PHOTONICS spectra

Worldwide Coverage: Optics, Lasers, Imaging, Fiber Optics, Electro-Optics, Photonics Component Manufacturing

April / 2012

Smarter Cameras Keep Watch

www.Photonics.com

PHOTONICS) MEDIA

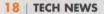
PHOTONICS spectra

April 2012

TABLE OF CONTENTS



NEWS & ANALYSIS



Photonics Spectra editors curate the most significant photonics research and technology headlines of the month – and take you deeper inside the news. Featured stories include:

- Avalanche of emissions creates first atomic x-ray laser
- Tunable optical filter uses nanoantennas
- New resonator overcomes obstacle to ultimate nanolaser

32 | FASTTRACK Business and Markets Making Ottawa the World's Photonics Center

45 | GREENLIGHT New solar cells are more efficient

18

COLUMNS

10 EDITORIAL

98 | **PEREGRINATIONS** The physics behind the fizz

DEPARTMENTS 79 | BRIGHT IDEAS

95 | HAPPENINGS

97 | ADVERTISER INDEX



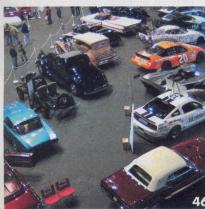
4

THE COVER Contributing Editor Hank Hogan's article on surveillance/security cameras inspired this month's cover. Design by Senior Art Director Lisa N. Comstock. **PHOTONICS:** The technology of generating and harnessing light and other forms of radiant energy whose quantum unit is the photon. The range of applications of photonics extends from energy generation to detection to communications and information processing. Volume 46 Issue 4

www.photonics.com

FEATURES

66



46 | CONNECTED AND SMARTER, CAMERAS KEEP WATCH

by Hank Hogan, Contributing Editor In all types of surveillance and security applications, IP-based digital cameras are quickly supplanting closed-circuit television.

52 | CONSCRIPTING TERAHERTZ SENSORS

by Lynn Savage, Features Editor

The versatility of the terahertz range inspires government researchers and others to undertake the slow process of developing its applications.

58 | MULTIBAND OPTICAL FILTERS FIND APPLICATIONS OUTSIDE FLUORESCENCE

by Jason Palidwar and Catherine Aldous, Iridian Spectral Technologies Besides bioanalysis, applications for multiband dielectric filters now include entertainment, astronomy and telecommunications.

62 | THE NIGHT GLOWS BRIGHTER IN THE NEAR-IR

by Danny De Gaspari, Jan Veldeman, Patrick Lamerichs, Siegfried Herftijd, Patrick Merken and Jan Vermeiren, Xenics NV Airglow is most intense in the short-wave infrared range, so this regime is ideal for night-vision applications.

66 HOW TO EVALUATE A MEASUREMENT APPLICATION'S REQUIREMENTS

by C.W. "Ron" Swonger, Coherix Inc. Dimensions and material composition aren't the only factors to consider when optimizing a noncontact metrology solution.

70 | DEFENSE, SECURITY SHOW TARGETS BALTIMORE

by Laura S. Marshall, Managing Editor A new venue for this SPIE conference and trade show will benefit both exhibitors and attendees.

PHOTONICS SPECTRA ISSN-0731-1230, (USPS 448870) IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY Laurin Publishing Co. Inc., Berkshire Common, PO Box 4949, Pittsfield, MA 01202, +1 (413) 499-0514; fax: +1 (413) 442-3180; e-mail: photonics@photonics. com. TITLE reg. in US Library of Congress. Copyright ® 2012 by Laurin Publishing Co. Inc. All rights reserved. Copies of Photonics Spectra on microfilm are available from University Microfilm, 300 North Zeeb Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Photonics Spectra articles are indexed in the Engineering Index. POST-MASTER: Send form 3579 to Photonics Spectra, Berkshire Common, PO Box 4949, Pittsfield, MA 01202. Periodicals postage paid at Pittsfield, MA, and at additional mailing offices. CIRCU-LATION POLICY: Photonics Spectra is distributed without charge to qualified scientists, engineers, technicians, and management personnel. Eligibility requests must be returned with your business card or organization's letterhead. Rates for others as follows: \$122 per year, prepaid. Overseas postage: \$28 surface mail, \$108 airmail per year. Inquire for multiyear subscription rates. Publisher reserves the right to refuse nonqualified subscriptions. ARTICLES FOR PUBLICATION: Scientists, engineers, educators, technical executives and technical writers are invited to contribute articles on the optical, laser, fiber optic, electro-optical, imaging, optoelectronics and related fields. Communications regarding the editorial content of Photonics Spectra should be addressed to the managing editor. Contributed statements and opinions expressed in Photonics Spectra are those of the contributors - the publisher assumes no responsibility for them.