

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dortmund, Germany and San Jose, California (November 30, 2006) - NL Nanosemiconductor GmbH announced today that it has acquired Zia Laser Inc. of Albuquerque, NM for an undisclosed amount. Both companies have been pioneers in the research and the commercialization of quantum dot semiconductor laser technology and have had a cooperative relationship in the past.

"Such a fusion of complementary strengths is really a win-win." observed Dr. Alexey Kovsh, COO of NL Nanosemiconductor. "Although quantum dot research is being carried out in a number of labs worldwide, there is still a scattering of results, indicating that the technology is not yet in the mature stage of the optimization curve. Combining the two leading quantum dot companies' separately developed wafer growth expertise, laser manufacturing techniques as well as product and IP portfolio will further accelerate the exploitation of quantum dot lasers' unique properties to deliver fundamental performance improvements in existing applications as well as enabling completely new applications. In fact, cooperation already underway has so far yielded outstanding results which have exceeded expectations."

"This new entity is a powerful blend of our patented technologies which will provide our customers with the critical building blocks to spawn a new era of laser-driven silicon computer chips and will deliver a strong ROI to our shareholders." said Jürgen Kurb, CEO of NL Nanosemiconductor. "Today we see the clear potential of quantum dot lasers to enable new applications - providing high-speed optical interconnect between chips as well as delivering optical timing within the next generation of high-performance ICs such as microprocessors, graphics and memory chips."

Kurb added, "In addition, applications such as optical imaging, medical treatment and multi-lambda optical communications will benefit from the unique advantages of Quantum Dot technology, particularly the broad gain spectrum and unique wavelength range of 1.1 - 1.3 micron."

About NL Nanosemiconductor GmbH

NL Nanosemiconductor is a supplier of epitaxial wafers with Quantum Dots grown by molecular beam epitaxy (MBE) and high power laser modules, as well as broad-band and modelocked lasers. The company's long term development focus is to drive performance improvements of semiconductors by delivering lasers for inter-chip and intra-chip timing and signal distribution. Web site: www.nanosemiconductor.com.

About Zia Laser, Inc.

Zia Laser is a leading innovator and manufacturer of quantum dot semiconductor lasers. Headquartered in Albuquerque, NM, the company has spun off from the renowned Center for High Technology Materials at the University of New Mexico in June 2001. It had attracted \$22 million in investment from RWI Group, Prism Venture Partners, Venrock Associates and Harris & Harris Group. www.zialaser.com