

ePulse: Laser Measurement News

The true measurement of laser performance



ePulse: Laser Measurement News May 2011

Welcome to **ePulse: Laser Measurement News**, a review of new developments in laser beam measurements, beam diagnostics, and beam profiling. Each issue contains industry news, product information, and technical tips to help you solve challenging laser measurement and spectral analysis requirements. Please forward to interested colleagues.

Business News

Ophir Expands Facilities, Launches New Corporate Branding

Ophir has announced the launch of a new corporate branding strategy that further integrates the company's complete line of laser measurement instruments, from power and energy meters to beam profilers to goniometric radiometers. These products will now form the core of the new Ophir Photonics Group. In addition, the company has expanded its Logan, Utah facility by 30%. It features state-of-the-art beam profiling design, manufacturing, testing, service, and a power and energy service and calibration lab. [Read the article.](#)

25% Discount to Upgrade LBA to BeamGage®

Many customers of our past flagship beam profiling product, LBA, have yet to take advantage of the improvements and new features of BeamGage, the LBA replacement. BeamGage is the industry's best beam profiling product. We want to reward our loyal customers by extending a 25% discount on upgrades from LBA-FW or LBA-USB to BeamGage Standard, BeamGage Professional, or BeamGage Enterprise. US customers only. Offer valid til June 30, 2011. [Read the article.](#)

Ophir Upgrades CREOL Support to Senior Member

Ophir-Spiricon has joined with CREOL as a Senior Member of the Industrial Affiliates program. Since 1987, the Center for Research and Education in Optics and Lasers at the College of Optics and Photonics at the University of Central Florida, has been a center of excellence in research and education in optics and lasers. As part of the Affiliates Program, CREOL has formed strong bonds with industry and become a major force in Florida's laser and photonics community. [Read the article.](#)

Tutorials

Measuring Laser Position & Pointing Stability

Beam profilers are often used to verify the performance of laser and optical systems to avoid problems caused by bad alignment or to streamline the manufacturing processes of these devices. They have the capacity to tell where the beam is located on a detector, and different types of profilers can do this with varying degrees of accuracy and precision. But there is a lot to this measurement and what can be learned about a laser's performance. [Read the article.](#)

Video of the Month

Easy Setup of an Ophir Power Meter and Sensor

It's easy to measure your laser with an Ophir power meter and sensor. This video demonstrates setup of an Ophir Vega meter with a photodiode and thermopile sensor to measure the power and energy of a laser beam. [Learn more by watching the video.](#)



New! Webinar

How-To Training on BeamGage Beam Profiling, June 15, 2011

This 60 minute session on BeamGage Standard will demonstrate how to navigate the system and how to make the most common beam profiling measurements. E-mail questions before the session to kevin.kirkham@us.ophiropt.com. We will address them during the training or before the questions that are submitted live, during the webinar June 15, 2011, 8:00 am MST. [Register for the webinar training today.](#)

2011 Power Meter & Beam Profiling Catalogs

Download the 2011 Ophir-Spiricon Laser Measurement Catalogs today. Tutorials and products in [Power Meters](#) and [Beam Profiling](#).

Laser Puzzle

[Try your hand at this issue's Laser Puzzle.](#) All entries will receive a 2GB pen drive. The

Talking White Paper: How to Select a Laser Power or Energy Sensor

The selection of a sensor to accurately measure the power of a laser or the energy of a pulsed laser can seem like a simple procedure. However, many times the selection process leaves out several essential criteria of the laser specs. This can lead to the wrong laser selected. Follow these three steps to sensor selection. [Read the article.](#)

Applications

Resistances in Applying Industrial Laser Beam Characterization Techniques

Lasers have proven one of the most promising technologies, but with each advance comes more complex applications. This means end users, especially in industrial applications, must dedicate time to studying the technologies in order to proactively maintain their laser systems and ensure the highest quality processes. In some cases, laser manufacturers and integrators help, but often even they do not take advantage of the information tools like laser beam characterization. [Read the article.](#)

BeamCube Measures Laser Welding in Medical Devices

BeamCube is becoming popular as a one-stop product for measuring the performance of laser welding systems used in the manufacture of medical devices. Low to medium power laser weld parameters can be simultaneously measured, recorded, and monitored for compliance to federal requirements and manufacturing limits. [Read the article.](#)

Technical Tips

Automation in Your Face: Let Machines Do What Machines Do Best

How did this whole concept of an "automation interface" come about? In the beginning, all programs were simple. As new features were added, it became time consuming to search menus for recently used functions. Thus the impetus for a way to repeatedly execute the same sequence of actions multiple time. [Read the article.](#)

Beam Profiling: Do You Have the Latest Version of Your Software?

