



Fachhochschule Nordwestschweiz FHNW – Dec. 4, 2023

TRUMPF's step into space

From laser-based 3D metal printing to
quantum sensors

Dr. Berthold Schmidt | CTO TRUMPF



AI-Response to: "A Swiss cheese with holes made of silver shiny metal in outer space" (Dall-E3)

Motivation

- **Cooperation with new partners (private space industry)**
- **Exploring innovative, composite materials**
- **Realization of new structures**
- **New technologies for stringent applications**
- **AI assisted design approaches**

Agenda

- 01** Introduction to TRUMPF

- 02** 3D metal printing for space applications

- 03** Quantum Gyroscope (QYRO) for position control of satellites

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At a glance – key corporate figures

Fiscal Year 22/23

Sales revenue (bn. EUR)

5.4

+27 %

Order intake (bn. EUR)

5.1

–8.8 %

Employees
as of June 30, 2023

18,352

+10.9 %

Earnings before interest
and taxes (EBIT) (m. EUR)

615

+31.4 %

EBIT margin

11.5 %

R+D costs (m. EUR)

476

+6.3 %

R+D quota

8.9 %

Investments (m. EUR)

316

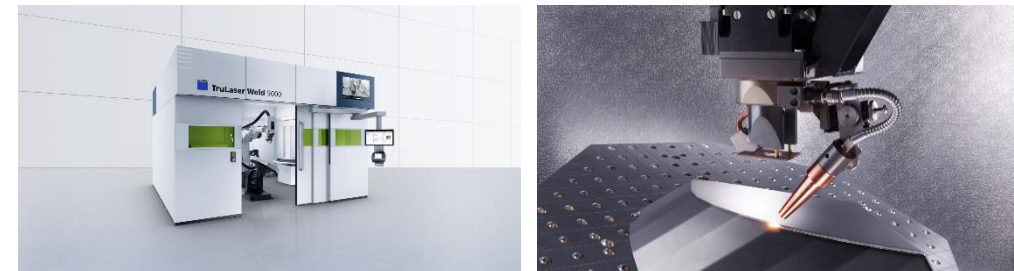
+44.7 %

Business Unit Machine Tools (MT)

Machines for laser cutting



Machines for laser welding



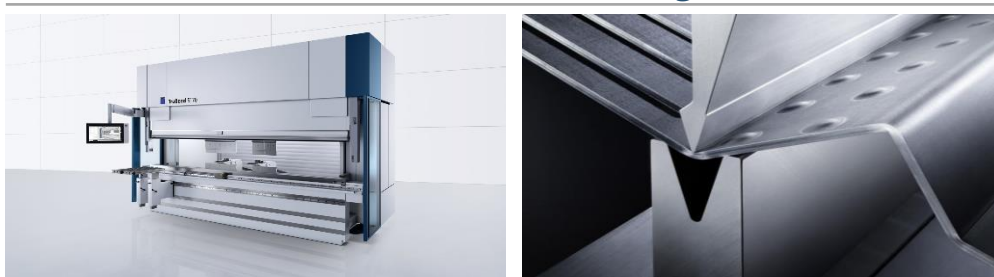
Machines for punching and punch laser processing



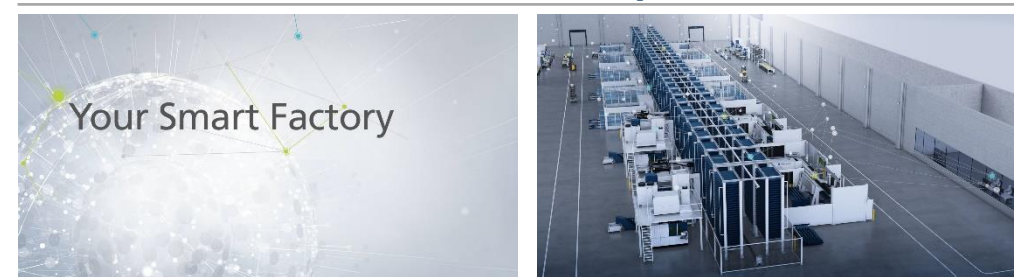
Machines for tube processing



Machines for bending

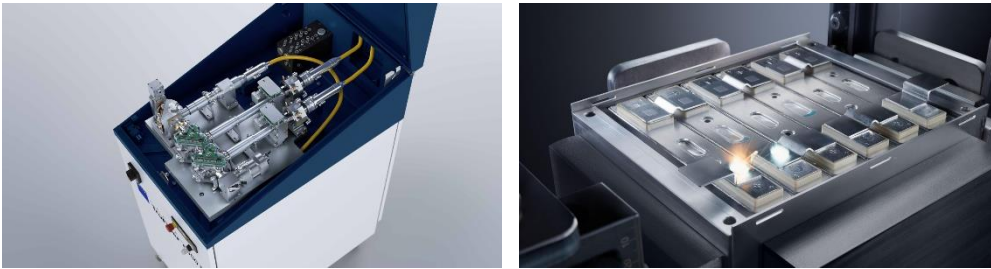


Solutions for networked production



Business Unit Laser Technology (LT)

