



Press Release

TwinStar Optics, Coatings & Crystals of Port Richey, Florida pioneers Direct Ion Deposition Coating Technology

Port Richey, Florida, March 2008 – TwinStar Optics, Coatings, & Crystals is pleased to announce, after a comprehensive development effort, that it has pioneered a new proprietary coating process known as Direct Ion Deposition (DID). Layers are deposited using precursor gases - eliminating imperfect oxide reactions. This process has yielded damage threshold measurements at least 35% higher than traditional E-Beam Ion Assisted Deposition.

Peter Thomas, who leads the developmental team, explained, "With this technology we are able to deposit dense, stable films with virtually perfect rate, thickness, index, and uniformity control. Layer homogeneity and vapor plume are consistent throughout each coating run and we never have to break vacuum to replenish source materials."

Some of the Immediate benefits of the DID process are:

- o Tunable Index of Coating layers by 20%
- o Increased indices by 25%
- o Controllable layer hardness
- o Near Zero Absorption
- o Lowest Scatter Loss
- o Higher Packing Densities than IBS

TwinStar is a global leader and custom manufacturer of precision optics and laser crystals, including waveplates, etalons, lens ducts, prisms and high power optical coatings from the Visible through the Infra-red spectrum. TwinStar fabricates a full range of linear and non-linear laser crystals including, Nd:YAG slabs and rods, ER:Glass and Laser Ceramics.

For more information please contact:

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