

Friday 4th September 2009



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **AUSTRALIAN INDUSTRY SHOWCASED AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PLASTIC OPTICAL FIBERS (POF2009)**

The International Conference on Plastic Optical Fibers will see the launch of a new Australian company, Kiriama. Kiriama is commercializing a unique and award-winning type of polymer fibre, developed over several years of research at the University of Sydney. Kiriama CEO, Dr Alex Argyros, said, "The new polymer fibres have potential for use in mechanical sensing, ultra-fast broadband and the transmission of terahertz radiation. Terahertz radiation is increasingly used medically and forensically as a safer alternative to X-ray imaging, and for the detection of drugs and explosives. Kiriama is a dynamic step towards Australia's photonic future."

Professor Ben Eggleton, who will launch the company, is one of Australia's leading Photonics researchers as well as being the founding Director of the University's Institute of Photonics and Optical Science (IPOS), and an ARC Federation Fellow. "It's very important that we translate some of the world class research done here at the University of Sydney into technology opportunities that benefit the nation. This not only brings economic benefits in the short term but also fosters a culture of innovation and encourages high tech companies to prepare Australia for a smarter future. I'm delighted to be involved in launching Kiriama. Hopefully this is just the first of several spin-offs to emerge from IPOS."

Another Australian company to be showcased at POF2009 is DiMoto, a developer of plastic optical fibre network hardware, who will be launching the world's first plastic optical fibre enabled thin client computing device. "This is a pioneering achievement and represents the convergence of two very exciting technologies," said Michael Stevens, Director of DiMoto.

"Plastic optical fiber is an extremely simple, secure and high performance networking technology. It can be installed alongside power, terminated in seconds and the low profile of the fiber allows it to be routed inconspicuously. With the launch of a thin client-computing device with native support for plastic optical fiber, complete end-to-end POF networks are now possible. The opportunity to reduce deployment cost and time can be fully realised and the thin client architecture offers additional long term operational savings, together with a small carbon footprint." The thin client device is the product of collaboration with Australian thin client developer, ThinLinX.

World leaders in POF research and commercialised projects are presenting at the Sydney POF Meeting, and on-line registration for the conference is still accepted. The 18th International

Conference on Plastic Optical Fibers (ICPOF2009) will be held in Sydney, Australia from the 9-11 of September at Dockside on Darling Harbour.

For more information on the Conference visit: <http://pof2009.mtci.com.au> or contact: [pof2009@mtci.com.au](mailto:pof2009@mtci.com.au) or tel: +61 2 9524 1799

**-END-**

**For further details on DiMoto:**

Mr Michael Stevens Tel: +61 7 3129 0238 email: [michael.stevens@dimoto.com.au](mailto:michael.stevens@dimoto.com.au)

**For further details on Kirياما:**

Dr Alex Argyros Tel: +61403300157 email: [a.argyros@kiriama.com](mailto:a.argyros@kiriama.com)

**For further details on The Institute of Photonics and Optical Sciences (IPOS):**

[www.usyd.edu.au/ipos/](http://www.usyd.edu.au/ipos/)