

SPIE AND LAURIN PUBLISHING PRESENT THE 2008



# Prism Awards

FOR PHOTONICS INNOVATION



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*For immediate release  
28 January 2009*

## **SPIE and Laurin Publishing name Sensor Electronic Technology, Inc. among Prism Awards winners at SPIE Photonics West 2009**

*Photonics innovations honored*

SAN JOSÉ, CA, USA – 28 January 2009 – SPIE, the international society for optics and photonics, and Laurin Publishing, publisher of Photonics Media, have announced Sensor Electronic Technology, Inc., a Columbia, SC based company as the winner of the 2008 Prism Award for Photonics Innovation in category of Light Sources.

Winners of the Prism Awards, the premier competition for the photonics industry worldwide, were announced Wednesday night at a banquet in the San José Convention Center held during SPIE Photonics West, the largest event in the field.

The Prism Awards, introduced for the first time in 2008, recognize the best in innovative technology within the multi-billion dollar business of optics and photonics. A distinguished panel of 28 independent judges, acknowledged as experts in their respective fields, selected the winners from more than 130 entries.

Sensor Electronic Technology, Inc. (SET, Inc.) won the award for its new Deep UV Light Sources, which is III-Nitride semiconductor based Light Emitting Diodes (LEDs) and lamps with peak wavelengths in the range from 240 nm to 365 nm. Dr. Remis Gaska, co-founder, President and CEO accepted award on behalf of SET, Inc. "We are excited about the category we won the award in: "Other Light Sources". Not to diminish other categories, I would like to emphasize that they are very specific, say,

lasers, detectors, etc. Therefore, we feel that except "limited product space" defined by those 8 other categories, we won the whole thing!", said Dr. Gaska in his acceptance speech. He continued, "We wish Prism Award a great future success and to become a major industry event that we celebrate. We see two major reasons for that. First reason is that it is a great forum to cultivate a healthy spirit of competition and for small companies take on large entities and even win. The second reason is that our company won first award and, therefore, will always remain the first in the event's history. Therefore, long live Prism Award!".

The development of Deep UV Light Sources at SET, Inc. has been supported by the Army Research Laboratory (M. Wraback), National Science Foundation (J. Figueroa, T. Allnutt, W. Haines), Defense Advanced Research Project Agency (J. Carrano, H. Temkin), Department of Homeland Security (A. Hultgren), Army Research Office, South Carolina Launch! and South Carolina EPSCoR/IDeA.

"The successful launch of the Photonics Prism Awards demonstrates how committed we are to the future of photonics technology and its impact on the planet for years to come," said Thomas Laurin, vice president of Laurin Publishing. "Response to the awards in the first year was very strong, and the products and processes submitted for review are world-class. They reflect both the leadership and expertise of the organizations in this field."

"These winning inventions demonstrate the remarkable creativity of the photonics community, the restless inventive energy that is what SPIE is all about," said SPIE CEO Eugene Arthurs. "I expect that many of these or their derivatives will be successful new products — the lifeblood of any company. They will help customers be more effective and so be a part of the great photonics enterprise that has already contributed so much to enhance our lives and that will play an increasingly important role in a sustainable future."

More information about the Prism Awards for Photonics Innovation can be viewed online at <http://spie.org/x33555.xml>, [www.PrismAward.org](http://www.PrismAward.org), [spie.org/photonics-west.xml](http://spie.org/photonics-west.xml) and [photonics.com](http://photonics.com).

Laurin Publishing is located in Pittsfield, MA, with additional offices throughout the world. Under Photonics Media, the company publishes *Photonics Spectra*, *Biophotonics International*, *EuroPhotonics*, *The Photonics Showcase*, *The Photonics Directory*, *Photonics.com*, The online *Photonics Directory* and five electronic newsletters: *Planet Photonics*, *LEDs/Light Sources*, *Security*, *Remote Sensing* and *Vision/Imaging*. For more information, visit [www.photonics.com](http://www.photonics.com).

SPIE is the international optics and photonics society founded in 1955 to advance light-based technologies. Serving the interests of its more than 188,000 active constituents representing 138 different countries, SPIE acts as a catalyst for collaboration among technical disciplines for information exchange, continuing education, publishing opportunities, patent precedent, and career and professional growth. As the organizer and sponsor of approximately 25 major conferences and education programs annually in North America, Europe, Asia, and the South Pacific, SPIE provides publishing, speaking, and learning opportunities on emerging technologies. SPIE contributes more than \$1.6 million annually in scholarships, grants, and other programs supporting research and education around the world. For more information, visit [SPIE.org](http://SPIE.org).