

**Thales boosts development of its laser business for scientific, industrial and defence applications.**

*Thales is to incorporate Thales Laser into its Thales Optronique subsidiary. This operation will allow Thales to develop its laser business by investing in specific technical and industrial facilities and by exploiting synergies with its optronics business, relocated to the Élancourt site, south of Paris, in 2008.*

Thales Laser is a wholly owned Thales subsidiary and employs 55 people at its Corbeville site near Orsay, just south of Paris. Thales Laser designs, develops and delivers a complete range of equipment for scientific research and industrial applications. Its expertise in nano-second and femto-second laser technologies is also exploited for military applications.

*“Thales Laser’s expertise and equipment are renowned internationally, particularly in the field of scientific research,” commented Denis Levillant, Laser Solutions Unit Director. “The decision to incorporate*

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# LASER *By* THALES

*the company into Thales Optronique is part of Thales's broader dual-technology approach to exploit synergies between civil and military applications. As a result of this operation, we now have the right conditions in place to further develop these activities and pursue broader innovation through the relationships we have established with research centres and other local partners in the French Optics Valley for the benefit of our customers. Our long-term international development strategy is centred on the production of standard equipment as well as the development of power lasers for scientific and military applications."*

Thales Laser and Thales Optronique, also a wholly owned subsidiary, have complementary expertises in optical and electronic technologies and share long experience in the design, integration and testing of high value-added equipment as well as related services. The two companies offer a range of standard equipment as well as customized solutions in their respective domains in the global marketplace.

The transfer to the Elancourt site will be completed by 1 July 2009. From this date, Thales Optronique will assume all contractual commitments previously undertaken by Thales Laser, which will cease as a legal entity. As before, your regular contacts will liaise with you directly, as well as through our international network of representatives. In its place, the newly created Laser Solutions unit at Thales Optronique will comprise all current

Thales Laser employees and will have dedicated state-of-the-art technical and industrial facilities in synergy with Thales Optronique's facilities on the same site.

*" Along with all my colleagues, I am determined to provide you with the solutions that most closely match your requirements in terms of innovation, performance, quality and service — both now and in the future. "*

**Denis Levillant**

Laser Solutions Unit Director

*June 2009*

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