



“Eye-Safe”: New SCHOTT Laser Glasses

LG-910 and LG-930 for eye-sparing 1.5 µm lasers for metrological and medical applications

Mainz (Germany) / Duryea (USA), June 15, 2010 – The international, technology-driven SCHOTT Group is expanding its active laser glass product offering. The newly developed LG-910 and LG-930 glasses emit at a wavelength of 1.5 µm. Lasers operating at this wavelength are especially eye-sparing. They are being used more and more for metrological and medical applications. User eye-safety is of primary importance in these fields. The product offering includes laser components fabricated to customer specifications (e.g. rods, plates and discs) with a dielectric coating that provides an extremely high laser damage threshold.

Lasers emitting at a wavelength of 1.5 µm are safer for the eyes and work in a precise and contact-free way. They are mainly used for metrological applications such as range finding and targeting. In addition, these lasers are also being increasingly used for cosmetic laser treatments and in dermatology, for instance, to treat scars and wrinkles. SCHOTT has now developed special “Eye-Safe” laser glasses for these applications.

LG-910 and LG-930 are phosphate laser glasses that have been doped with varied amounts of Erbium, Ytterbium and Chrome. They are used primarily in flashlamp- and diode-pumped solid-state lasers in the form of rods, plates and discs. As phosphate glasses offer high solubility of rare earth dopants, the amount of active ions can be increased. This results in significantly higher performance than competing technologies in pulsed applications. In particular, LG-910 offers high efficiency.

“We meticulously control the purity of the raw materials that we use for these glasses. Additionally, we have optimized our melting and finishing processes,” explains Dr. Angela Hohl-

SCHOTT AG
Optatec 2010
Frankfurt, Germany
June 15-18, 2010
Hall 3.0, Booth D12

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AbiChedid, SCHOTT Product Development Manager. "Thus, we have succeeded in developing an outstanding product that fulfills even the most stringent requirements."

The standard LG-910 and LG-930 laser glasses as well as the currently available LG and APG laser glasses are typically doped with Neodymium (Nd) and Erbium (Er) as active ions. On top of that, SCHOTT has successfully manufactured laser glasses with a wide range of rare earth ions and combinations thereof. Dopants are added to the existing base compositions of any standard laser glasses and tailored to customer requirements and applications.

SCHOTT supplies laser components fully finished and coated to customer specifications as polishing and coating can strongly impact laser performance. This results in a very high laser damage threshold to meet the requirements of demanding applications.

SCHOTT is an international technology group that sees its core purpose is to improve how people live and work. To this end, the company has been developing special materials, components and systems for more than 125 years. The main areas of focus are the household appliances industry, pharmaceuticals, solar energy, electronics, optics and the automotive industry. The SCHOTT Group is present in close proximity to its customers with production and sales companies in all its major markets. The Group's approximately 17,400 employees generated worldwide sales of approximately 2.3 billion Euros in the fiscal year 2008/2009. The company's technological and economic expertise is closely linked with its social and ecological responsibility. The SCHOTT AG is an affiliate of the Carl-Zeiss-Stiftung (Foundation).

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Download link to ZIP file contains a print quality image:
http://www.schott-pictures.net/presskit/45799.eye-safe_EN



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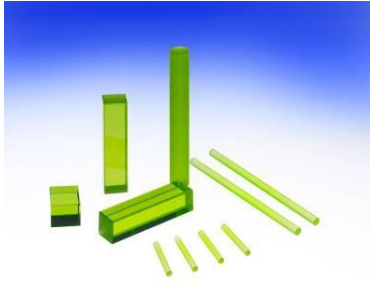


Image No. 44089: "Eye-Safe": The new SCHOTT LG-910 and LG-930 laser glasses are particularly suited for eye-sparing 1.5 μm lasers for metrological and medical applications. Source: SCHOTT

More press photographs can be downloaded from
<http://www.schott-pictures.net>

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