Fraunhofer Partners with IPG

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Plymouth, Michigan (February 23, 2006): IPG Photonics Corporation, the leader in fiber lasers, and the Fraunhofer Center for Coatings and Laser Applications, a center of excellence and innovation in laser process development, announced today that they have formed an alliance to develop new welding, cutting and brazing applications for the automotive, aerospace and oilfield industries using IPG's unique kilowatt fiber lasers and Fraunhofer's applications expertise. Using a 5 kilowatt fiber laser acquired from IPG, Fraunhofer will demonstrate new laser applications at the 14th Annual Automotive Laser Application Workshop, on Fraunhofer Day, March 28, 2006.

"The fiber laser offers unique characteristics that will open up new applications and market areas for the 1 micron wavelength" said Eric Stiles, Laser Division Manager of Fraunhofer CCL. "Its high beam quality makes it very interesting for remote processing, deep penetration welding, and laser cutting applications. And its compact size, high electrical efficiency, and power scalability will bring it into areas where YAG lasers are not typically used."

"Given that Detroit has such a high concentration of automotive and machine companies, IPG's partnership with Fraunhofer gives us a presence in Detroit to accelerate welding and cutting application development, and to support and service our customers" stated Bill Shiner, Director of Industrial Market Development at IPG.

Fiber lasers are a disruptive laser technology that provide dramatic improvements over conventional YAG and CO2 lasers. Because of their many advantages, the fiber laser market grew over 50% in 2005, according to industry magazine Laser Focus World.

About IPG Photonics

IPG Photonics is the number one designer, manufacturer and seller of unique fiber lasers and amplifiers and diode lasers that enable a growing number of applications in the materials processing, telecom, medical, aerospace, government and scientific markets. Founded in 1991, IPG has been a pioneer in cladding-pumped optical fiber devices, a revolutionary technology that provides superior performance, reliability and ease-of-use over legacy lasers and mechanical production methods, allowing end-users to increase productivity, lower operating costs and accomplish more. Headquartered in Oxford, Massachusetts, IPG has plants in Germany, Russia and Italy, and regional offices in Japan, Korea, India, China and Britain. www.ipgphotonics.com. IPGP-G