



For immediate release

Rüdiger Paschotta Elected SPIE Fellow



BELLINGHAM, Washington, USA – March 21, 2012 – Each year, SPIE promotes members as new Fellows of the Society. SPIE will honor 75 new Fellows of the Society this year. Fellows are members of distinction who have made significant scientific and technical contributions in the multidisciplinary fields of optics, photonics, and imaging. They are honored for their technical achievement, for their service to the general optics community, and to SPIE in particular. More than 900 SPIE members have become Fellows since the Society's inception in 1955.

"The annual recognition of Fellows provides an opportunity for us to acknowledge Members for their outstanding technical contributions and service to SPIE," says Eustace L. Dereniak, SPIE President.

Rüdiger Paschotta, RP Photonics Consulting GmbH, Germany, has been promoted for achievements in passively mode-locked lasers, including high-power lasers and high-repetition rates.

Paschotta has made significant contributions to many areas of passively mode-locked and high-power lasers over his career. In particular, he has developed passively mode-locked lasers with very high output powers, passively mode-locked lasers with very high pulse repetition rates, and passively mode-locked surface-emitting semiconductor lasers. Paschotta's work has resulted in laser systems successfully implemented in a variety of challenging industrial environments.

In addition, his work has led to breakthroughs in the fundamental understanding of pulse formation and noise phenomena in mode-locked lasers. He has also developed powerful simulation software for fiber amplifiers and lasers, pulse formation in mode-locked lasers, and other phenomena. Not only has Paschotta worked as a leading researcher, but he is also an active entrepreneur as the founder of RP Photonics Consulting, where he advises many photonics companies worldwide on laser sources. For his research, Paschotta was named a senior member of IEEE, and he received the Fresnel Prize of the European Physical Society "for outstanding contributions to ultrafast all-solid-state lasers by pushing the frontiers in average power and pulse repetition rates by orders of magnitude."

His many contributions to the optics community come as an author, referee, course instructor and conference organizer. Paschotta is the author of the comprehensive and important *Encyclopedia of Laser Physics and Technology*, published by Wiley-VCH in 2008, has written five chapters for books on laser physics, and served as reviewer for many journals. He has also served on the program committee for conferences at CLEO/Europe, the European Physical Society Europhoton Conference on Solid-State and Fiber Coherent Light Sources, and the Advanced Solid-State Photonics conference.

Paschotta is active with SPIE most notably as an author and educator. He has written three books in the SPIE Field Guide Series: *Field Guide to Optical Fiber Technology*, *Field Guide to Laser Pulse Generation*, and *Field Guide to Lasers*, all published by SPIE Press. He has taught several SPIE courses on laser beam quality, resonator design for solid state lasers, and applied nonlinear frequency conversion.

SPIE, the international society for optics and photonics, was founded in 1955 to advance light-based technologies. Serving more than 180,000 constituents from 168 countries, the Society advances emerging technologies through interdisciplinary information exchange, continuing education, publications, patent precedent, and career and professional growth. SPIE annually organizes and sponsors approximately 25 major technical forums, exhibitions, and education programs in North America, Europe, Asia, and the South Pacific, and supports scholarships, grants, and other education programs around the world. See www.SPIE.org for information.

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