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PRESS RELEASE

PhotonFirst founder Pim Kat receives royal decoration

Dutch pioneer honoured for integrated photonics sensing achievements upon retirement

Alkmaar, The Netherlands, December 16, 2021 – On his retirement, Pim Kat, founder of PhotonFirst and pioneer in integrated photonics sensing was presented the insignia belonging to the Royal Honour of Officer Orange-Nassau by Deputy Mayor Jasper Nieuwenhuizen of Langedijk on behalf His Majesty Willem Alexander The King of the Netherlands. Over the last 15 years, Pim Kat has spent an enormous amount of time, money, energy, brain- and willpower to design, develop, build, test and apply integrated photonics in a wide range of applications and demonstrators. With this, he has not only created innovation leading company PhotonFirst (previously Technobis IPS) but also laid the groundwork for the photonics sensing market at large.

'Pim has contributed to the role the Netherlands is playing in the field of photonics, and more specifically in Indium Phosphide, photonics device design, packaging, and integrated photonics. Netherlands is quickly positioning itself as a 'go-to' country for advanced photonics competency - and this has resulted in part from the drive and success of Pim's work in the field', said Michael Lebby, former CEO of OIDA (Optoelectronics Industry Development Association) and current CEO of Lightwave Logic Inc.

'Not only did Pim Kat make the first product, he also discovered the gap in the value chain. He realized that in order to bring photonics based integrated circuits to market, these had to be packaged and tested for dedicated fields of use. Combining research, application development and dedicated packaging under one roof allowed him to unlock the market', added Carlos Lee, Director General of EPIC (European Photonics Industry Consortium).

End of press release

More information

More information can be found on the www.photonfirst.com website.



PhotonFirst International

Pyrietstraat 2a, NL 1812 SC Alkmaar, The Netherlands

Tel: +31 85 0076700

www.photonfirst.com

Contact

Ir Daan A.J. Kersten MBA

Mobile: +31 653 400630

E-mail: daan.kersten@photonfirst.com

About PhotonFirst

Since 2006, PhotonFirst is unlocking the power of the photon to measure temperature, strain, pressure and shape. It is our ambition to become the global innovation leader in integrated photonics sensing and OEM's partner of choice for advanced applications. We support our customers to develop new or improved (better, faster, cheaper, more efficient) photonics sensing solutions and have everything needed in-house to industrialize, produce, scale, certify, supply and service these subsequently. Our front-row position in validation of new technology is ensured through an ambitious research and innovation agenda and partnerships with leading institutes. We measure the world.

www.photonfirst.com

About the Order of Orange-Nassau

The Order of Orange-Nassau has been in existence since April 4, 1892. Individuals who have made a special contribution to society are eligible for an award in this order. Someone who delivers exceptional achievements in her or his work and thereby distinguishes herself from colleagues in the profession can be appointed in this order. This must really exceed what can normally be expected of someone in such a position.