



For Immediate Release  
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### **NP Photonics Receives National Recognition**

The Association of University Research Parks (AURP) has honored NP Photonics, a Tucson optics company, as Research/Science Park Company of the Year for 2005.

The prestigious award is presented annually to a company located in a research or science park "that has developed products that show significant potential for successful commercialization or already have met with great success in the marketplace."

NP Photonics is a University of Arizona faculty spin-off company, founded in 1998 by UA Optical Sciences Professor Nasser Peyghambarian and Assistant Research Professor Shubin Jiang.

The company is using innovative glass and fiber technology to design, produce, and deliver a new class of advanced optical light sources. Its products are primarily for use in the security, military, oil, gas, utilities, and R&D markets.

"We're very proud to have been selected as the Research/Science Park Company of the Year," says Pat Edsell, CEO of NP Photonics. "I think it recognizes how far we have come since we were founded in 1998 and how difficult it was to get here. We are committed to making NP Photonics a very successful optical sensing company."

NP Photonics is located in the University of Arizona Science and Technology Park. At its inception, the company had four employees and occupied 1,000 square feet of office space. Today, it employs 40 people and occupies 18,000 square feet of space, including offices, laboratory and clean rooms, and its own on-site fiber optic drawing tower.

Bruce Wright, UA Associate Vice President for Economic Development and Chief Operating Officer of the University of Arizona Science and Technology Park, believes that NP Photonics exemplifies the challenges that many new technology companies face.

“The company initially focused on applications for its proprietary laser technology in the telecommunications market,” says Wright. “Following a worldwide downturn in the telecomm market in 2000, they were forced to reformulate their marketing strategy. Their success in developing new applications for their patented glass and fiber technology has been responsible for the company’s remarkable accomplishments.”

Past recipients of the Research/Science Company of the Year Award have included MapInfo (NY, 2004), Biotage (VA, 2003), BackboneSecurity.com (PA, 2002), and Integrated Genomics (IL, 2001).

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