



## Press Release

# TRUMPF acquires stake in French laser technology startup

## **TRUMPF acquires minority stake in GLOphotonics // French laser technology company specializes in hollow-core fibers**

*Ditzingen, January 8, 2020* – High-technology company TRUMPF acquired a minority stake in French laser technology startup GLOphotonics on December 18, 2019. The Limoges-based company develops and produces a special optical fiber for use in material processing applications. The fiber offers a simpler and faster way to deliver laser light from the source to the desired destination without any loss of power. “GLOphotonics is a highly innovative company with outstanding expertise in laser technology. We hope our investment will support ongoing development of this promising technology and help make it industry-ready,” says Berthold Schmidt, Managing Director Research and Development in TRUMPF’s Laser Technology division.

### **Hollow-core fiber simplifies production processes**

Unlike conventional optical fibers, GLOphotonics’ fiber is hollow – hence the term ‘hollow-core fiber’. It is primarily intended for lasers that emit short pulses of light, for example to create features in the micrometer range. Due to physical limitations, ultrashort pulse lasers cannot be coupled into a glass fiber, so today’s lasers generally use an array of mirrors and lenses to direct the beam onto the target. This method is extremely complex and costly. “The hollow-core fiber opens up new technical avenues for machine makers and system integrators. Compared to free-beam delivery, it offers a much simpler and more flexible way of guiding laser light from a pulsed beam source to its destination. This greatly simplifies processes on the shop floor,” says Schmidt.

Experts anticipate that industrial hollow-core fibers will also pave the way for entirely new applications in the future. Potential examples in the field of communication include optical data transmission in large computer centers.

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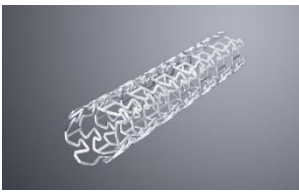
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**Berthold-Schmidt.jpg**

"The hollow-core fiber opens up new technical avenues for machine makers and system integrators and simplifies processes on the shop floor."



**Microprocessing.jpg**

The hollow-core fiber is primarily intended for lasers that emit short pulses of light. Examples of its use include medical devices such as stents.



### About TRUMPF

The high-technology company TRUMPF offers production solutions in the machine tool and laser sectors. It is driving digital connectivity in manufacturing industry through consulting, platform and software offers. TRUMPF is the world technological and market leader for machine tools used in flexible sheet metal processing, and also for industrial lasers.

In 2018/19 the company – which has about 14,500 employees – achieved sales of 3.8 billion euros. With over 70 subsidiaries, the TRUMPF Group is represented in nearly all the countries of Europe, North and South America, and Asia. It has production facilities in Germany, France, Great Britain, Italy, Austria, Switzerland, Poland, the Czech Republic, the USA, Mexico, China and Japan.

For more information about TRUMPF go to [www.trumpf.com](http://www.trumpf.com)

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