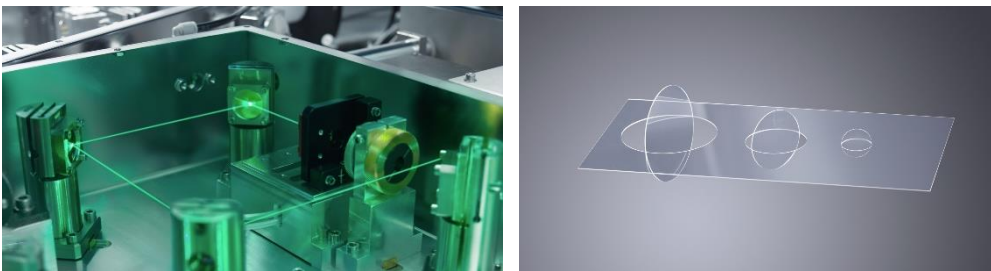
CW High-power Lasers



Laser Systems



Short/Ultrashort Pulse Lasers



Machines for Additive Manufacturing



Processing Optics and Sensors



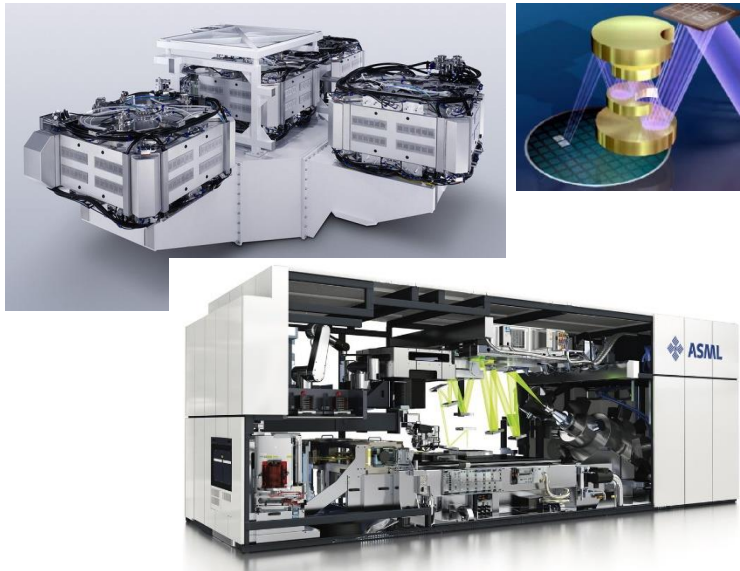
Marking Lasers



Business Fields: EUV, Electronics, Photonic Components

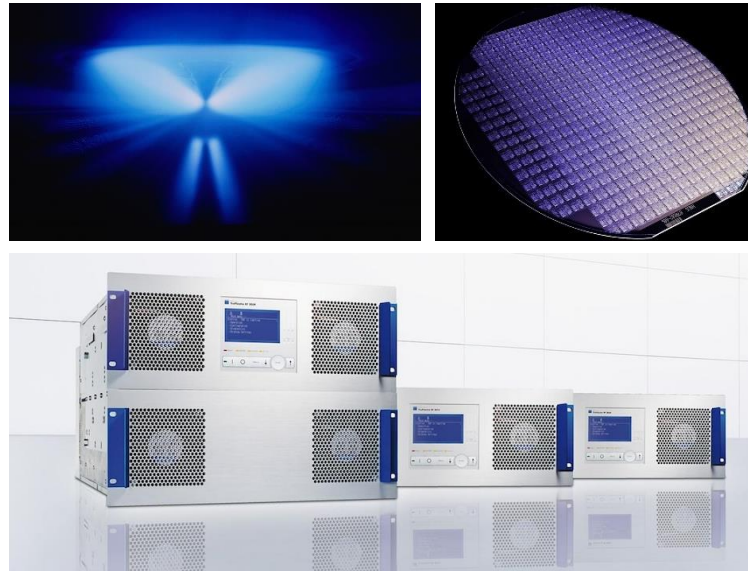
EUV

Drive laser systems for
EUV lithography



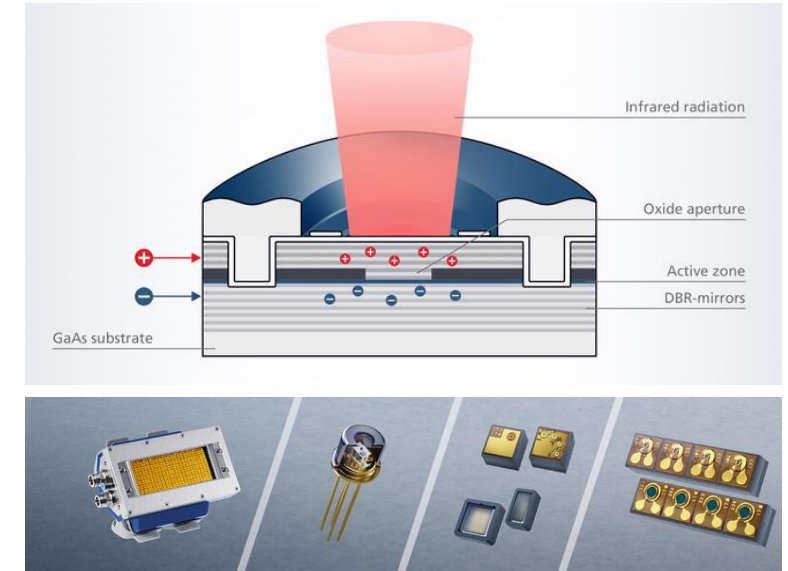
Electronics (E)

Power electronics, especially plasma generators
for the semiconductor industry



Photonic Components (PC)

Semiconductor lasers (VCSELs) for sensing and
datacom applications



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01 Introduction to TRUMPF

02 3D metal printing for space applications

