



Press Release

For Immediate Release
April 6, 2004
Tucson, AZ

NP Photonics Appoints Former Spectra-Physics' CEO Patrick Edsell as President and CEO

TUSCON, AZ – April 6, 2004 – NP Photonics, a leading innovator of advanced micro fiber products for sensing and scientific applications, today announced the appointment of Pat Edsell as president and CEO. Pat brings over 20 years of senior executive experience in the optical and microelectronics manufacturing industries to NP Photonics.

Previously, Pat was President and CEO of Gigabit Optics Corporation, an integrated photonics company, where he restructured the company and brought customer focus to the forefront, resulting in over 40 customers and more than 20 design wins as well as obtaining Telcordia qualification for all Gigabit products.

Prior to Gigabit Optics, he was chairman, president and CEO of Spectra-Physics, Inc. (NASDAQ: SPLI), for 11 years during which time he was responsible for positioning the company as the premier global supplier of broad-based laser technology to the telecom, computer/microelectronics manufacturing, medical, graphics and research markets. During this period, he orchestrated a turnaround that resulted in the company becoming profitable, increasing the annual revenue from \$80 million to \$210 million. Additionally, he guided Spectra-Physics through its initial public offering in 1997.

"We are very pleased to have Pat as part of our team," said Nasser Peyghambarian, chairman and founder of NP Photonics. "His track record of creating and operating profitable, customer-focused teams along with his vast experience in the laser industry will be integral to our company's continued success."

About NP Photonics

NP Photonics, an advanced micro fiber technology company, designs and manufactures a unique line of compact and low-cost fiber laser modules, bench top systems and broadband ASE sources. The company began in 1998 as a spin-off of the University of Arizona's Optical Sciences Center with a charter to commercialize a simpler and less expensive method of amplifying light based on its unique glass and fiber technology. NP Photonics' products are being deployed in fiber sensing, defense, telecommunications and scientific applications. www.npphotonics.com

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