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Highlights from the March 2013 issue of Photonics Spectra



Photonics Companies Go Green, Naturally

Optoelectronics firms worldwide are going green by recycling, reducing energy use and even installing solar panels to be good to the planet and their communities while helping their bottom lines. It's only natural. Sustainability is a growing theme in global business, politics and culture, thanks to evidence for climate change and the pressure exerted on the Earth's limited resources by a growing population. The motivations of photonics companies to participate in sustainability efforts are similar to those of businesses in general.

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Lasers Help Fabricate Solar's Future

Solar cells turn light into electricity. So it's fitting that electricity converted into light - a laser - plays a vital role in making solar cells. Through laser scribing, isolating and etching, many solar cells made today undergo light-driven material removal during manufacturing. Researchers are investigating ways to improve and extend these processes, further boosting the performance while cutting the cost of solar cells.

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New Multi- and Hyperspectral Cameras Cover Diverse Applications

A new snapshot multispectral imager enables real-time, dynamic applications; its sister line-scan hyperspectral imager handles applications demanding high speed and high spatial/spectral resolution. Both solutions use monolithically integrated Fabry-Perot filters on top of an image sensor for low cost, compactness and high speed.

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MicroLED Arrays Find Applications in the Very Small

LEDs are now ubiquitous in everyday life. Deployed initially as infrared communication devices, LEDs now are used as visual indicators, in displays and even for general lighting. However, although the use of LEDs in applications over wide areas has been a long-sought goal, only now are they being extensively exploited to illuminate very small areas.

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Multispectral Optical Coatings Are Tough, Versatile for IR Applications

Hybrid diamondlike carbon (h-DLC) coatings for multispectral use combine the hardness of protective DLC coatings with the multispectral functionality of high-end IR coatings. Optical coatings are used in numerous industrial applications for optical components. Besides the optical properties, the mechanical properties of these coatings play a significant role in the functionality of the optical component.

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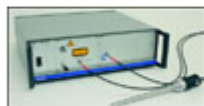


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Products from this Issue



Raman Spectrometer System
tec5USA, Inc.



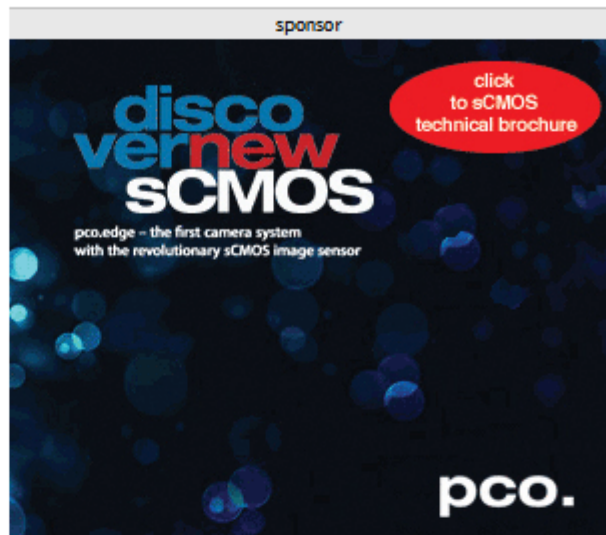
High Resolution Lenses
Edmund Optics, Inc.



Imaging System
Photron USA, Inc.



Made for Harsh Environments
AOS Technologies AG



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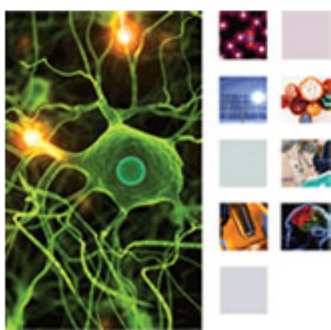
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