

eagleyard Photonics GmbH
Rudower Chaussee 29
12489 Berlin, Germany

Marketing Contact
Stephanie Hannibal
stephanie.hannibal@toptica-eagleyard.com
+49 30 6392 4561 / +49 01752233563

PRESS RELEASE

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20 years of eagleyard

THE FUTURE IS HERE – how eagleyard became an innovative, successful and fast-growing laser diode company

It all started in 2001 when three department heads from the renowned Ferdinand-Braun-Institut (FBH) got together to found a company for the production and distribution of laser diodes. SEMCOLAS (for Semiconductor Lasers) came into being, but in the beginning no one had the time to take care of building up the company. This all changed when Jörg Muchametow and Dr. Thomas Laurent took over the management in May 2002 and christened the company eagleyard Photonics GmbH – because they wanted the name of

their new "baby" to be unique and give a clear nod to their roots in the Berlin district of Adlershof, which means 'eagle yard' in English.

What started as a spin-off from FBH developed into a true success story over the years. From a purely scientific focus, the emphasis increasingly shifted to production, sales and marketing. At first, the focus markets for high-power laser diodes based on GaAs



Jörg Muchametow and Dr. Thomas Laurent in 2002

semiconductor materials were primarily in Europe, Japan and the USA – there is now a worldwide distribution network. Since the beginning, the core mission has been to transform advanced, complex technologies into mature, industry-ready products, in order to connect the world of science with industry in the best possible manner. In doing so, eagleyard has always taken a very customer-oriented approach, as most of the products are individually adapted for customer solutions, so a major factor in its success lies in consulting and flexibility. For example, high-precision DFB laser diodes suitable for the traditional science market were transformed into targeted, stabilizing laser diodes. These are suitable for production in high volumes and can be used for many industrial applications, such as measurement or medical technology, at a much lower price.

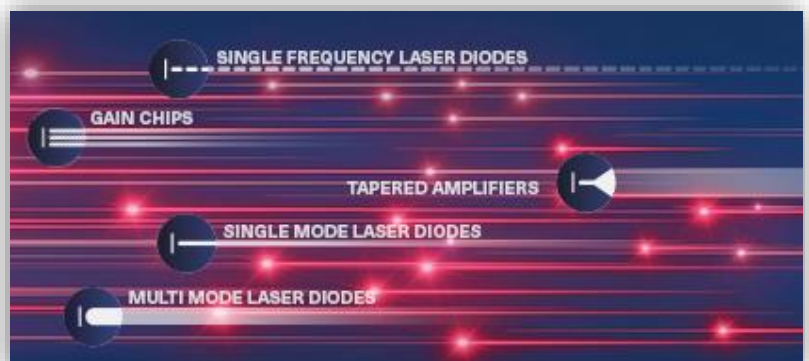
In 2013, TOPTICA Photonics AG acquired eagleyard with the aim of benefiting from the common intersections along the value chain in the best possible way. Since then, there has



TOPTICA acquisition in 2013

been an even stronger focus on scalable manufacturing processes. The strong expansion of internal microassembly proved to be a real game-changer in 2016, because since then, it has been possible to provide customers with samples in a much faster and more flexible manner. The production area was already doubled the previous year, and the company is planning a move to even more spacious premises in 2022. With the continuous development of the front-end, it is possible to support the growth of the company in the best possible way.

TOPTICA eagleyard offers laser diodes in five different product groups in the 630 – 1120 nm wavelength range: Gain Chips, Multimode Laser Diodes (Broad Area Laser), Single Mode Laser Diodes (Fabry-Perot Laser),



TOPTICA eagleyard's five product families



TOPTICA eagleyard's booth
2022

Single Frequency Laser Diodes (DFB/DBR Laser) and Tapered Amplifiers.

The laser diodes are used in various applications with a focus on spectroscopy, metrology, interferometry, atomic clocks, intra- and inter-satellite communication, and in medical technology such as blood-flow measurement, soft-tissue treatment and most recently brain-computer interface solutions. Developments suited for use in space – such as a DFB laser diode for ESA's GAIA mission – are still being used successfully today.

There is a major focus on quantum technology, for which the new, highly integrated innovative products in hermetically sealed butterfly packages are particularly groundbreaking. Within four months, TOPTICA eagleyard has already launched four new products in 2022 – all of them highly integrated and so far unique on the market. The μ MOPA is the first to integrate a DBR laser and a tapered amplifier monolithically on the same chip in a butterfly package, while simultaneously introducing a tapered amplifier, also in a butterfly package, with fiber-coupled input and collimated output beam. Just a few weeks later, the Mini-ECL was introduced, a mini external cavity laser with 200 kHz linewidth in a hermetically sealed butterfly package. At the same time, the new 808 nm SM laser diode with a power of 400mW is getting the photonics industry excited.

In the meantime, TOPTICA eagleyard has grown to more than 55 employees and is being run successfully by managing directors Jörg Muchametow and Claus Heitmann, with an annual growth of more than 20%.



Jörg Muchametow and Claus Heitmann



TOPTICA eagleyard's logo development from 2002 to 2022



TOPTICA eagleyard employees in May 2022

