

For Immediate Release  
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# Press Release

## **NP Photonics Secures Additional \$2 Million in A2 Series Funding**

Tucson, Ariz, October 12, 2005 — NP Photonics, Inc., a leading supplier of single-frequency fiber lasers for optical-sensing applications in the oil and gas, and security/military markets as well as in medical imaging and general research sectors, announced an additional Series A2 funding close of \$2M (USD). The participant in the funding is Shepherd Ventures, San Diego, California, led by Managing Partner George C. Kenney. Mr. Kenney will serve on NP's board of directors. Enterprise Partners and Sierra Ventures are co-investors with Shepherd Ventures in the Series A2 funding.

George Kenney, managing partner of Shepherd Ventures, who led the Series A Preferred financing, said "We are excited to add NP Photonics to our portfolio. It is very promising to work with a company that has a strong team and owns truly disruptive technology. We believe NP Photonic's proprietary products have broad applications in many diverse market sectors. Growth in optical sensing for the oil and gas, security, and R & D sectors could be impressive."

NP Photonics has recently launched a line of high-power (up to 5 watts) single-frequency lasers as well as the narrowest linewidth single-frequency laser (<200 Hz) available on the market. Patrick Edsell, president and CEO said, "We believe that our technology will enable a number of optical-sensing applications that have been in demand for some time, but that haven't had a light source that enabled the systems to meet the customers' requirements. This, in turn, will result in the development of very sizable markets for our products."

### **About NP Photonics, Inc.**

NP Photonics, Inc., headquartered in Tucson, Arizona began in 1998 as a spin-off of the University of Arizona's Optical Sciences Center. Currently NP employs over 35 employees and occupies an 18,000 sq.-ft. state-of-the-art facility.

NP Photonics uses innovative glass and fiber technology to design, produce and deliver a new class of advanced light sources for sensing, medical and R & D markets. The company has developed a broad family of products including narrow-linewidth fiber lasers, ASE sources, fiber amplifiers, and high-power light sources.

### **About Shepherd Ventures**

Shepherd Ventures, located in San Diego, California, is a leading venture capital firm whose mission is to generate significant capital appreciation through first and later stage investments in technology growth companies. Shepherd Ventures focuses on investment opportunities in information technology and life sciences. Using a hands-on approach, Shepherd Ventures provides extensive operating experience, advisory networks and strategic partnerships to make its portfolio companies successful.

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