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Ophir-Spiricon Announces Next Generation Laser Beam Analysis System; Features Beam Simulator, Auto Camera Control, and Custom Algorithms

January 27, 2009 – San Jose, CA – Ophir-Spiricon, the global leader in precision laser measurement, today at Photonics West 2009 announced BeamGage™, the next generation of laser beam analysis systems. BeamGage is the industry’s first beam profiling software to be newly designed, from scratch, using the most advanced tools and technologies. BeamGage is based on UltraCal™, Ophir-Spiricon’s patented baseline correction algorithm that helped establish the ISO 11146-3 standard for beam measurement accuracy. BeamGage provides high accuracy results, guaranteeing the data baseline (zero-point reference) is accurate to 1/8th of a digital count on a pixel-by-pixel basis.

BeamGage features BeamMaker™, a revolutionary beam simulator that enables users to numerically model expected results and confirm that their beam will be measured accurately, even before the beam experiment is constructed. BeamGage also provides a unique Auto Aperture camera control function that allows for faster application setup. The software also provides the widest range of calculations and supports custom algorithms to provide the best fit for individual applications.
“A beam’s size, shape, uniformity, or approximation to a Gaussian distribution can make or break an application,” stated Gary Wagner, President, Ophir-Spiricon Inc. “The beam profile must be optimized at the application level. This ensures accuracy, avoids hot spots or misaligned laser cavities, and allows beam shaping for such applications as laser welding. BeamGage includes all the accuracy and ISO approved quantitative results that made our LBA software so successful. It then adds the BeamMaker simulator, automatic camera control, custom algorithms, and a user-configurable interface that allows users to adjust the complexity of the entire system. The result is the most innovative, accurate, flexible, and user-friendly beam measurement system on the market.”

**Beam Simulator**

**BeamGage** contains a unique utility that models a laser beam. **BeamMaker** permits the user to numerically derive a beam profile by specifying the mode, size, width, height, intensity, angle, and noise content. Users can then analyze expected results and confirm BeamGage will accurately measure the beam even before the experiment is constructed.

**Quick, Easy, User-Configurable**

Setup is fast and easy using the **Auto Aperture** function in **BeamGage**. The software automatically adjusts to maximize the dynamic range of the lumens on the camera array and to keep the beam as close to, but not at, saturation levels. No more complex beam sampling prep. Instead, users are up and running quickly, taking measurements faster than any other profiling system on the market.

**BeamGage** also provides a configurable interface that allows functions to be turned on and off with a click. Complexity can be adjusted to meet the needs of a wide range of operators. The system can be configured for simplicity or to run the full range of technical features.

**Wide Range of Calculations**

**BeamGage** provides the widest range of quantitative calculations to ensure accurate profiling. Algorithms are provided for power/energy, spatial results, divergence, Gaussian fit, and histograms. A complete set of calculations also provides 1D and 2D tophat measurements.

**BeamGage** permits the user to employ custom calculations for best fit to an individual application. These user-defined computations are treated like the standard calculations. They can be displayed on the monitor, logged with results, and included in hard-copy reports.

The system also allows the user to configure the displayed calculations, set-up the screen layout, and password-protect the configuration. This permits secure product testing, ensures security in production environments where plant floor personnel interface with the system, and assures the validity of the data for Statistical Process Control (SPC).
Matching Beam Profiling and Power Meters
An industry first – marrying a beam profiling system to a power meter – BeamGage can be interfaced to an Ophir power meter for power/energy calibration. BeamGage matches the time stamps of the laser power readings to the beam profile data with a similar time stamp.

Enhanced Interface and 3D Graphics
Based on Microsoft® Vista, BeamGage operates in either 64-bit or 32-bit mode for faster processing. Enhanced 3D graphics improve data rendering. Support for the Ribbon toolbar and dock-able windows and panels allow the user to customize the display to take advantage of available monitor space, whether a laptop or a multi-monitor desktop computer. BeamGage supports a wide selection of cameras with FireWire (1394) and USB interfaces.

Pricing and Availability
BeamGage is available now. OEM pricing available on request.

The BeamGage data sheet can be downloaded at:

About Ophir-Spiricon
Established in 1978, Ophir-Spiricon is part of the Ophir Optronics Laser Measurement Group. The Laser Measurement Group provides a complete line of instrumentation including power and energy meters, beam profilers, and spectrum analyzers. 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 company’s modular, customizable solutions serve manufacturing, medical, military, and research industries throughout the world. For more information, visit www.ophir-spiricon.com

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