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IVAM Mid Week-Coffee July 2021

Photonic Curing – A versatile Application from  
Curing to Lift-Off

Uwe Kriebisch

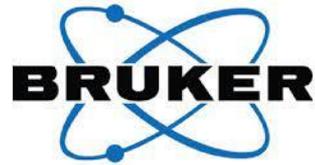
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# Outline

- Merconics Market
- Photonic Curing Principles
- Photonic Soldering
- Photonic Lift-Off
- Photonic Printing
- Questions

# Merconics Market & Partners



**NEXTIN**  
Solutions

Semiconductor  
Inspection Systems



**INSPECTROLOGY**

**OPTOMECH**<sup>®</sup>  
Production Grade 3D Printers... with a Material Difference



**NOVACENTRIX**<sup>®</sup>

**Veeco**

**h Hugel**

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# Photonic Applications



## PulseForge® Applications and Processes

- Photonic Soldering
- PulseForge® Lift-Off™
- PulseForge® Printing
- R2R inkjet integration
- Thin film bolometer
- Textiles and wearables
- Lab services
- Ultra fine line printing
- Thermoforming
- Photonic curing of polymeric films
- Dispensing & 3D printing
- Electroplating on seed layers
- Photonic curing of ceramics and semiconductors
- TCO processing and alternatives
- High speed drying on the PulseForge®
- Cost estimation

[novacentrix.com](http://novacentrix.com)

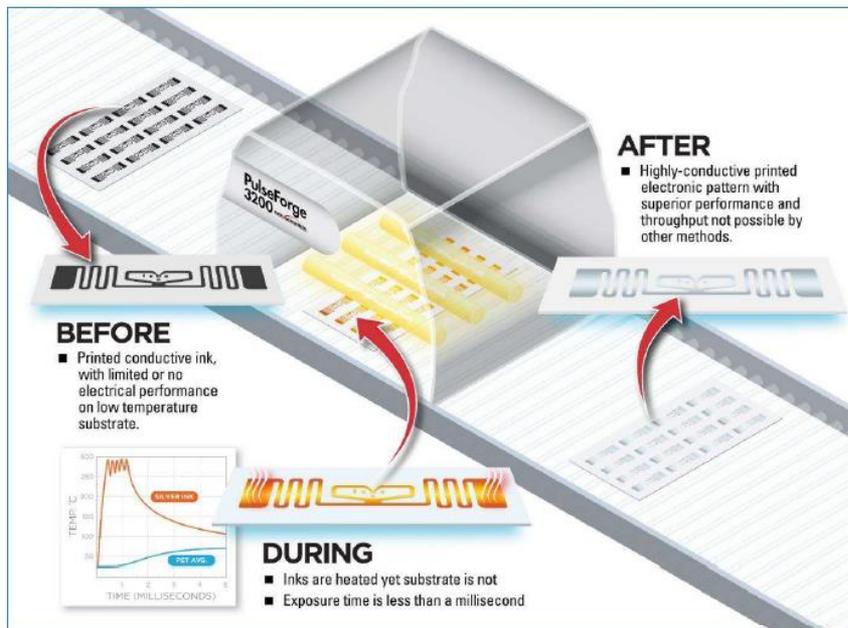
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# Photonic Principle

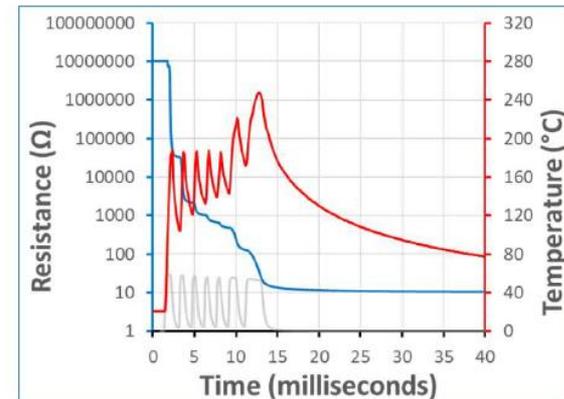
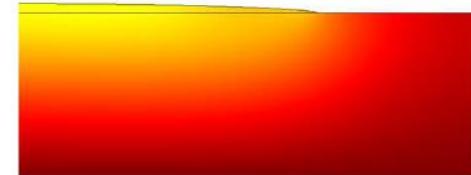


## What is Photonic Curing?



Coating

Substrate



# Photonic Principle

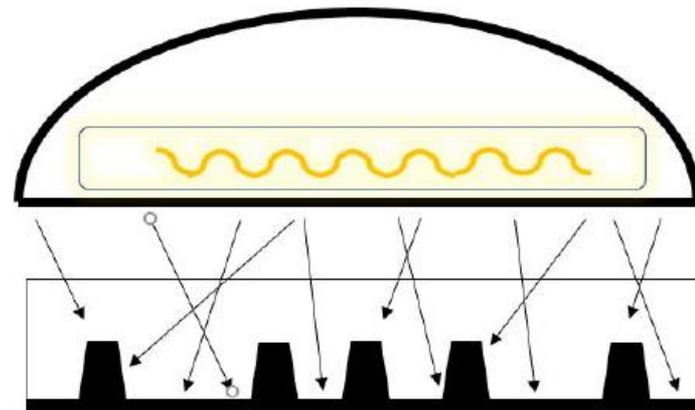


## Solutions Engineered for Process Control

Our photonic curing tools have been designed, developed and tested for what's important to you:

- 2-3% wide area uniformities
- High power densities (up to 48 kW/cm<sup>2</sup>)
- High energy densities (up to 100 J/cm<sup>2</sup>)
- Tunable pulse lengths from  $\mu$ sec to msec
- Uncollimated light beam
- Cures 2.5D objects
- Short process times (ms vs minutes)
- Selective material processing
- Minimal heating of non-target materials
- Economical production scale >1M<sup>2</sup>/sec