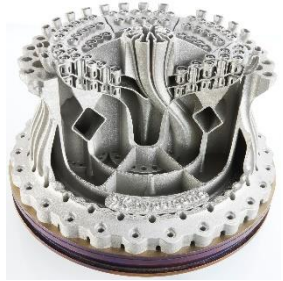
03 Quantum Gyroscope (QYRO) for position control of satellites

Space – Laser Applications Examples & Overview

Supporting more efficient manufacture of launch vehicles and components

Launch Vehicles

e.g. Ariane 6



AM – Ignition Chambers

Material: Ni/Cu-Alloys

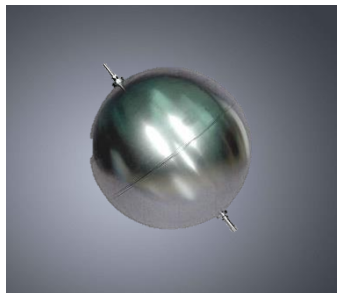
Courtesy of Hyperganic



AM by DED – Thrusters with cooling channels

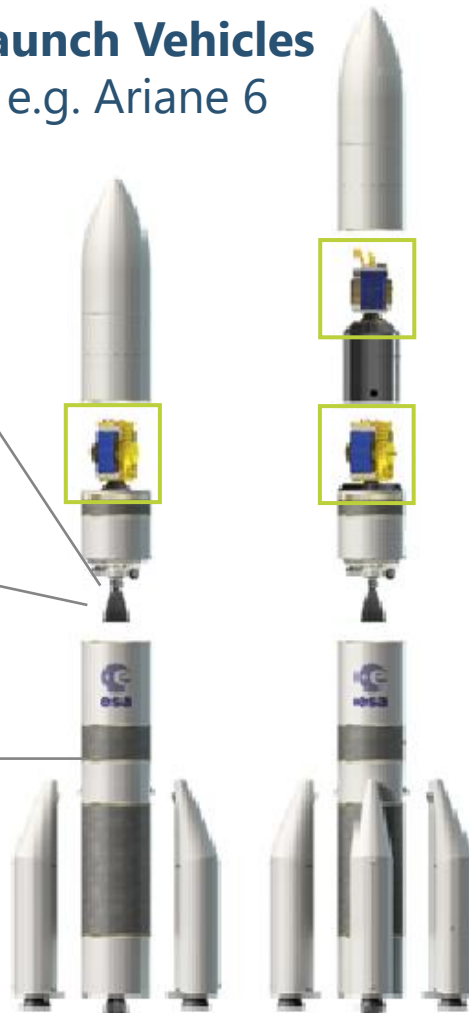
Material: Cu-Alloys

Courtesy of RPM Innovations



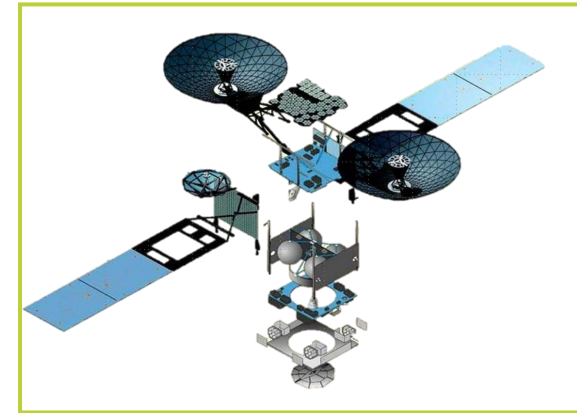
Joining/AM by DED – Structures

Material: Titanium, Aluminum



Payload / Satellites

e.g. Data/Relay Satellites



Source: NASA illustration of TDRS (Tracking & Data Relay Satellite)

