offices in Kent and the West Midlands, was founded in 2006 by Jon Holmes and four other ex-employees of Sira, the photonics instrumentation company.

www.md-ltd.co.uk

Bausch & Lomb and 20/10 Perfect Vision Intend to Form Joint Venture

Rochester, N.Y. and Heidelberg, Germany (cb) – Bausch & Lomb, the global eye health company, and 20/10 Perfect Vision AG, the femtosecond laser developer, intent to form a joint venture focused on the laser vision correction industry. The joint venture will combine the refractive eye surgery assets of both businesses, delivering 20/10 Perfect Vision’s promising new technology for the correction of presbyopia in conjunction with Bausch & Lomb’s development expertise and worldwide commercial reach.

The transaction is expected to close by the end of 2008. Financial terms will not be disclosed.

„We believe that our investment of assets in the joint venture will help advance the refractive industry, benefiting ophthalmologists and patients worldwide,“ said Gerald M. Ostrov, chairman and chief executive officer, Bausch & Lomb.

„20/10 Perfect Vision’s development of presbyopia-correcting treatments using its FEMTEC femtosecond laser – when paired with our proven refractive products, R&D insights and global sales and marketing resources – holds tremendous potential to stimulate growth in corneal refractive surgery.“

„We are excited about this unique opportunity to form a global company committed to focusing on refractive laser surgery,“ commented Dr. Kristian Hohl, executive president of 20/10 Perfect Vision. Bausch & Lomb currently develops and manufactures refractive surgery products and related diagnostics products. 20/10 Perfect Vision develops and markets the FEMTEC femtosecond laser workstation, whose unique properties make possible proprietary, non-invasive intrastromal refractive procedures.

www.2010pv.com

Carl Zeiss Acquired Startup Nanoscribe

Oberkochen/Germany (cb) – The young company Nanoscribe GmbH emerged in December 2007 from the work group of Professor Dr. Martin Wegener at the Institute for Applied Physics at the University of Karlsruhe and the Karlsruhe Research Center has developed a highly innovative laser direct write procedure for 3D nanostructuring. In addition to the investment, Carl Zeiss is also providing know-how. „Carl Zeiss is going down a new road by supporting the young researchers and entrepreneurs at an early stage in the founding of the company not only financially, but also with our knowledge and corresponding technology,“ explains Dr. Michael Kaschke, Member of the Executive Board at Carl Zeiss AG. At the same time, this ensures the company’s involvement in a pioneering technology. The still young discipline of

3D laser lithography is applied in micro and nano photonics, the life sciences, biotechnology and in microfluidics. Carl Zeiss company has acquired on 30 September 2008 approximately 40 percent of Karlsruhe startup Nanoscribe GmbH. Martin Hermatschweiler, one of the founders and executive directors, comments: „Nanoscribe has the potential to open up new fields of application in optical technologies. The partnership with Carl Zeiss is a milestone along the way.“ Carl Zeiss has worked with the company since 2007. It delivered its first system at the end of June 2008. Professor Martin Wegener, one of the founders and scientific consultants of the startup, received the Carl Zeiss Research Award in 2006.

www.zeiss.de

Coherent Reports Fiscal Q4 Results

Santa Clara, CA, USA (fv) – Coherent announced financial results for its fourth fiscal quarter ended September 27, 2008, posting net sales of \$ 142.0 million and net income, on a U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) basis, of \$ 4.1 million, compared to net sales of \$ 158.9 million and a net loss of \$ 1.3 million for the fourth quarter of fiscal 2007. The gross profit amounts to \$ 55 million.

„An unprecedented set of macroeconomic events led to a disappointing fourth quarter, especially within the microelectronics segment. While there will be ample debate over the timing of a market recovery, we have taken a number of actions to help Coherent weather and emerge from the current environment with a strong product portfolio, income statement and balance sheet.“ said John Ambroseo, Coherent’s President and CEO.