### Reflector Design



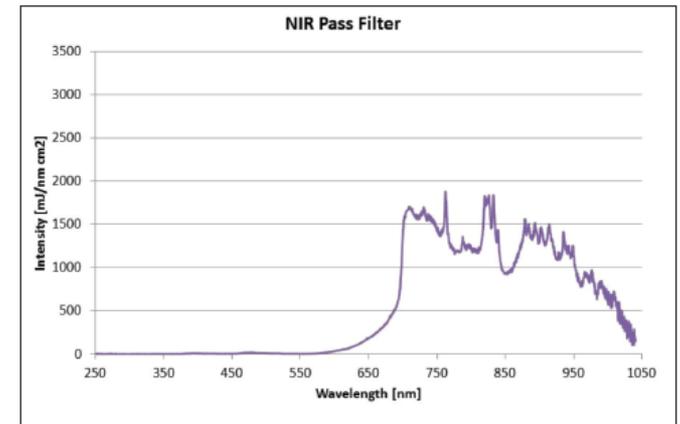
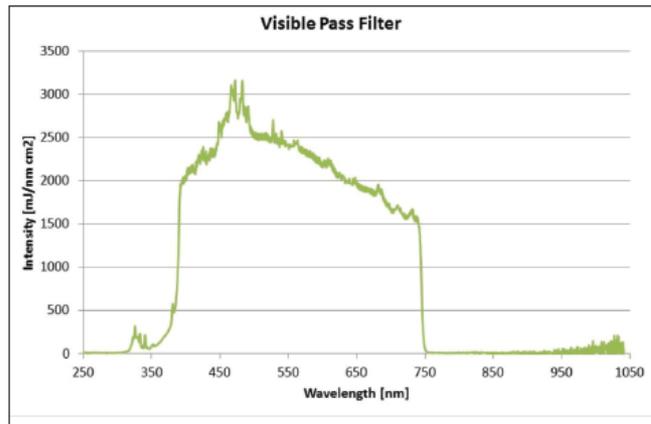
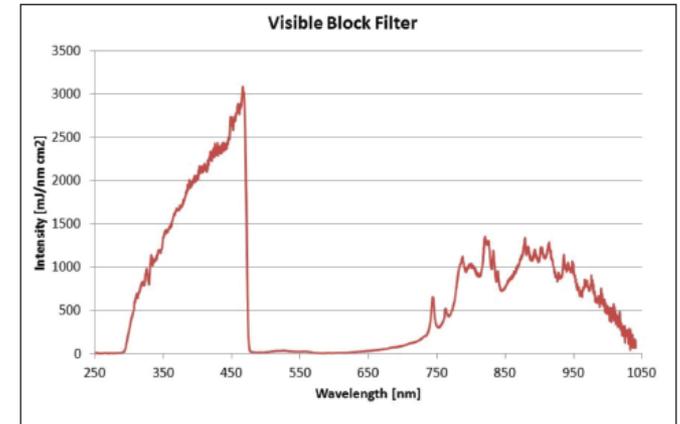
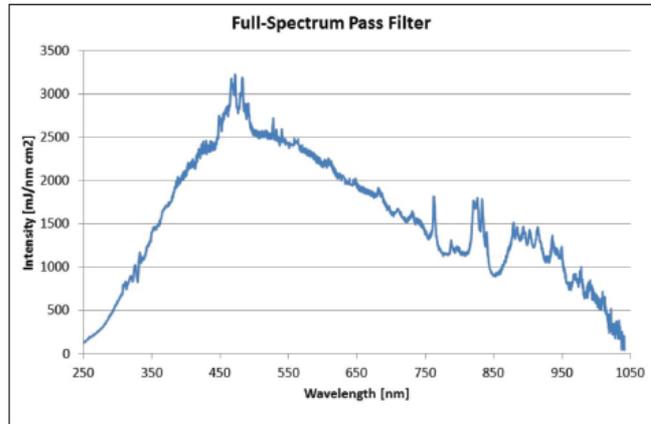
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# Filter Options

**Photonic Curing Filter Set**  
for PulseForge® R&D Tools



Measured transmission versus wavelength for each filter for an identical PulseForge pulse condition

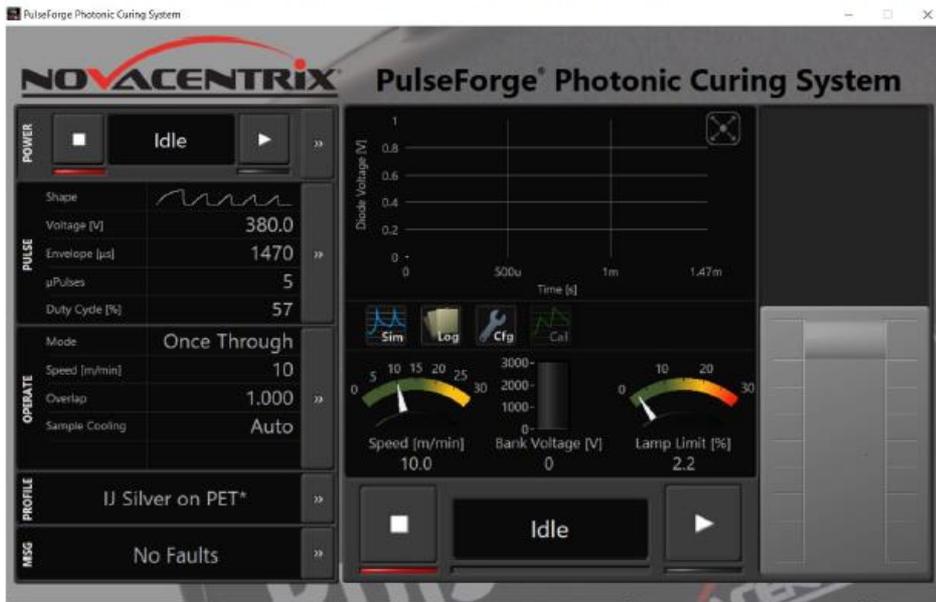
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# Photonic Principle