Depending on mission type a broad range of laser applications are of interest for satellites

Space: Satellites – Laser Applications Examples & Overview

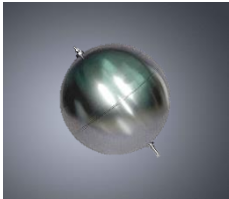
Many powder bed AM applications are already used in satellites



Joining – Wave guides
Material: AlSi10Mg



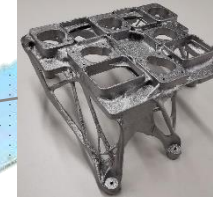
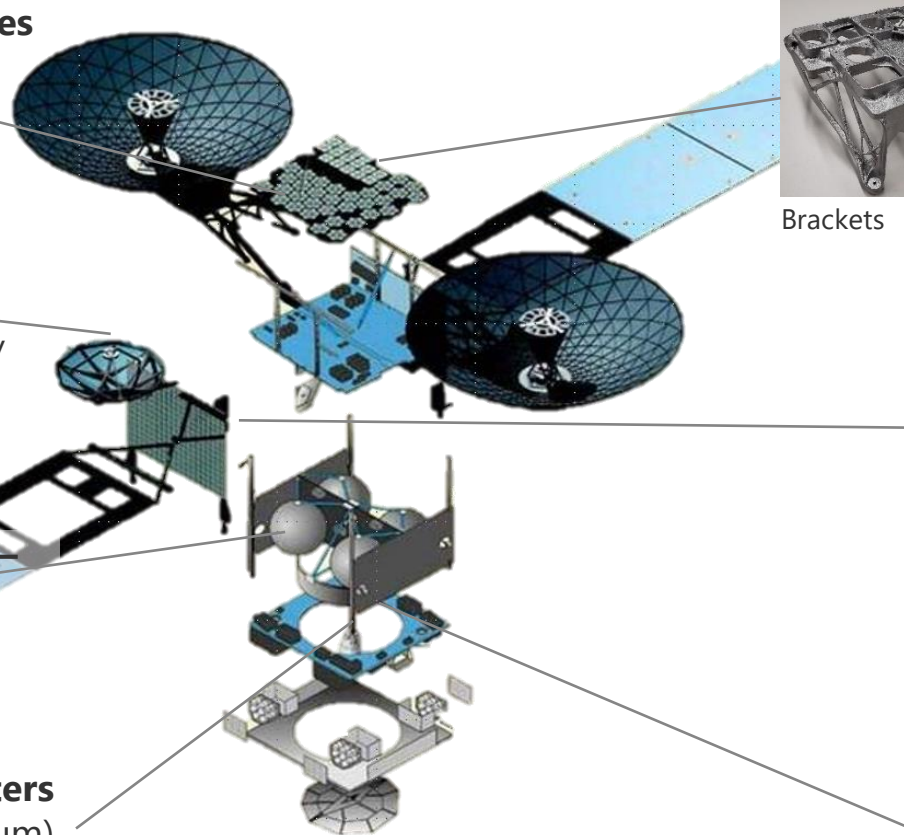
Joining – Dissimilar materials
Material: AlSi10Mg w/
Sapphire / Glasses



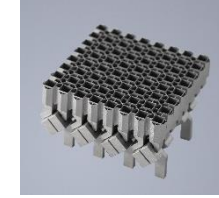
Joining/AM by DED – Structures
Material: Titanium,
Aluminum



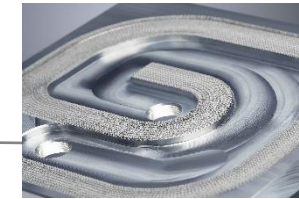
AM – Satellite thrusters
Material: C103 (Niobium)
EXHIBITION SAMPLE