Do you have the latest version of your software? Many times problems can be fixed by using the latest update. Check to compare your version number. [Download the latest for free.](#)

Power Meters: Fiber Adaptor Accessory

When using a Fiber Adapter accessory together with one of Ophir's sensors, it is important to be aware of the power/energy density that is going to reach the sensor's surface. [Read the article.](#)

FAQs

Beam Profiling

The M2-200 has reached its "end-of-life" and will no longer be available after July 1, 2011. Ophir will continue to repair it indefinitely. [Read the FAQ.](#)

I get an error message when loading NanoScan software version 1.44 and later. How do I resolve the issue? [Read the FAQ.](#)

Why can't my Dell laptop with an integrated webcam detect my Ophir-Spiricon provided camera in BeamGage? [Read the FAQ.](#)

How do I get the Pyrocam III to operate with Windows 7? [Read the FAQ.](#)

grand prize winner will receive an iPad 16GB WiFi. E-mail answers to sales@us.ophiropt.com. Need a hint? E-mail kevin.kirkham@us.ophiropt.com

Here are the [answers to the last issue's puzzle](#). The winner was **Scott Woltman, Laser Engineer, Microvision, Inc.** "As an innovator of scanned beam laser displays, MicroVision takes great care to characterize and optimize the beam properties of each of our laser sources. From analyzing the performance of individual lasers to checking the quality of our beams on the manufacturing line, we have a wide variety of uses for these measurement systems" - Scott Woltman

Trade Shows

[Laser World of Photonics](#)

May 23-26, 2011
Munich, Germany
Hall B2 Stand 257

[MD&M East: Medical Device & Manufacturing](#)

June 7-9, 2011
New York, NY

[OSA Imaging Systems & Applications](#)

June 11-13, 2011
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

[OSA Advanced Photonics Congress](#)

June 13-15, 2011
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

[SPIE Optics + Photonics](#)

August 23-25, 2011
San Diego, CA

Free Laser Measurement Equipment

That's right. If you're an end user of our laser equipment, let's hear about it and how you use it in your application. You can write the whole article or you can collaborate with our talented writers. In exchange, we can negotiate you receiving one of our latest innovative instruments, detectors, or profiling cameras and software to use in your lab. For power/energy meters, e-mail burt.mooney@us.ophiropt.com and for beam profilers, e-mail kevin.kirkham@us.ophiropt.com

Power/Energy Meters

My new power meter packing list indicates a 12VDC charger line item, but I don't see it in my package? [Read the FAQ.](#)

What's New

BeamGage® Adds Support for 64-bit Processing & Large Format Cameras

BeamGage version 5.5, the company's next generation laser beam analysis software, now supports 64-bit versions of Windows® Vista and Windows 7. It also supports the USB L11058 Large Format Beam Profiling Camera. [Find out more.](#)



[Many products available next business day in US](#)

Innovative Developments to be Introduced at Laser World of Photonics

Ophir Photonics Group will feature first of its kind power/energy measurement and beam profiling systems at Laser World of Photonics 2011 in Munich, Hall B2 Stand 257. Among the new products is the **BeamTrack Series**, the industry's first thermal sensors that combine power and energy measurement, beam position, and beam size in a single, compact device. The company will also introduce the **Pyro-C Series** of compact, pulsed laser power/energy sensors. They provide the lowest measurable energy, longest measurable pulse, and highest accuracy among competitive products. [Find out more.](#)

In a few nanoseconds, you'll be telling the laser world about your application using our equipment and a femtosecond or two later you'll be logging your data on our equipment like the Nova II, Vega, Quasar or BeamGage.

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About Ophir-Spiricon, LLC

Ophir-Spiricon is part of the Ophir Photonics Group. With over 30 years of experience, the Photonics Group provides a complete line of instrumentation including power and energy meters, beam profilers, spectrum analyzers, and goniometric radiometers. Dedicated to continuous innovation in laser measurement, the company holds a number of patents, including Ultracal™, the baseline correction algorithm that helped establish the ISO 11146-3 standard for beam measurement accuracy. The recently acquired Photon family of products includes NanoScan scanning-slit technology, which is capable of measuring beam size and position to sub-micron resolution. The company's modular, customizable solutions serve manufacturing, medical, military, and research industries throughout the world.

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3050 North 300 West, North Logan, UT 84341
Tel: +1 435-753-3729
www.ophiropt.com/photonics