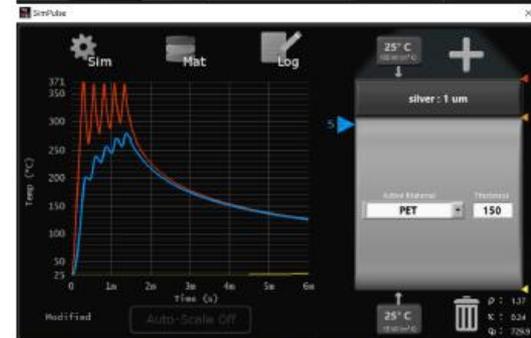
## SimPulse® is Photonic Curing Simulation



PulseForge® Operations Interface



Shaped Pulse Conditions w/ Pulse Editor



Thin Film Thermal Optimization

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# Photonic Principle



## Solutions Engineered for Process Control

### Pulse Shaping: Multi-Function Curing

Able to dry and sinter using two temperature zones

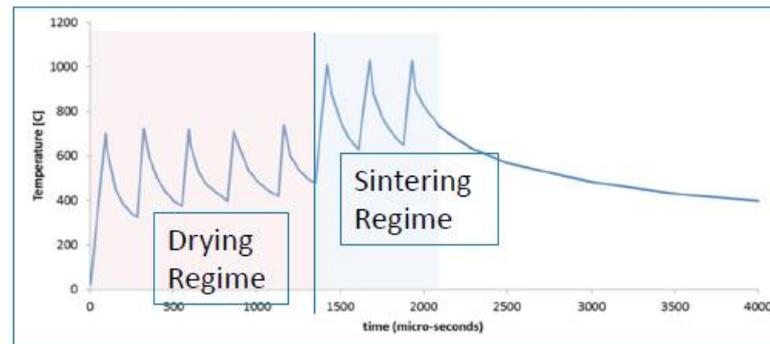
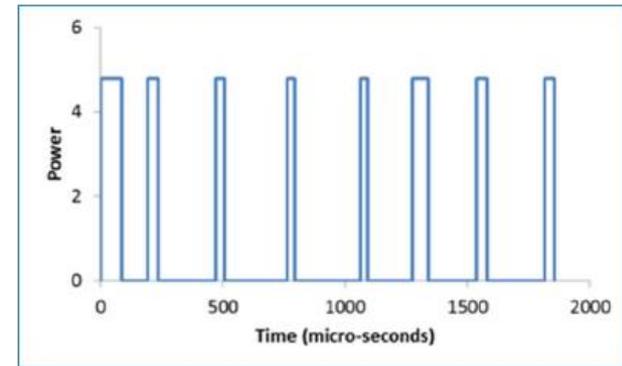
Pulse lengths from 25 to 10,000 microseconds

Minimum pulse length increments: 1 microsecond

Minimum space between pulses: 25 microseconds, with 1 microsecond increments

Thermal non-equilibrium process

High temperature material processing capability on low temperature substrates

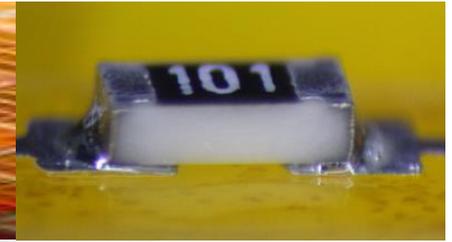


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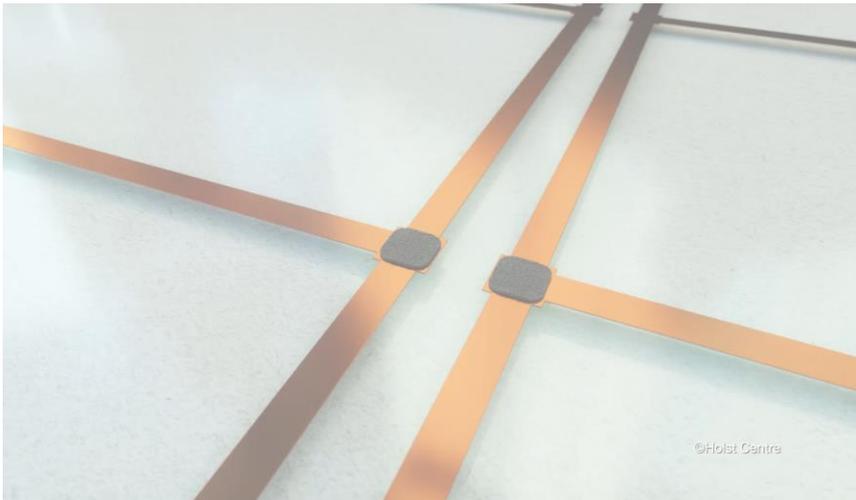
# Photonics Soldering



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## PULSEFORGE – Enabling Flexible Hybrid Electronics

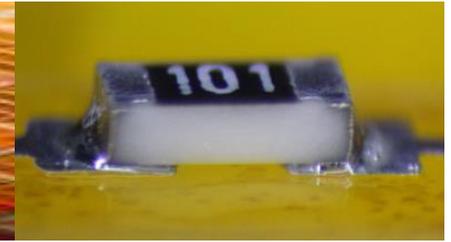
Standard electronics packages – Conventional Solder – Economical, Flexible Substrates