Brackets

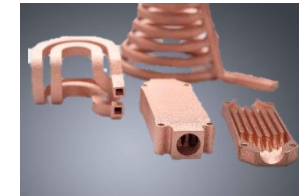


RF Antennas



AM – Sub payloads components
Material: AlSi10Mg
EXHIBITION SAMPLE

Cleaning & Structuring – Heat exchanger
Material: Different materials



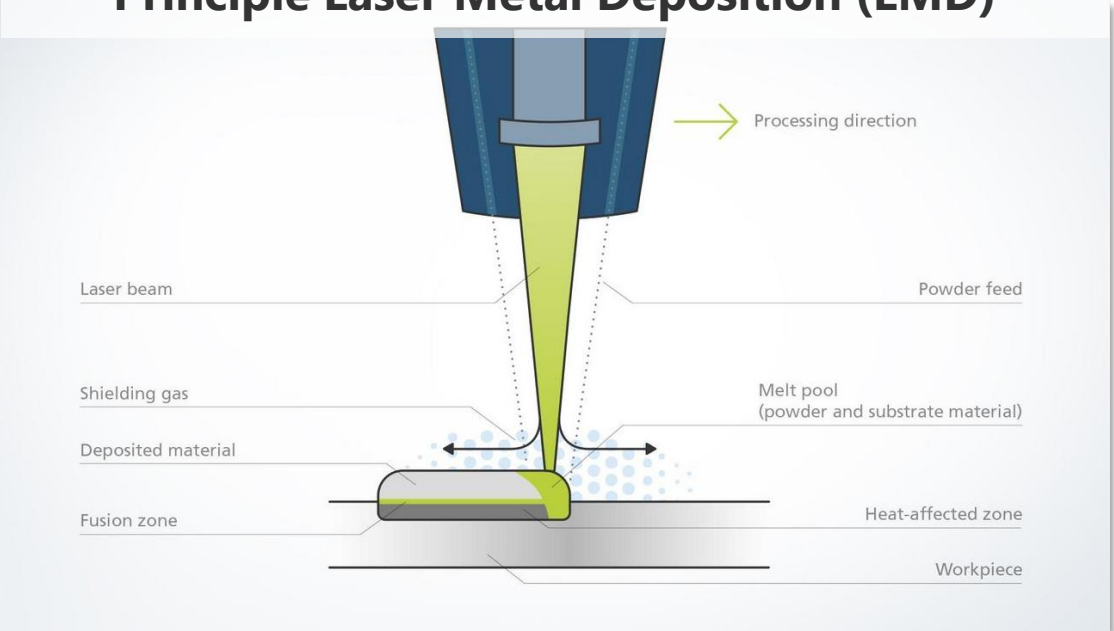
AM – Coils & Heat Exchangers
Material: Pure copper

Source: NASA illustration of TDRS (Tracking & Data Relay Satellite)

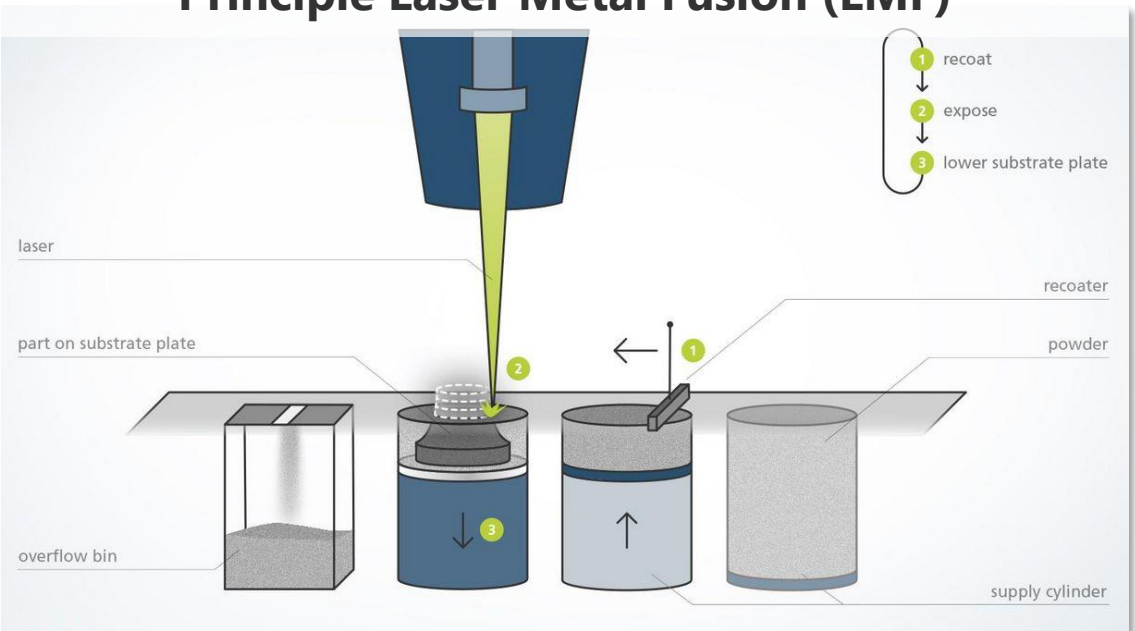
Laser Additive Technologies LMD & LMF – Working Principles

