

Innovative Solutions for Laser Applications

Based in Lannion, Brittany, in France, *Ideoptics SAS* is a new photonics industry start-up, squarely focussed on optical and laser instrumentation. The company brings to the table profound expertise in the fields of optics, lasers, materials, electronics, real-time embedded software and mechanical design, and is in the process of developing, manufacturing and marketing innovative technology for laser-based industrial high-speed marking, engraving and drilling applications.

Ideoptics SAS was established in November 2010 and is based at the Anticipa Optics Cluster in Lannion, northern Brittany. At the time of writing, the company is testing the waters for its groundbreaking technologies, meeting and greeting potential customers at key international trade shows like LASER World of PHOTONICS 2011 in Munich, where our magazine has the opportunity to talk to Alain Chardon, co founder and Chief Technology Officer. He reports: *"We have yet to go into full production and are currently sounding out the market. Here at the LASER World of PHOTONICS, we have already generated a wealth of promising contacts."*

The key competence of the company is high-speed scanning for industrial applications. Its MDS (Multi-Dot-Scan)[™] system is a highly innovative scanhead technology for

on-the-fly and high-speed marking, engraving and laser drilling. With its unique architecture, utilising a proprietary combination of reflective optics mounted on brushless motors that operate in stationary regime with high rotation speeds, MDS technology offers industry unsurpassed production rates for processes in which matrix-shaped distribution of laser shots must be generated.



We spoke to Alain Chardon, CTO, at the LASER World of PHOTONICS trade fair

Ideoptics MDS system is characterised by very short commutation times between angular laser shots, independently of the angular deviation value, outstanding precision whatever the marking or drilling speed, a design adapted to

laser processes that operate in continuous flow and exceptional-quality optics and electronics components.

Using the same principle, MDS technology can replace conventional galvo-controlled mirrors to deviate a laser beam along the X and Y axes in high-speed laser (dot) processing. As the commutation time is independent of the angular shift between two deviation angles, a factor of five in speed, and therefore productivity, can be gained for small deviation angles, and even more for large deviation angles.

MDS represents a promising novel technology for marking and engraving of data matrix, dot matrix and A/N traceability codes on packaging for the pharmaceutical, food processing, cosmetics, electronics and photovoltaic industries. Says Alain Chardon: *"Ours is truly an outstanding new technology, based on comprehensive development work and exceptional product quality."*



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