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# Photonic Soldering



## PulseForge Soldering - Differentiators

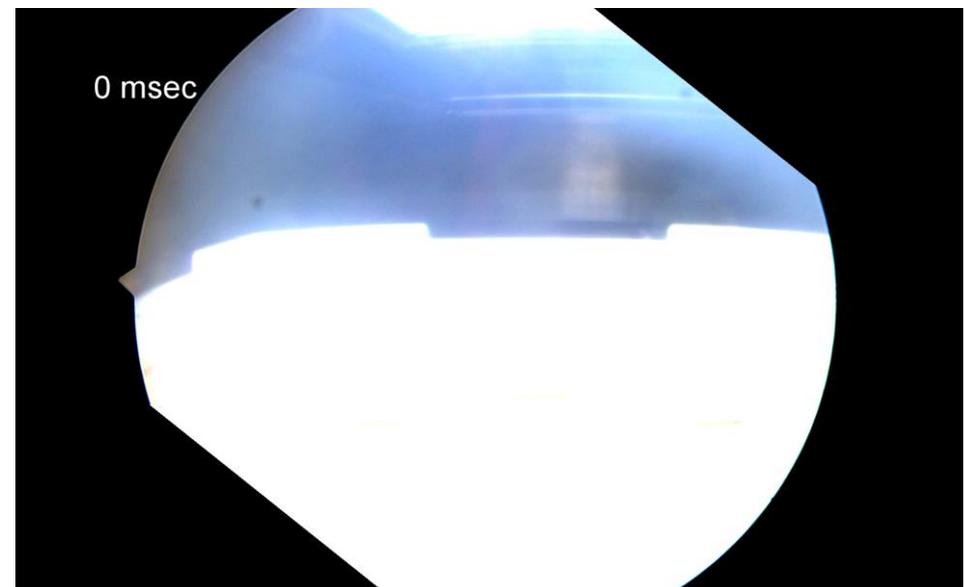


### Looking forward – differentiating our technology

#### Spatial selectivity

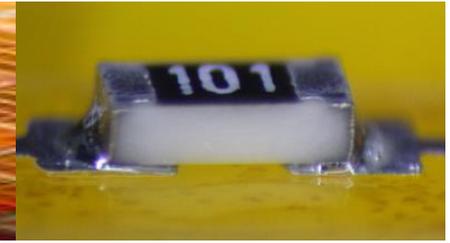
- Thermally sensitive substrate
- Thermally sensitive component
- Thermally sensitive regions

Very high throughput



Solder used – Indium SAC305 -8.9HF

# Temperatur Profil



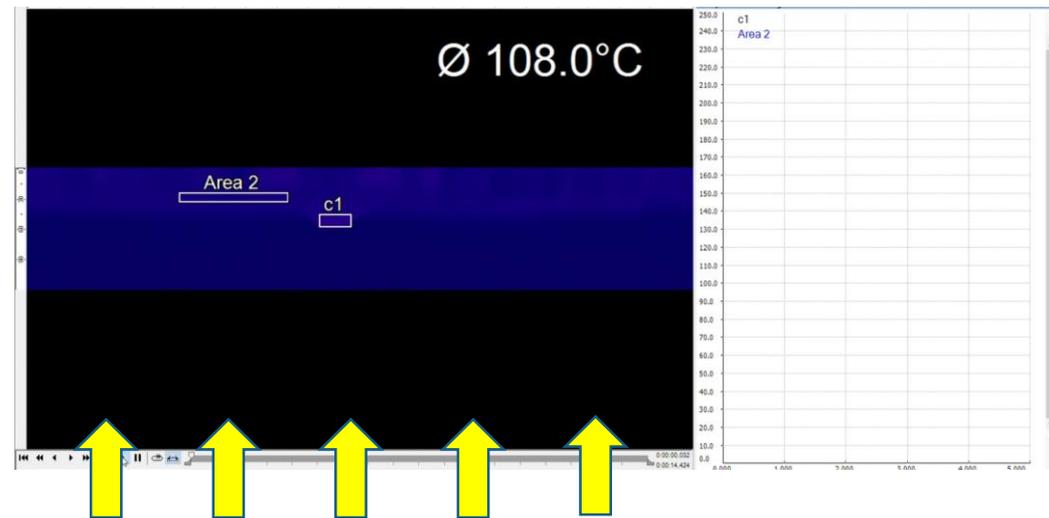
## PulseForge Soldering - Differentiators



### Looking forward – differentiating our technology

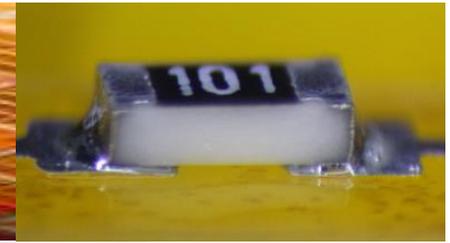
#### Spatial selectivity

- Thermally sensitive substrate (LED arrays on PET)
- Thermally sensitive component (Sensors, batteries)
- Thermally sensitive regions (interconnects)



Direction of light

# Other Materials

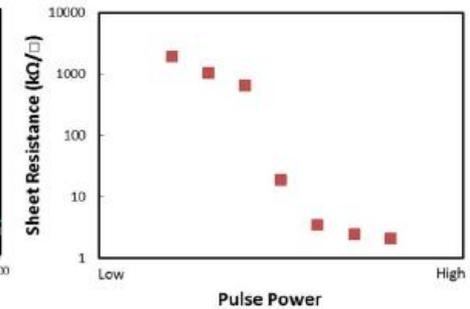
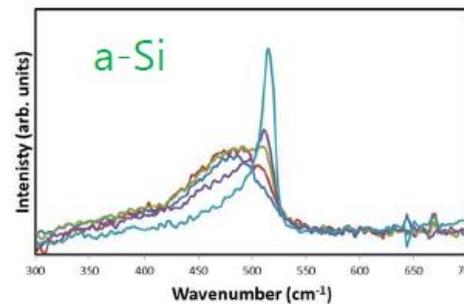


## Photonic Curing of Ceramics and Semiconductors

Various materials processed on the PulseForge system:

- a-Si films
- Semiconductors for PV applications (CdTe, CIGS, perovskites, etc.),
- IGZO for displays
- PZT ceramics
- ITO processing

Key consideration is compositional control to eliminate unwanted dopants and achieved crystallinity.