Complementary technologies with individual benefits

Principle Laser Metal Deposition (LMD)



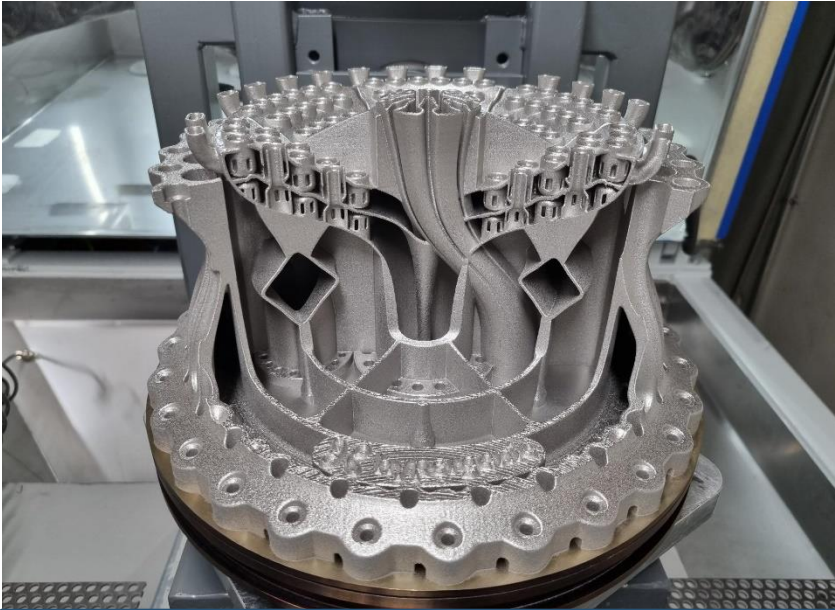
Principle Laser Metal Fusion (LMF)



	Freedom of Design	
	Scalability	
	Material Selection	
	Additive Manufacture	
	Repair/Coating	

Ti-6-2-4-2 Applications

AI assisted design: Injector Head by Hyperganic



Hyperganic Group GmbH "Injector Head"

- Material: Ti-6Al-2Sn-4Zr-2Mo
- Machine: TruPrint 5000 with 500°C preheat option
- Number of layers: 2410 at 60mm
- Build Time (multilaser): 27 hours, 51 min
- Cost: approx. €2,905 without heat treat & post processing

Rocket Injector Ring by GERG



GERG "Rocket Injector Ring"

- Material: Ti-6Al-2Sn-4Zr-2Mo
- Machine: TruPrint 5000 with 500°C preheat option
- Number of layers: 3953 at 60mm
- Build Time (multilaser): 28 hours
- Cost: approx. €2600 without heat treat & post processing

a) Modell-&Formenbau Blasius GERG GmbH

Additive Manufacturing of Metal Structures – Rocket Nozzles

Cost efficient AM for very big structural parts using LMD-Technology



Benefits

- Lowest material costs & highest part properties by AM¹
- Use of green laser for e.g. copper (#2)



Relevant Features

- Part size only limited by size of gantry or robot system (#1)



Application Details

- Build-up of features with surface resolution of approx. <0.5mm (#3)
- Build-up of Cu-alloys with internal cooling channels (#2)
- Build-up rates can be much higher than powder bed process
- No "support material" needed → much lower powder consumption
- Often used materials for AM purposes: Inconel 625, Inconel 718 (#3). Potentially copper alloys.

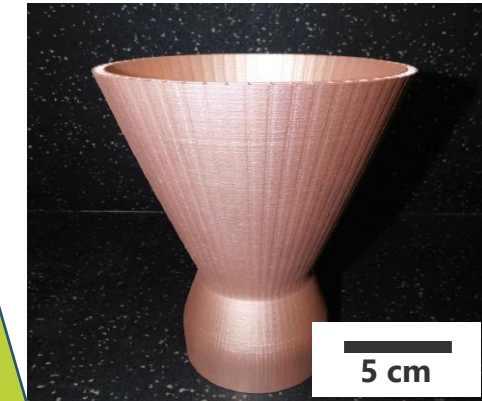
¹ AM Additive Manufacturing

Results – Nozzle Thruster Mock-Up

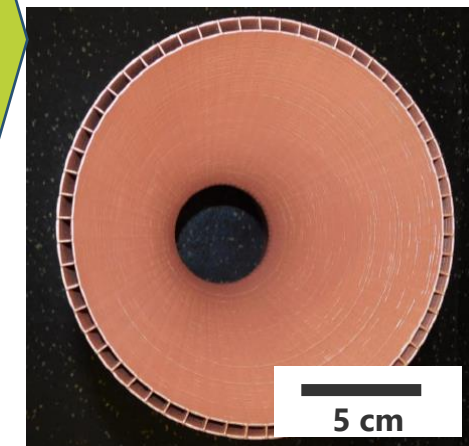
By use of high-power green laser sources high build-up rates are achievable

