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# Significant Early Impact

Valencia College's Optics Program Making



How do you measure the success of a new Optics Technician training program? You could look at class enrollment, graduation rates, and job placement. These are important data points for Carolyn McMorran, Assistant Vice President of Professional

and Continuing Education at Valencia College where she helped launch the Precision Optics, Photonics, and Fiber Optics Technician program. But McMorran says there is a tangible human element that is perhaps more important than traditional metrics. "For our students, it's been life-changing," she said. Read More

Careers

Mission Possible: Soldiers Explore Optics



to transition from military service into new careers. As Donna and Magda explained, the optics industry is a natural fit for many veterans, as the equipment they have been trained to use contains many optical components. There is a growing need for

optics technicians, and veterans can benefit by using the GI Bill to pay for training. Our team showed veterans viable and fulfilling career paths in optics, and shared information about optics training programs in our ecosystems around the country. Check out Photonics Media's All "Optical sensors have Things Photonics podcast as CEO Dave Shelton discusses AmeriCOM's been very important ongoing efforts to strengthen the U.S. to the military for optics manufacturing industry to everything from support national defense and security.

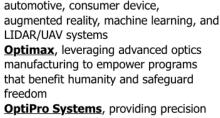
longer ranges." **DPOC Membership** Gaining Momentum AmeriCOM is pleased to announce the inaugural members of the Defense Precision Optics Consortium (DPOC). 4D Technology, deploying patented technology and innovative metrology products for measuring surface quality and defects on precision surfaces

navigation, to threat warning, to finding

potential targets at

the U.S., and recognized as the nation's first educational program devoted to optics LaCroix Precision Optics,

defense, telecommunications, and medical industries Meadowlark Optics, designing, developing, and manufacturing an extensive range of high-quality polarization systems and components ALL THINGS
PHOTONICS



machine tools and Mastercam software

Ruda Optical, provisioning solutions in

optical alignment, tight tolerancing, and

for New York State manufacturing

companies for more than 40 years

**OSE Optics**, an industry leader in

creating custom optical solutions

custom high-precision designs

**NACL Industrial**, creating optical

industries including military, medical,

coating solutions for a variety of

**Thorlabs**, designing and manufacturing products in fiber optics, lasers, optical instrumentation, optomechanics, photonics, and vibration isolation Transformative Optics Corporation, blending advanced science with practical tools to revolutionize optics and imaging

Universal Photonics, a world-leader in

surfacing and polishing technology in all

Vertex Optics, manufacturing precision

optics and ceramic components for the

critical surface preparation materials,

dedicated to the advancement of

phases of fabrication

aerospace, medical, defense, semiconductor, energy, and automotive industries AmeriCOM will spotlight DPOC-member organizations in upcoming issues of Optics Insider. To learn more about how the Consortium can benefit your organization, and for more information on how to join, visit our **DPOC website**.

AmeriCOM Meets with Defense Industry **Partners** AmeriCOM joined the exhibitors at the recent Defense Military Conference held in December at the Convention Center in Austin, Texas. The technical talks and panel sessions provided valuable information for organizations like AmeriCOM that

President & CEO, at the Defense Manufacturing Defense Precision Optics Consortium (DPOC), and Conference.

Dave Shelton, AmeriCOM

### spectrally complex optical components for high power laser systems **Apre**, manufacturing surface and wavefront interferometers to advance the optics industry

The Institute of Optics, awarding

more than half of all optics degrees in

Advanced Thin Films, providing

AccuCoat Inc., supplying thin-film

crystal components for global

customers

traceability

coatings on plastic, metal, glass, and

celebrating more than 70 years of service, manufacturing custom optical components and assemblies Lattice Materials, providing customgrown and machined silicon and germanium-based material with full

**<u>LightPath Technologies</u>**, offering

chip customers across industrial,

optics and photonics solutions to blue-

## Defense, including the Industrial Base Analysis and Sustainment (IBAS) program, the National Imperative on Industrial Skills (NIIS) development, and overall manufacturing technology advancements.

COM-Lab, our 10,000 sq. ft. research lab facility. **UPCOMING EVENTS SPIE Photonics** Arizona Photonics <u>American</u> <u>Days</u> West **Association of** Tuscon, AZ San Francisco, CA **Community Colleges** Jan. 22-24, 2025 Jan. 25-30, 2025 (AACC) Workforce

AmeriCOM was able to update its military advisors on

Technician training programs across the country, our

the progress being made with onboarding Optics

support various initiatives of the Department of

**Development Institute** Coronado, CA Jan. 28-31, 2025 Subscribe to the Optics Insider for the latest in optics news each month.

**SPIE Defense and** 

Commercial

Sensing

Orlando, FL

April 13-17, 2025

Vol. 2, Issue 8 - December, 2024 We are pleased to share this edition of our newsletter with you. If you enjoy this content, please







share with anyone you think may also appreciate it!



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