Available online at [www.sciencedirect.com](http://www.sciencedirect.com)  
**ScienceDirect**  
Creation Date: 01/01/2014 17:03:00

**HfO**

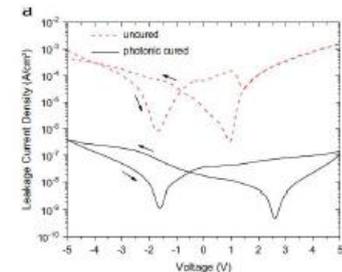


Photonic curing of sol-gel derived HfO<sub>2</sub> dielectrics for organic field-effect transistors

Kornelius Tetzner<sup>a,\*</sup>, Kurt A. Schröder<sup>b</sup>, Karlheinz Bock<sup>a,c</sup>

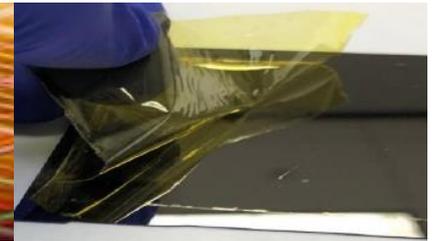
<sup>a</sup>Research Center for Microelectronics, Fachhochschule Osnabrück, Campus-Blumen-Allee 21, 49103 Osnabrück, Germany  
<sup>b</sup>WVU-Span-ELC (DissCom), 400 Parker Drive, Suite 1418, Austin, TX 78728, USA  
<sup>c</sup>Frankfurt Research Institute for Wafer Scale New Technologies (FWT), Max-Planck-Str. 27A, 60488 Frankfurt, Germany

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Available online 29 July 2014



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# PulseForge Lift-Off

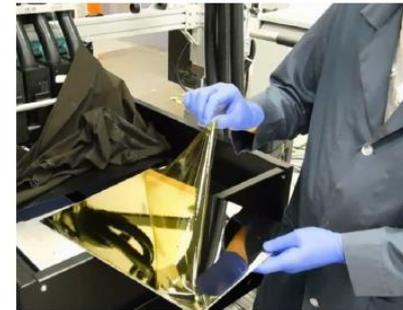


## PulseForge® Lift-Off

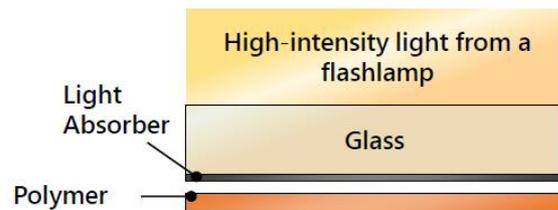


Developed as laser lift-off (LLO) alternative, its characteristics include:

- ❑ High-intensity light-emitting flashlamps
- ❑ Large-area illumination per flash
- ❑ Faster than LLO
- ❑ Light absorbing layer is crucial for this process
- ❑ Suitable for both wafer-level and panel-level packaging applications



Polymer ( $\approx 10 \mu\text{m}$ ) lift-off  
(360 mm x 465mm – Gen 2)



150 mm wafer (60  $\mu\text{m}$  thick) debonded  
in less than a second

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# Applications



## Targeted Applications



<https://www.printedelectronicsworld.com/articles/19424/paper-thin-ultra-flexible-microled-display-technology>

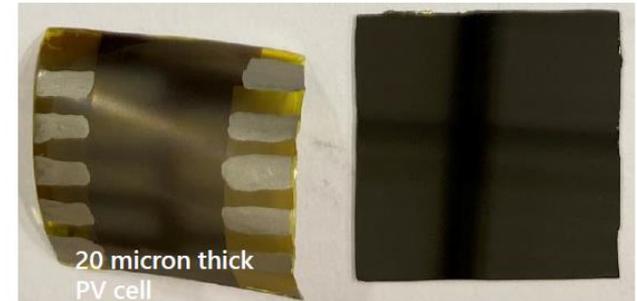
Flexible display manufacturing



<https://www.electronics.saint-gobain.com/applications/backgrounding/thin-wafers>

Advanced wafer level packaging-  
thinned wafer debonding

### Other ultra-thin electronic devices



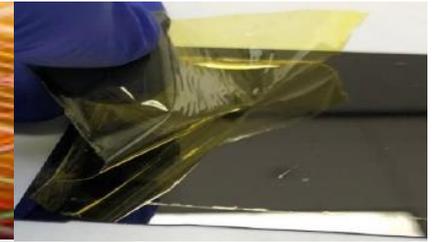
20 micron thick  
PV cell

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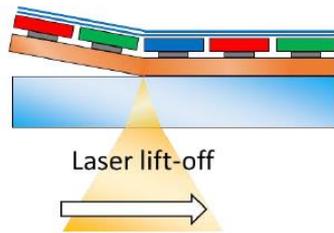


# Process

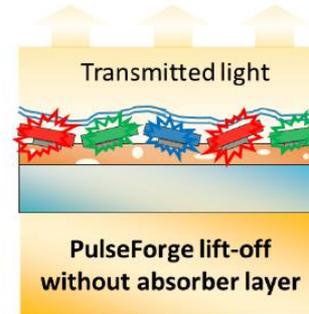


## Light Absorber Layer in PulseForge® Lift-Off

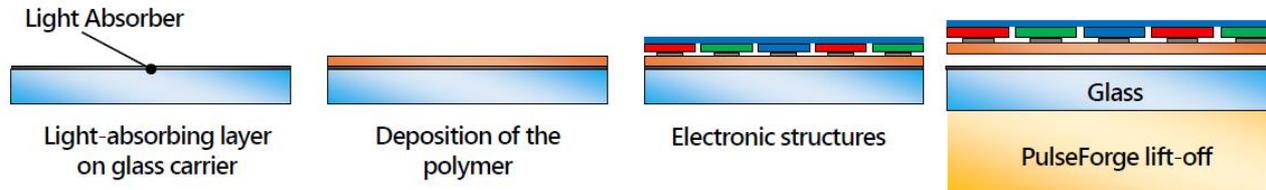
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- Laser lift-off uses excimer lasers
- Most polymers absorb almost 100% of excimer laser beam



- PulseForge® lift-off uses broadband light spectrum (200 – 1500 nm) from flashlamp
- Nearly 80% of the light is transmitted through the polymer impacting the device stack



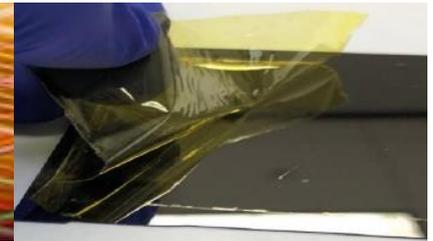
- To prevent the transmission, a thin layer of light absorbing layer is sputter-coated on the glass
- The absorber layer has 0% transmission and absorbs nearly 60% of the incident light
- The absorber layer coated glass substrate can be reused

