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Ophir-Spiricon Introduces M² Beam Propagation Software, the KPI of the Laser Industry, for Pyrocam™ Pyroelectric Laser Beam Profiling Cameras

EDITORS: High resolution images are available for download at http://www.telesian.com/marketing/vpr/os/os021616-01.cfm

February 16, 2016 – San Francisco, CA – Ophir Photonics, a Newport Corporation company celebrating 40 years of excellence as the global leader in precision laser measurement equipment, today at SPIE Photonics West 2016 announced new M² Beam Propagation software for the Pyrocam™ family of pyroelectric laser beam profiling cameras.

Designed for measuring laser quality, the software incorporates M² calculations that predict how a laser will focus and beam propagation parameters (BPP) that describe how the laser diverges as a function of the beam waist width.
The M\textsuperscript{2} Beam Propagation software allows manual collection of 2D laser beam profiles for CW and pulsed lasers from 13 nm to 350 nm and from 1 to 3000 µm. Calculations include: beam width, M\textsuperscript{2}, BPP, divergence angle, Rayleigh length, astigmatism, asymmetry ratio, average power, and spot size. The software makes ISO 11146 compliant laser beam propagation measurements using the Ultracal\textsuperscript{TM} baseline correction algorithm. It also includes propagation curves of the X and Y axes, as well as averages and statistics for all calculations.

“There are many different ways for laser manufacturers to measure laser efficiency and many different values to check,” said Gary Wagner, General Manager (U.S.), Ophir Photonics. “M-Squared measures how a laser beam behaves when focused with a lens and has become the KPI of the laser industry. Our new M\textsuperscript{2} Beam Propagation software is the only commercially available M\textsuperscript{2} analysis product that covers the difficult to reach UV and far IR spectral regions. Most analysis products cut off at 266 nm in the UV. With the M\textsuperscript{2} Beam Propagation software and a Pyrocam camera, you can measure the performance of lasers with wavelengths as short as 13 nm.”

Pyrocam Beam Profiling Cameras

The M\textsuperscript{2} Beam Propagation software works with the Pyrocam beam profiling cameras. They feature a sensitive, 160 x 160 pixel image array that can profile beams up to ½-inch (12.8 mm) without the need for reduction optics. Both pulsed and CW (continuous wave) lasers can be measured, including CO\textsubscript{2} lasers, telecom NIR lasers, and THz sources. An integral focal plane chopper is included for CW beams and thermal imaging.

The Pyrocam cameras allow users to see the beam for dynamic alignment and proper operation. For high-speed applications, they include an interface to GigE (Gigabit Ethernet) cameras. A 16-bit A/D converter provides reliable measurement and analysis of both large signals and low level signals in the wings of the laser beam. A signal to noise ratio of 1000:1 means beams of 30 mW/cm\textsuperscript{2} are easily visible.

The Pyrocam is available in two versions: Pyrocam IVs and Pyrocam IIIHR, a smaller-format OEM version. Pyrocam ships with the M\textsuperscript{2} Beam Propagation software and BeamGage®, the company’s advanced laser beam analysis software that includes more than 55 measurements and calculations, many based on ISO standards.
Availability & Pricing
The M2 Beam Propagation Software for Pyrocam IIIHR and Pyrocam IVs pyroelectric laser beam profiling cameras is shipped as part of the camera systems. OEM prices available on request. Pyrocam Data Sheet: http://ow.ly/Y8Y2G

About Ophir Photonics
With over 35 years of experience, Ophir Photonics, a Newport Corporation company, 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 the R&D 100 award-winning BeamTrack power/position/size meters; BeamWatch®, the industry’s first non-contact, focus spot size and position monitor for lasers in material processing; and Spiricon’s Ultrcal™, the baseline correction algorithm that helped establish the ISO 11146-3 standard for beam measurement accuracy. The Photon family of products includes NanoScan scanning-slit technology, which is capable of measuring beam size and position to sub-micron resolution. The company is ISO/IEC 17025:2005 accredited for calibration of laser measurement instruments. Their modular, customizable solutions serve manufacturing, medical, military, and research industries throughout the world. For more information, visit http://www.ophiropt.com/photonics

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