We remain fully committed to expanding EBITDA as evidenced by our recent announcement regarding the consolidation of our Munich facility into our Göttingen site. Coupled with our planned exit from our Auburn, California facility, the annual benefits from these two footprint moves will be \$ 8–10 million with the full run-rate savings beginning in July 2009. While these are key elements to EBITDA expansion, revenue and mix are equally important. Based upon current market conditions, it will be difficult to achieve the revenue and product mix assumptions in the original EBITDA plan. Accordingly, the shape of an economic recovery will be the ultimate arbiter of our EBITDA performance exiting fiscal 2010,“ Ambroseo said.

www.coherent.com

China Inaugurates World's Largest Schmidt Telescope



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(Source: SCHOTT)

Mainz, Germany/Xinglong, China (cb) – The largest Schmidt Telescope in the world was put into operation on October 16, 2008. The festive opening ceremony held at Xinglong Observatory, in the northeast of Beijing, near the city of Nanshuangdong, was attended by many leading international astronomers. LAMOST (Large Sky Area Multi-Object Fiber Spectroscopic Telescope) underscores China's claim to having achieved a leading position in astronomical research. A 6-meter primary mirror consisting of 37 hexagonal mirror segments made from the "Zerodur" glass ceramic from Schott, represents the heart of the approximately 40 million Dollar telescope. The same material is used in the 2.4 meter mirror of the Lijiang Telescope, which was put into operation last year at the Gaomeigu Observatory in the Chinese province of Yunnan. The operator of the LAMOST telescope is the Chinese Academy of Sciences. LAMOST is a reflecting

Schmidt Telescope with an active corrective mirror. An active control system ensures that the mirror segments of LAMOST always project a clear image onto the focal plane when the telescope covers a different area on the sky. LAMOST collects the light from distant and faint celestial objects and galaxies at an observation angle of 5 degrees and projects it onto the primary mirror made of "Zerodur" that bundles this light inside the focal plane 20 meters away. Here, 4,000 fibers guide the light to 16 spectrometers that measure the wavelengths of light of between 370 and 900 nanometers, in other words somewhat more than the spectrum of visible light. LAMOST is the only large telescope in the world that has so many parallel spectroscopic channels and, thus, underscores China's claim to having achieved a leading position in astronomical research.

www.schott.de

Jenoptik Posts First 9-Months Results

Jena, Germany (fv) – Sales of the Jenoptik Group for the first nine months rose by 6.1 percent to 397.4 million euros (prev. year 374.7 million euros). Exports accounted for 56 percent of total sales (prev. year 57 percent). Group EBIT (result from operating activities before interest and taxes) rose at a markedly higher rate in proportion to sales by 16 percent to 24.6 million euros (prev. year 21.2 million euros).

The positive development of results is attributable to the Defense & Civil Systems segment which was able to significantly increase the EBIT as a result of the increase in sales and a different product mix. In 2008 it is benefiting from increased demand for security systems. Sales rose by 18.7 percent to 152.1 million euros (prev. year 128.1 million euros). The order intake rose by 19.1 percent to 134.4 million euros as against 112.8 million euros for the same period in the previous year.

The development of the Laser & Optical Systems segment, particularly in the 3rd quarter 2008, is characterized by the heightening crisis in the semiconductor sector. The segment was able to rely on a very good 1st quarter 2008. In addition, other activities, e.g. the photovoltaics systems of the Lasers & Material Processing division were able to partially offset the fall in the semiconductor market. Sales

of the segment totaled 153.3 million euros and, with 3.9 percent, were just below the figure for the same period in the previous year (prev. year 159.5 million euros). The order intake totaled 153.7 million euros (prev. year 160.7 million euros).

The Metrology segment benefited in particular in the 2nd and 3rd quarter 2008 from a revival in the international market for traffic safety technology as well as from the restructured global positioning of the Industrial Metrology division. Despite the weak dollar the segment posted an increase in sales of nearly 5 percent to 87.0 million euros (prev. year 82.9 million euros). In the 3rd quarter alone the growth in sales was 24 percent compared with the previous year's quarter. Based on this sales increase and following a negative result of minus 1 million euros in the 1st half-year, as expected, the segment now reported a positive result of 2.0 million euros although, as had been anticipated, it was still unable to repeat the figure achieved in the previous year (prev. year 3.9 million euros). The reason for this is the massive expansion of the Traffic Service Providing in the USA which still has an impact on the result.

www.jenoptik.com

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Laser Institute of America Honors Andreas Ostendorf

