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Alfalight Receives \$1.36 Million Army Contract to Develop Advanced 1 kW Laser Diode Pump Source

***Army Research Laboratory Award Extends Successful Programs to Enable Pumps for
Brighter, More Cost-Effective and Reliable High-Power Solid State Lasers***

MADISON, WI – October 28, 2008 – Alfalight, Inc., a leading manufacturer of highly efficient high-power diode lasers, announced today that it has received a \$1.36 million contract from the Army Research Laboratory (ARL) in Adelphi, MD. This 12-month program, entitled “High Brightness Diode Sources II” (HiBriDS II), will enable Alfalight to extend the success of previous programs to create solid state laser diode pump sources with higher brightness and reliability than current technology can provide. The objective of the program is to demonstrate 1 kW of 975 nm narrowband, wavelength-locked diode laser light coupled into a 600 μm , 0.22 NA fiber.

“Alfalight’s past performance in DARPA’s ADHELs (Architecture for Diode High Energy Laser Systems) and ARL’s HiBriDS programs has allowed us to push both the spatial and the spectral brightness of pump diodes by implementing brightness enhancement and wavelength-stabilization technologies,” said Manoj Kanskar, vice president of Research and Development at Alfalight. “The extended scope of HiBriDS II

will allow us to make a significant improvement to the brightness and power of cost-effective kilowatt-class pump modules.”

The new design will require less-demanding manufacturing tolerances and fewer optical components to scale power, allowing resultant products to be more cost-effective and robust compared to fiber-coupled bars. Products resulting from the HiBriDS II program will also combine Alfalight’s integrated wavelength stabilization technology, high power-conversion efficiency, and proven packaging expertise to enable products requiring only industrial water cooling, rather than micro-channel cooling. Applications will include defense systems, commercial fiber laser pumping, and solid-state laser pumping as well as direct-diode materials processing.

For information about Alfalight’s commercial high-power laser diode pump sources, please contact Anthony Bisco at abisco@alfalight.com or 608-240-4826.

About Alfalight

Alfalight, Inc., based in Madison, Wisconsin, is a leading developer and manufacturer of highly efficient high-power diode lasers for industrial, defense, and telecommunications markets. The company’s advanced Aluminum-Free Active region (ALFA) diode lasers and Wavelength Stabilization Technology (WST) enable industry-leading efficiency, reliability, power and brightness. Alfalight’s exclusive technology portfolio includes patents applicable to high-power narrow-spectrum lasers, single-mode lasers, and short-wavelength lasers. Alfalight’s current high-power diode laser product line features chips on carrier, fiber-coupled single emitters and combined power modules. For more information, visit www.alfalight.com.

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