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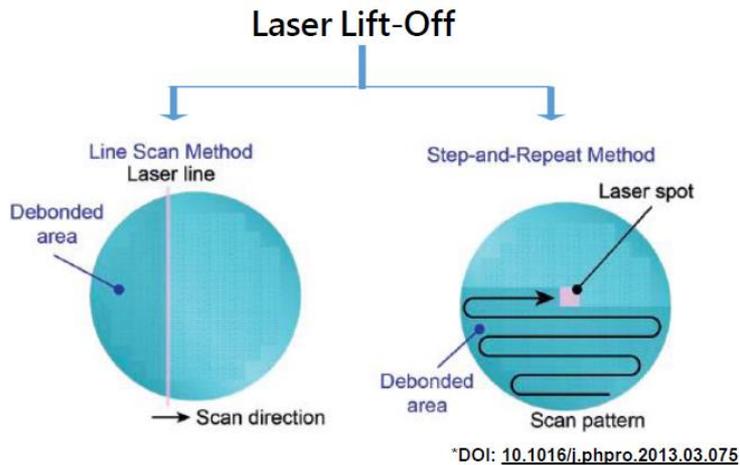
# Comparison



## Laser Lift-Off Versus PulseForge<sup>®</sup> Lift-Off

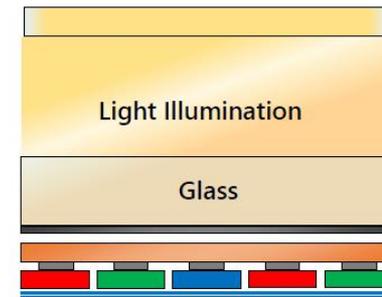


### Processing Strategy



Requires 1000 laser pulses to cover 300 mm wafer\*

### PulseForge<sup>®</sup> Lift-Off



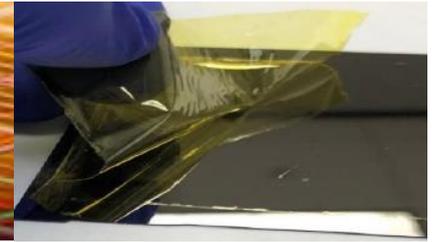
One-flash strategy - requires as low as one pulse to process 150 mm wafer

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# Lift-Off - Demonstration



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**PULSEFORGE LIFT-OFF PROCESSING**

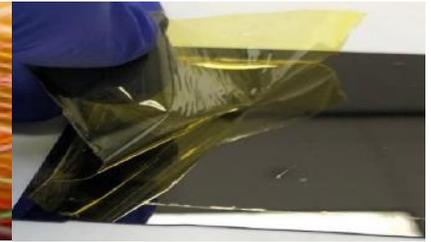
- Faster than laser – release polymer films in seconds
- Transiency of the process keeps the top of the film cool (less than 80 °C)
- Higher tolerance to defects because no light is exposed on the polymeric substrate
- Self-limiting process

Watch this video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=74Y3aCFQy1E>

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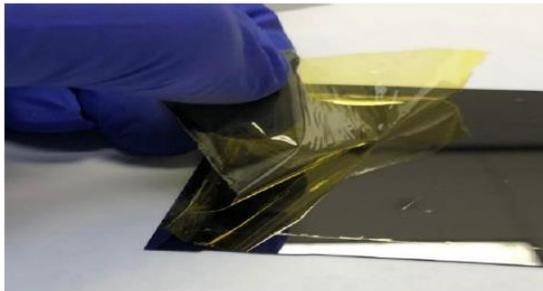
# Used Cases



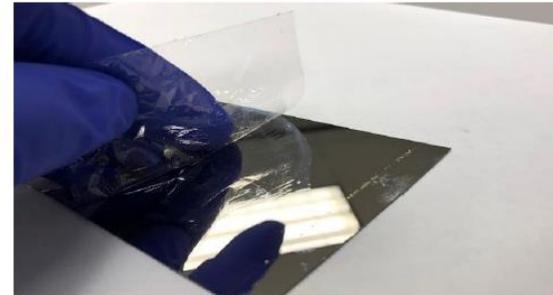
## Polymer-agnostic Process



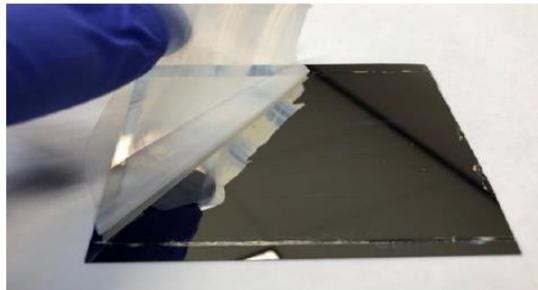
A wide variety of both thermoset and thermoplastic solution cast polymers have been released using PFLO.



