



Press Release

24th September 2007

SPI Lasers, LLC

("SPI" or "the Company")

SPI Lasers Investigates Solar Cell Applications

- **New Results in Processing Silicon as used in Solar Cell Production**

24 September 2007, SPI Lasers Application lab, San Jose, California, today announced that work conducted by Dr. Tony Hault at the US applications facility of SPI Lasers shows promising results in processing 0.2-0.8mm thick polycrystalline silicon as used in solar cell production. Using a 200W CW-M 1070nm fibre laser with a novel cutting technique, cutting speeds of up to 6m/min on 200µm silicon ribbon have been readily achieved.

Analysis of the cuts show very smooth surfaces with minimal debris or spatter, 40µm kerf with no appreciable taper. All this indicates a promising and somewhat surprising new application for these fundamental wavelength fibre lasers.

SPI has joined with the Cambridge Institute of Manufacturing in the UK, recent purchasers of 200W SPI Fibre Lasers, and other laser based research institutes around the world with similar equipment, to conduct more detailed tests further trials.

Dr Bill O'Neill, of the CIM said: "The current laser cutting process requires expensive DPSS lasers which require higher levels of maintenance and are considerably slower. The early promise shown by the SPI Laser trials will prove of real benefit to a rapidly growing sector which aims to reduce cost, increase throughput and improve product energy conversion efficiency".

Said Jack Gabzdyl, Business Development Manager of SPI Lasers, "In addition to the silicon cutting, SPI Lasers see a number of new exciting opportunities within the solar industry for fibre lasers including; thin film removal, edge deletion and silicon scribing and are looking forward to delivering these to the market."

SPI are now talking with companies to conduct field trials. The company would like to extend this invitation to device and component manufacturers, academic intuitions and system integrators from all four corners of the globe to work with SPI on their own application specific trials. The fast track way to conduct application trials is to take advantage of SPI's free of charge, no obligation proof of concept and try before you buy programs. SPI provides a progressive program to support academic & not for profit research centres.

Both the proof of concept and try before you buy programs mentioned here can be found by clicking on the SPI web site on www.spilasers.com and registering your details.

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Notes to Editors:

SPI Lasers is a leading designer and manufacturer of optical fibre-based lasers that are currently used in a wide range of industries. The current product family is used to mark, weld, and cut materials used in the manufacture of a range of products.

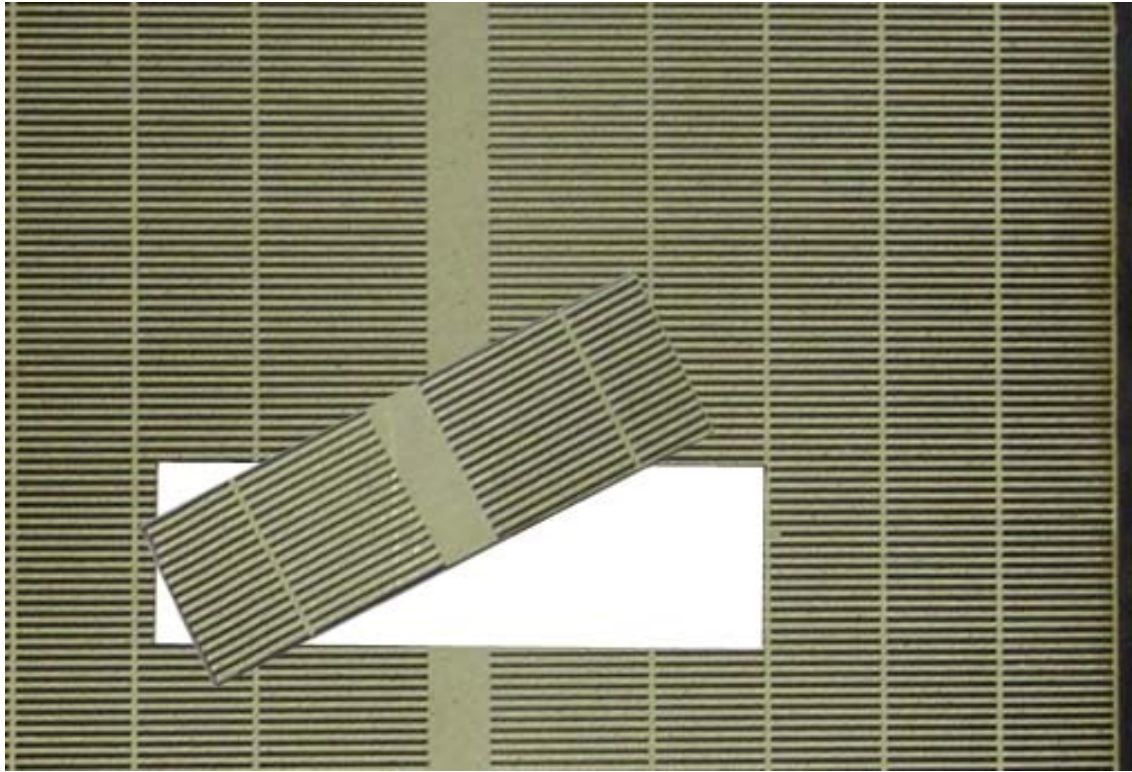
The platform technology being developed to raise laser power levels for use in the macro manufacturing sectors is expected further to widen the markets served by SPI Lasers to include aerospace, automotive and white goods manufacture.

