

This Week in PHOTONICS

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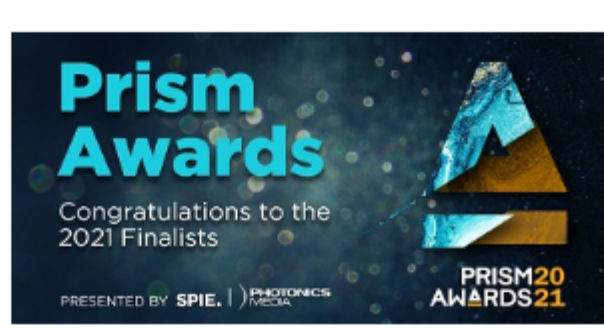
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SPIE and Photonics Media Announce Finalists for 2021 Prism Awards

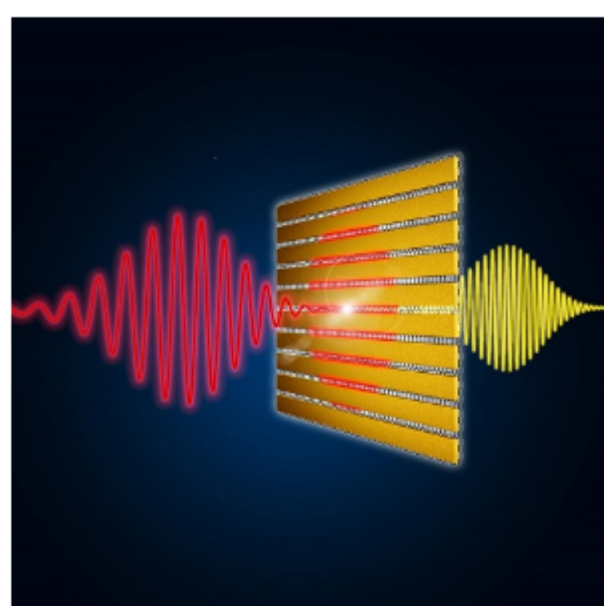
Industry giants and emerging challengers will be honored at the Prism Awards in a March 2021 virtual ceremony. The Prism Awards recognize industrial innovation in photonics in multiple categories. For the consideration of the 2021 Prism Awards, SPIE and media partner Photonics Media received 149 applications from 18 countries.



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Material System Uses Graphene, Gold to Generate Terahertz Waves

A German-Spanish research team has developed a graphene-based approach for increasing the efficiency with which the scientists were able generate terahertz pulses. In the system, the researchers coated a graphene sheet with a metallic lamellar structure — specifically, gold lamellae.



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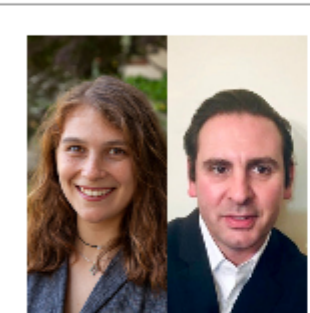
Grants Support RIT Imaging Scientists in Waveform Lidar, Remote Sensing Projects

Imaging scientists at the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) received nearly \$400,000 in grants to support three projects aimed at improving the way scientists can use waveform lidar to study forests. Jan van Aardt, from RIT's Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science, received a \$194,000 award from the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) and a \$197,000 award from NASA for two interrelated remote sensing projects.



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:: Photonics Spectra Conference



Nanostructured antireflective surfaces for high-power laser applications
Presentation: Nanostructured Surfaces: An Alternative to Thin-Film Antireflection Coatings
Presented by: Rebecca Silver and Luigi Verdoni, Edmund Optics

As an alternative to thin film antireflective coating, nanostructured antireflective surfaces rely on the process of reactive ion etching — a dry etching technology that uses plasma to enable materials to be etched into optics. The surfaces deliver a broad bandwidth, as well as high laser-induced damage thresholds (LIDTs), making them suitable for applications involving high-powered laser systems.

Edmund Optics' Rebecca Silver and Luigi Verdoni lead a presentation on the subwavelength structures, discussing their high tunability and identifying applications best served by the technology. The session will cover how the manipulation of manufacturing parameters and specifications — including wavelength, angle of incidence, and LIDT — can be carefully tuned to deliver optimal performance.

The presentation is part of the Lasers track of the inaugural *Photonics Spectra* Conference. Presentations will introduce the latest trends and technologies from across the photonics landscape. Registration remains open.

The *Photonics Spectra* Conference starts on Tuesday, Jan. 19, and runs through Friday, Jan. 22. Registration is free for the event, which is offered exclusively online.

For more information and to register, <https://events.photonics.com/Event.aspx?EID=1>.

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:: Featured Products



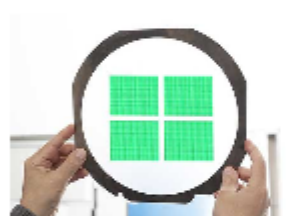
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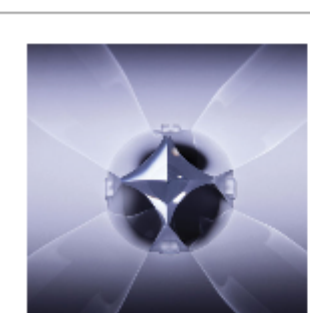
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:: Upcoming Webinars



Virtual Reality Optics: Present and Future

Thu, Jan 14, 2021 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM EST

This webinar with Pablo Benitez, Ph.D., professor at the Technical University of Madrid, will cover present solutions for VR optics in the market to the most advanced proposals, including an introduction to additional challenges to be tackled in next generation designs.

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