Build-up of volumes with green feasible

- Using a 1 – 3kW laser source to proof higher build-up rates
 - Scaling of existing process parameters to higher laser powers feasible
 - Process optimization depending on application & design needed
- Wall thickness of approx. 1mm
- Layer height of approx. 300-500 μm
- Using LMD up-to factor 10 less powder consumption in comparison to PBF-processes



Side View



Top View

Courtesy of RPM Innovations

Laser Metal Fusion – Propulsion Applications

From rocket engines to small satellite thrusters



Benefits

- Weight and cost reduction
- Suitable for relevant batch sizes
- General feasibility



Relevant Features

- Advanced cooling designs
- Reduction of parts per assembly



Application Details

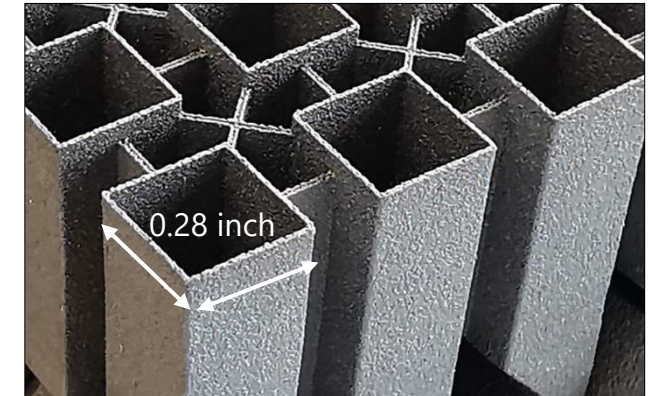
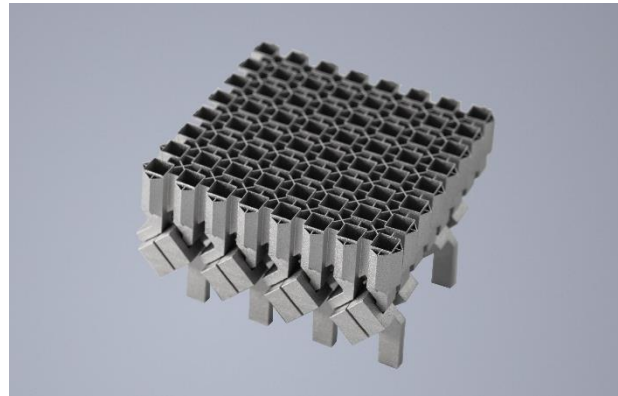
- Used materials: Inc 718, Inc 625, Ti6Al4V
- C103 material for use in cryogenic environment
- Printing of other refractory metals possible
- Reduction of support structures to maintain geometry & allow sustainable business case

Laser Metal Fusion – Waveguide & Antenna Applications

Complex and monolithic geometries addressable



EXHIBITION SAMPLE



Benefits

- Weight and cost reduction
- Advanced designs possible



Relevant Features

- Ra surface "as printed" between 3-5 μm
- Monolithic (integral) design approach



Application Details

- Excellent printing resolution to even address K_u & K_a band frequencies
- AlSi10Mg alloy
- 20 μm layer thickness
- Printing time for 4 antennas of 18 hours
- Low geometrical deviation
e.g. Ka band filter below 50 μm