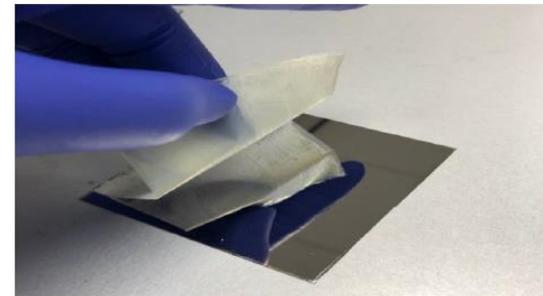
Standard polyimide



Clear polyimide



Polyurethane



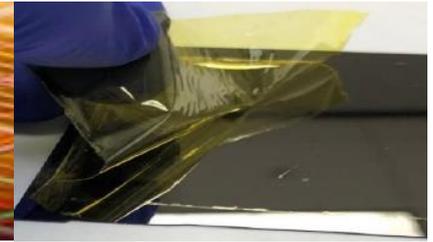
Polyester

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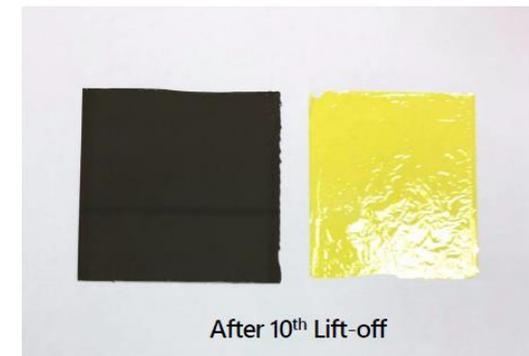
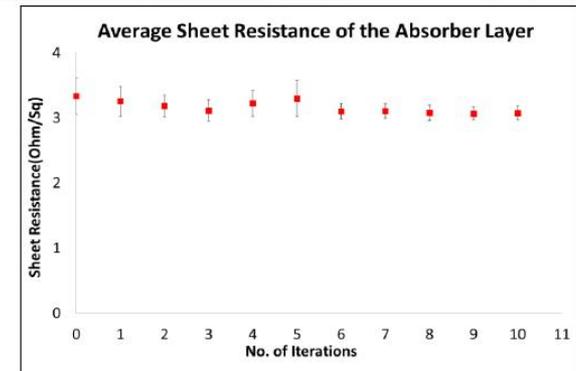
# Carrier Reusability



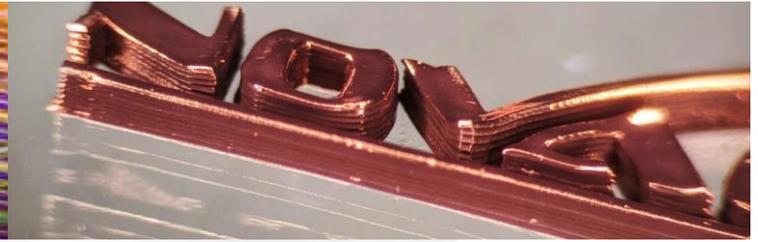
## Reusability of the Carrier



- Up to 10 lift-off iterations have been tested to study the reusability of the substrate. No visible damage observed
- 10 -12  $\mu\text{m}$  thick polyimide coating was used for the study
- Average sheet resistance of the absorber layer coating remained consistent even after 10 iterations
- Reusability of the substrate is dependent upon the type of the polymer used as different polymers have dissimilar decomposition temperatures and other thermal properties
- Process conditions can be tuned to obtain maximum reusability



# Photonic - Printing

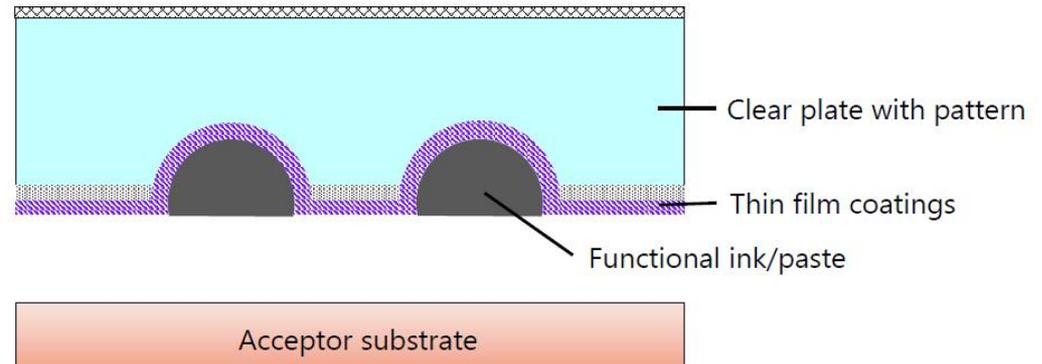


## PulseForge Printing – Mechanism

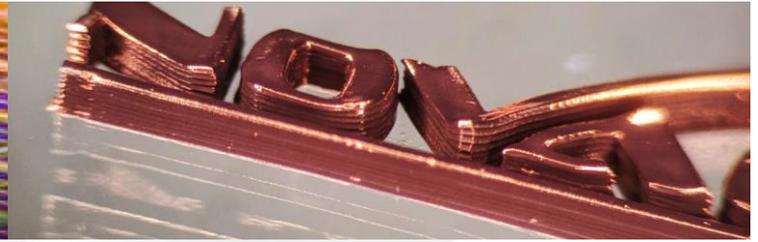
It is an emerging application from NovaCentrix for patterning high aspect ratio prints of a wide variety of functional inks or other materials and components in a rapid and non-contact technique.

The printing is achieved using high power pulsed light and a patterned print plate.

The animation at right shows a metal nanoparticle ink pattern being printed.