Among new markets in prospect, as higher-power lasers are deployed, is defence, and SPI Lasers is currently involved in this sector through contracted development work with a number of companies and government agencies.

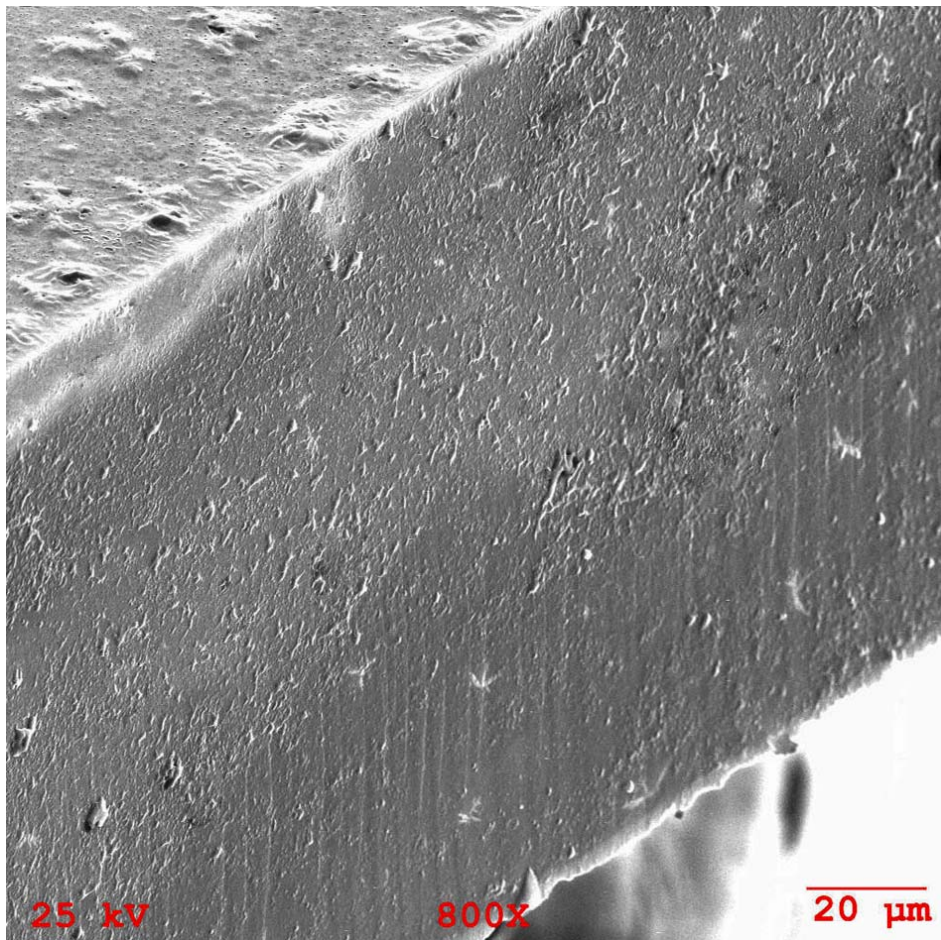
SPI Lasers has a strong network of international distributors. In Europe the international distributor is BFI Optilas, one of the region's largest distributors of specialist products in the electronics and photonics markets. Outside Europe, SPI Lasers' products are distributed on an exclusive basis in China, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan and Thailand.

