

Press Release

Acquisition of a leading global laser manufacturer

Silver Investment Partners acquires CryLaS

- **CryLaS is a leading specialist supplier of deep UV lasers used in the semiconductor industry, biotechnology and analytics**
- **As a long-term oriented investor, SIP supports the expansion of its strong market position and ensures an orderly management succession**
- **SIP plans to scale the business further by extending the product range, service offering and development partnerships with customers**

Königstein/Berlin, March 10, 2021 – Silver Investment Partners (SIP) has acquired a majority stake in Crystal Laser Systems GmbH (CryLaS), a global manufacturer of deep UV lasers, which are used mainly in the semiconductor industry, biotechnology and analytics. The lasers are characterised by a short wavelength, precise beam parameters and a long service life, making them ideally suitable for high-tech applications. They are used, for example, for wafer inspection, the labelling of technical optics or molecule editing. This laser application is a sophisticated special technology in which CryLaS is one of the leading suppliers worldwide. As a long-term oriented investor, SIP supports the expansion of its strong market position and ensures an orderly management succession. The previous main shareholder SHS Gesellschaft für Beteiligungen mbH & Co. Mittelstand KG (SHS) has exited its investment. The management of CryLaS will retain a minority stake in the company. The parties have agreed not to disclose the purchase price.

“Already today, CryLaS is one of the leading suppliers in the field of laser systems for wafer inspection. We plan to expand our strong position by extending our product range and service offering and by starting new development partnerships with our customers. I am pleased to have Silver Investment Partners as an experienced and entrepreneurial partner at our side when taking the next step in the development of our company”, says Dr. Helmut Spanner, CEO of CryLaS.

“We have great confidence in Silver Investment Partners and consider their investment approach as very sustainable and value-adding. Furthermore, Philipp Amereller’s team has known CryLaS for over ten years through the business relationship with a portfolio company. From the very beginning, we were convinced that Silver Investment Partners was a suitable

partner for CryLaS and we were happy to accept the offer for talks”, says Dr. Bernhard Schirmers, Founder and Managing Partner of SHS.

Leading global laser manufacturer for high-tech applications

CryLaS was founded in 2004 and is located in Berlin. The company manufactures efficient lasers for continuous operation for various high-tech industries, mainly for use in the semiconductor industry, biotechnology and analytics. CryLaS products include pulsed lasers with a short wavelength that are used, for example, to separate molecules or cells. Additionally, the company offers CW lasers, whose continuous beam is used in laser spectroscopy and wafer inspection. Over the years, CryLaS has entered several market niches and is now one of the leading suppliers in the field of laser systems for wafer inspection.

“CryLaS is in a very strong market position holding extensive patents, having long-standing customer relationships and an experienced R&D team. As specific expert knowledge is needed, the market entry barrier is accordingly high and the number of direct competitors low. We are looking forward to build on this unique market position together with the management team”, says Philipp Amereller, Managing Partner of SIP.

CryLaS manufactures products for discerning clients from different industries worldwide – some of them are market leaders in their respective segments. For these clients, a long service life and high performance of the products are crucial. The deep UV lasers of CryLaS are characterised by a long-lasting and high quality, a robust design and a strong performance. To ensure this product quality, CryLaS assembles their lasers in their own high-end cleanrooms. Well-developed manufacturing systems and detailed process documentation allow for a cost-efficient scaling of the production.

Working in partnership on further developing the company

SIP will support CryLaS as an entrepreneurial partner in the expansion of the already strong market position and in the upcoming management succession. The focus will be put on intensive market cultivation and on new development partnerships with customers. For this purpose, production volumes will be increased and service offerings and new products further advanced. Additionally, SIP plans to extend marketing and sales activities.

As an independent equity finance investor, SIP is committed to supporting portfolio companies in their further development in a sustainable and long-term manner. All portfolio companies benefit from the expertise and extensive expert network of the investor.

SIP was advised on the transaction by Rödl & Partner (Financial), KWM Europe (Legal and Tax) and Optech Consulting (Commercial).

About CryLaS

CryLaS was founded in 2004 and is located in Berlin. The company manufactures deep UV lasers for continuous operation for various high-tech industries, mainly for use in the semiconductor industry, biotechnology and analytics. The product range of CryLaS includes pulsed lasers and CW-lasers, which are ideally suited for high-tech use through their short wavelength, precise beam parameters and long service life. Over the years, CryLaS has entered several market niches and is now one of the leading suppliers in the field of laser systems for wafer inspection.

Please find further information at: www.CryLaS.de

About Silver Investment Partners

Silver Investment Partners is an independent equity finance investor for medium-sized companies in Germany, Austria and Switzerland. An entrepreneurial, experienced and trusted partner, Silver Investment Partners engages in majority and minority interests in companies with revenues of between €5 million and €100 million, with a focus on companies with revenues of between €10 million and €50 million.

The classic investment scenarios for medium-sized companies include succession situations, changes in shareholders, spin-offs of companies and growth financing. The investment strategy focuses on companies in business services, industrial and manufacturing, software, consumer and trade, healthcare / medical, environmental and related industrial technologies with attractive growth and value-added potential.

Please find further information at: www.silver-ip.com

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