# Photonic - Printing



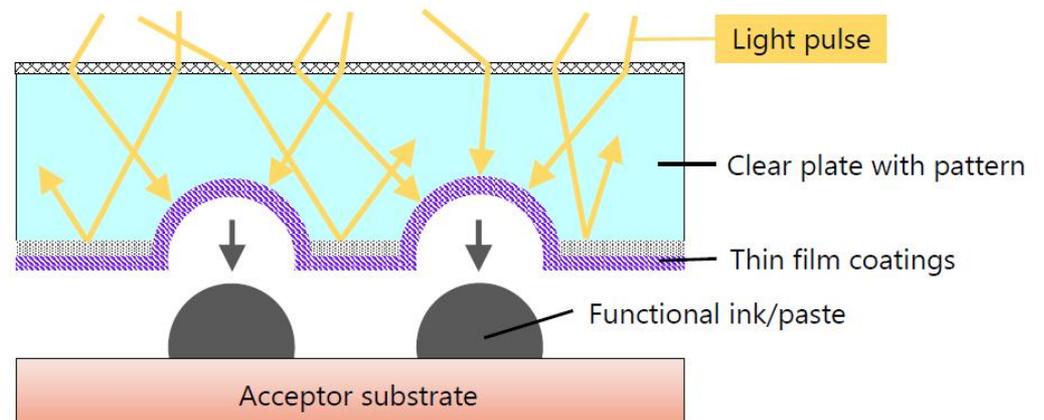
**NOVACENTRIX**

## PulseForge Printing – Mechanism

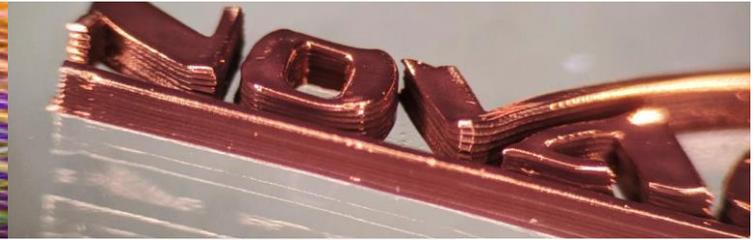
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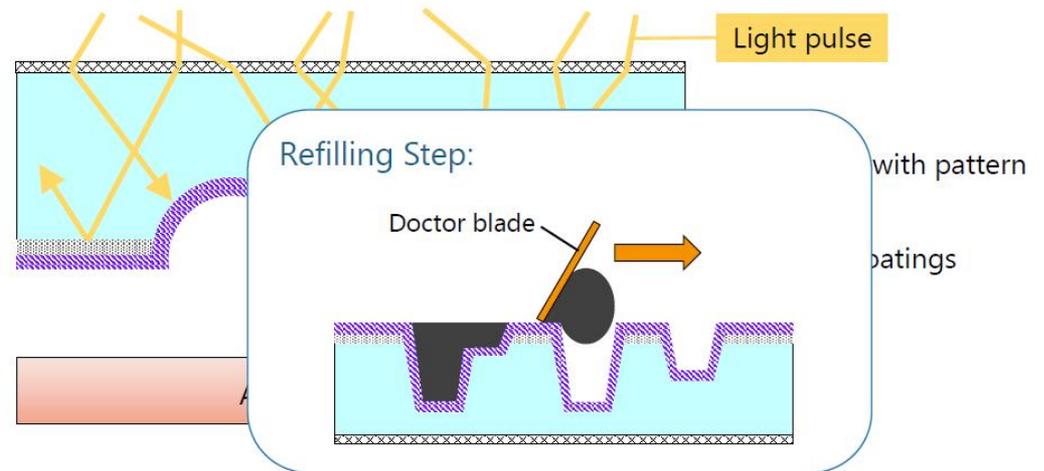


## PulseForge Printing – Mechanism

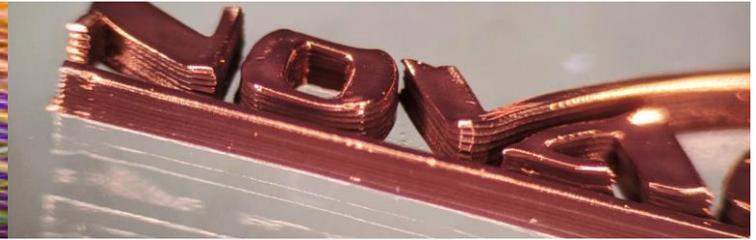
It is an emerging application from NovaCentrix for patterning high aspect ratio prints of a wide variety of functional inks or other materials and components in a rapid and non-contact technique.

The printing is achieved using high power pulsed light and a patterned print plate.

Note that between prints, the ink is refilled into the plate with a dispense and doctor blade step.



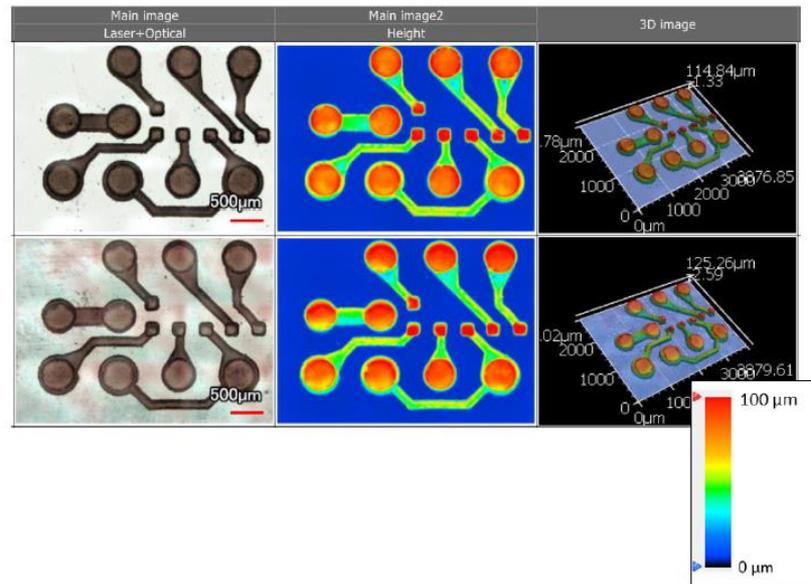
# Photonic - Printing



## PulseForge Printing – Variable Print Thickness

Variable print thickness can be achieved and the redistribution layer pattern shown demonstrates our copper ink as-printed and after curing. High viscosity inks tend to give better pattern quality and printing performance.

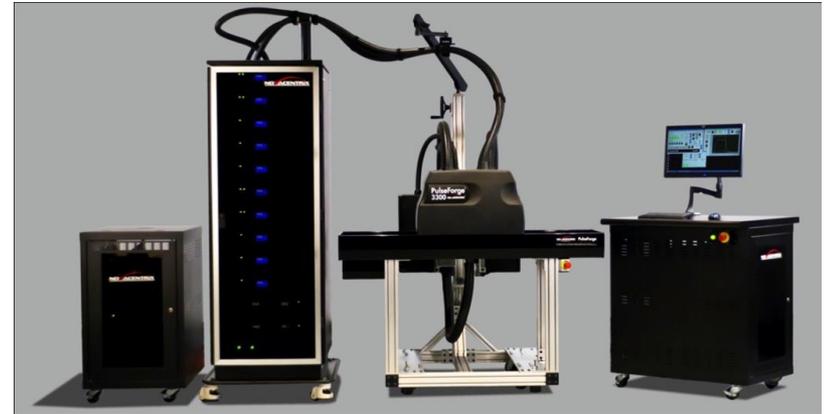
This can be considered at **2.5D printing technology**.



# Novacentrix - Systems



Inline Manufacturing System



Integration System



Roll-to-Roll System

R&D System





# Thank You

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