Founded in 2000 on technology developed by the University of Southampton's Optoelectronics Research Centre, the business is based in Southampton, United Kingdom.

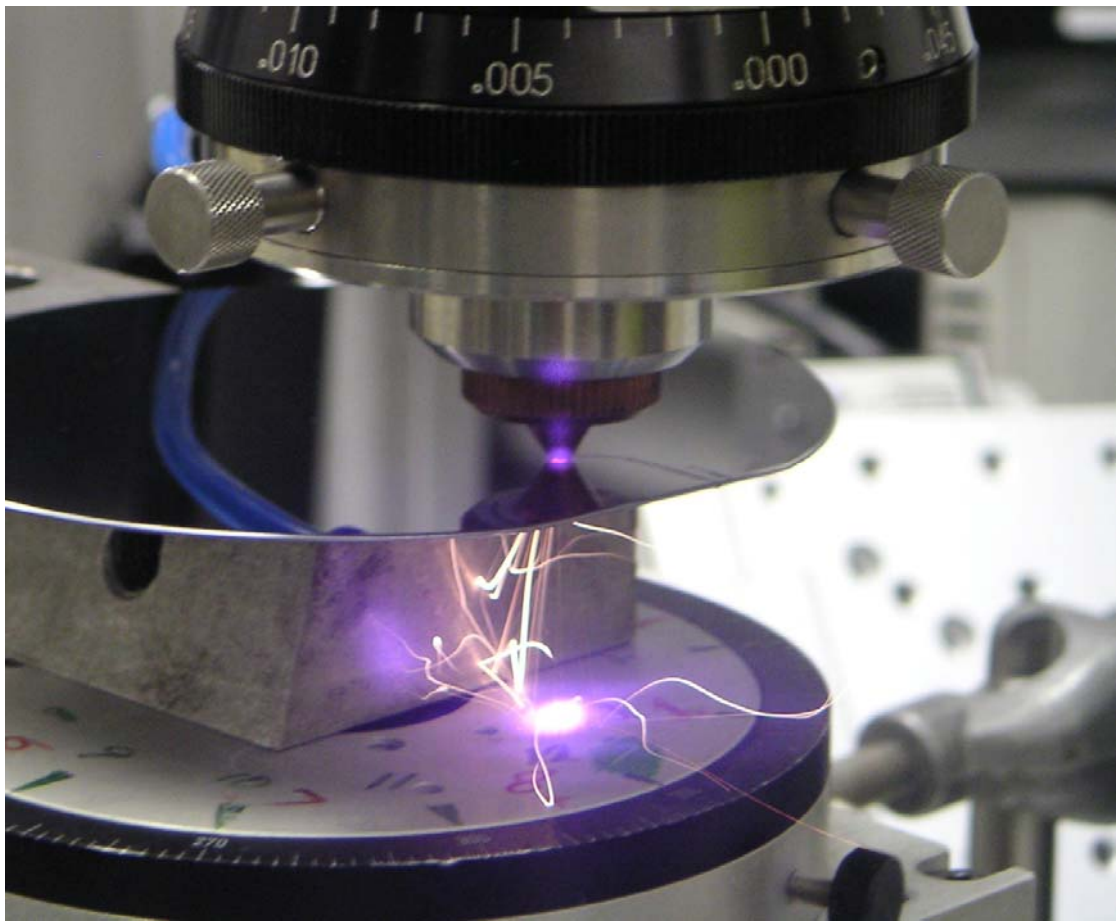
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Silicon Cutting



Silicon Cutting 0.2mm Thick



Fiber Laser Cutting Silicon