Bochum, Germany (eb) – November 6, 2008 Prof. Dr.-Ing. Andreas Ostendorf has been appointed a fellow of the renowned Laser Institute of America (LIA), where he has also been acting president since January. With the title "Fellow", the LIA honours Andreas Ostendorf for his 10-year membership in the LIA, for his contributions to international laser research and the worldwide networking of laser-related universities and research institutions. Ostendorf holds the chair for laser applications technology at the RUB (faculty of mechanical engineering) as of October 1, 2008. With his main focus on laser applications technology, he has been researching new applications in micro- and nanotechnology and in biomedical engineering using femto-second laser pulses. Andreas Ostendorf studied electrical engineering in Hannover from 1989 to 1994. In 1995 he joined the Laser Zentrum Hannover, where he was active in various functions, his most recent post being that of speaker of the board. He is also a member of various collaborative research centres (CRC) and research groups. This includes the CRC/



Prof. Dr.-Ing. Andreas Ostendorf
(Photo: Damian Gorczany)

TR 37 "micro- and nanosystems in the medical reconstruction of biological functions" and the CRC 675 "Creation of high-strength metallic structures and joints by setting up scaled local properties". The LIA is a global alliance of researchers and users from the field of laser technology with 1,300 members. The title of "Fellow" expresses a special bond of the institute to its long-standing members, and pays tribute to their academic contributions and their services in the field of international technology transfer.

www.pm.rub.de

OSA Confers Honorary Title Upon Adolf Lohmann

Erlangen, Germany (eb) – The OSA Emmett N. Leith Symposium was organised by the Max-Planck Research Group and the OSA Student Chapter, University of Erlangen-Nuremberg on October 24, 2008 at the University in Erlangen. The inaugural Leith Medal, given for influential contributions to the field of optical information processing, was awarded to Prof. Dr. Adolf W. Lohmann for his seminal contributions to the fields of optical information processing and holography. Life and Work of Emmett Leith was introduced by Dr. Rod C. Alferness, President of the OSA and Chief Scientist, Bell Laboratories, Alcatel-Lucent. Adolf Lohmann was born 1926 in Salzwedel, Germany. He attained his MSc and PhD in physics at Hamburg University and worked as assistant and associate professor at the Technical University Braunschweig from 1953–1963. From 1961–67 he worked for IBM in San Jose, California, and from 1967–1973 at the University of California in San Diego. He returned to Germany in 1973 and held the newly created chair of applied optics at the University of Erlangen until his retirement



Prof. Dr. Adolf Lohmann
(Photo: OSA)

in 1992. He invented a method for creating computer holograms over 40 years ago. He has worked extensively with colleagues from Israel, Mexico, Sweden, the USA and Germany. He has been recognized for his contributions to optics with, among others, the Max Born and C. E. K. Mees Awards of the OSA, the President's Award of the SPIE, and the German Federal Medal of Merit. He is a member of the Swedish, Chinese and Bavarian Academies of Science.

www.optik.uni-erlangen.de/osasymposium

Carl Zeiss Meditec Reorganises Business Management

Jena, Germany (eb) – Medical technology supplier Carl Zeiss Meditec AG is expanding the management of its strategic business units. In doing so the company is creating a further important prerequisite for accelerating its expansion course as announced. James L. Taylor, hitherto Head of the SBU Ophthalmic Systems, will be leaving the company for personal reasons on September 30, 2008. He will continue to be available to Carl Zeiss Meditec as a consultant in strategic, organisational and clinical application-related matters. The regional focus will be placed on the US market.

With effect from October 1st, 2008, Board Member Dr. Ludwig Monz has been appointed new Head of the SBU Ophthalmic Systems. He was previously responsible for the SBU Neuro/ENT Surgery, which he successfully set on a profitable expansion course. In his new position Dr. Ludwig Monz intends to further expand the innovative power of Ophthalmic Systems, which includes diagnostic and therapeutic systems for ophthalmology, thereby securing the long-term success of this business unit.

Dr. Ludwig Monz is concurrently handing over the helm of Neuro/ENT Surgery to Thomas

Simmerer. Thomas Simmerer joined Carl Zeiss Meditec on September 1st, 2008. He has gained broad experience in medical technology, of late at Dräger Medical AG & Co. KG, where he held various managerial positions, most recently serving as head of a business unit.

The management of the SBU Surgical Ophthalmology is to remain in the hands of Dr. Christian Müller. He has been responsible for this unit since 2006. During this time he has actively and successfully promoted its expansion and implemented the integration of Acritec.



Dr. Ludwig Monz, Head of the SBU Ophthalmic Systems
(Source: Carl Zeiss Meditec)

www.meditec.zeiss.com