



A Passion for Precision.

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Press Release

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Leibinger Innovation Prize for TOPTICA Guide Star Laser

On September 9th 2016, TOPTICA's guide star laser SodiumStar 20/2 was rewarded with the third price of the highly prestigious Laser Research Innovation Award presented by the Berthold Leibinger Stiftung. The "Guide Star Alliance", consisting of TOPTICA Photonics AG (Germany), MPB Communications Inc. (Canada) and the European Southern Observatory (ESO), developed a novel high power laser system over a period of more than seven years serving as Guide Star for the Very Large Telescope (VLT) and other Large and Extremely Large Telescopes (ELT). This technology is a very long sought for key component for the construction of modern, earth-based telescopes and it has created already a large impact in the performance, reliability and maintenance of such high-tech devices.



The third place of the 2016 Leibinger award for Laser Research Innovation was given to TOPTICA's Guide Star Laser project. (Credit: Berthold Leibinger Foundation)

Read more about the award ceremony in the official press release of the Berthold Leibinger Stiftung:

<http://www.leibinger-stiftung.de/de/service/presseinformationen/pressemitteilung/rec-uid/278212.html>

Read more about the Guide Star Laser technology in this Laser Focus World article:

<http://www.laserfocusworld.com/articles/2016/04/eso-s-four-laser-guide-star-facility-sees-first-light.html>



Four units of TOPTICA's laser guide star system "SodiumStar 20/2" project powerful orange beams into the air in Chile's Atacama desert at the VLT. (Credit: ESO/F. Kamphues)

TOPTICA Photonics AG develops, manufactures, services and distributes technology-leading diode and fiber lasers and laser systems for scientific and industrial applications. Sales and service are offered worldwide through TOPTICA Germany and its subsidiary TOPTICA USA, as well as all through 14 distributors. A key point of the company philosophy is the close cooperation between development and research to meet our customers' demanding requirements for sophisticated customized system solutions and their subsequent commercialization.

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