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Quantenbasierte
Gyroskope

Die Zukunft der hochpräzisen
Lagebestimmung im Weltall

Nuclear Spin-Based Quantum Gyroscopes for New Space Applications



Q.ANT

Galileo
Kompetenzzentrum



Leibniz
Ferdinand
Braun
Institut



BOSCH



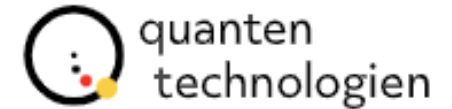
GEGRÜNDET VOM

Bundesministerium
für Bildung
und Forschung

QYRO targets to bring a NMR gyro sensor into space



Bundesministerium
für Bildung
und Forschung



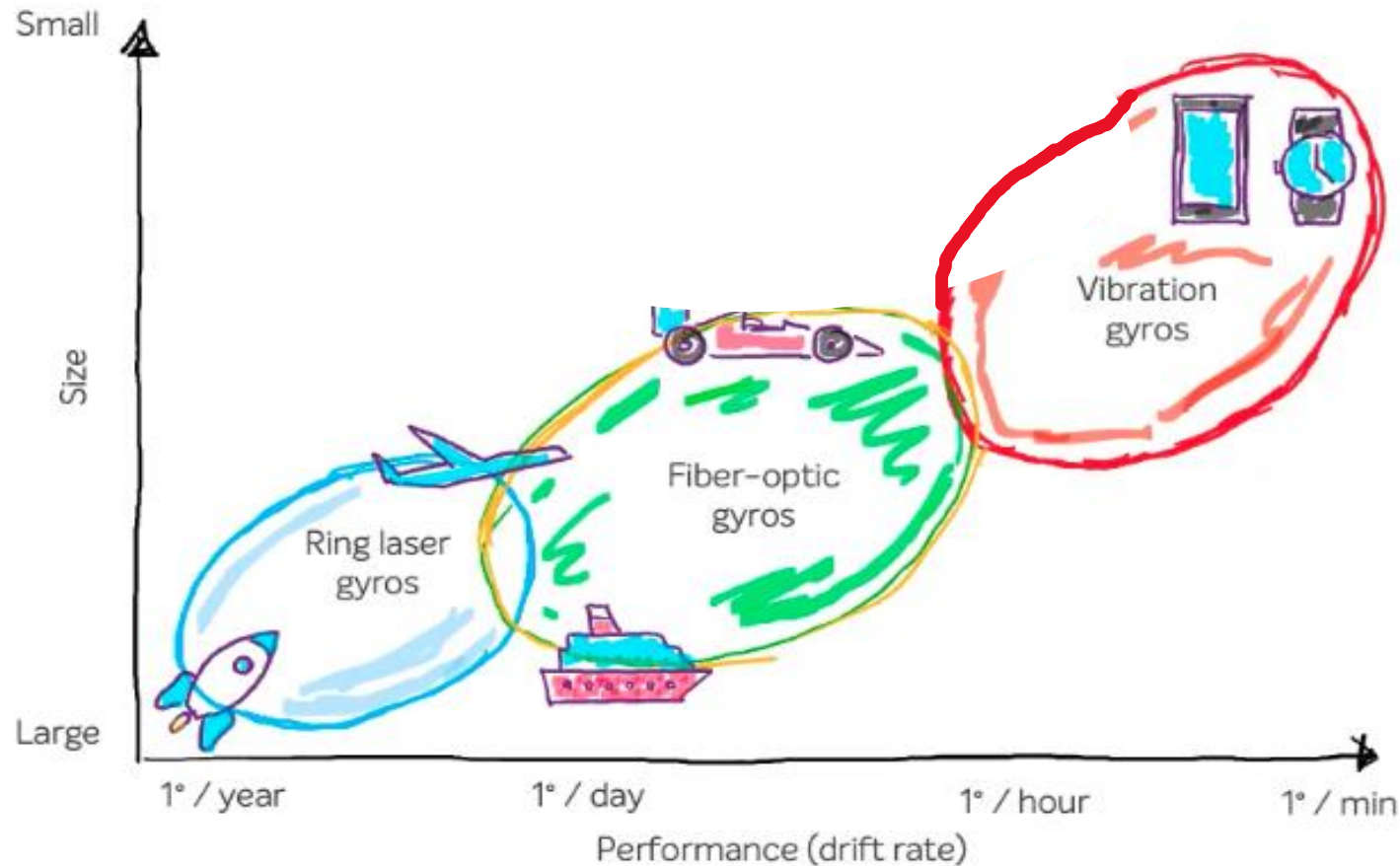
Project Goal:

- Develop, launch and validate a **quantum-based gyroscope** as an efficient and low-cost alternative technology compared to commercial classical gyros for space navigation.
- A highly sensitive atomic NMR gyroscope will sense rotation and **provide accurate position control** of CubeSats for communication.
- **First satellite controlled by quantum technology!**

Funding:

- Joint project funded by the Federal Government of Germany (BMBF) under "*Lighthouse projects in quantum-based measurement technology to address society challenges*"
- Duration: 5 years (2022 to 2027)

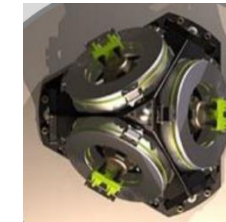
There are at least four conventional inertial sensor technologies for gyroscopes



MEMS / vibration Gyro
Coriolis force

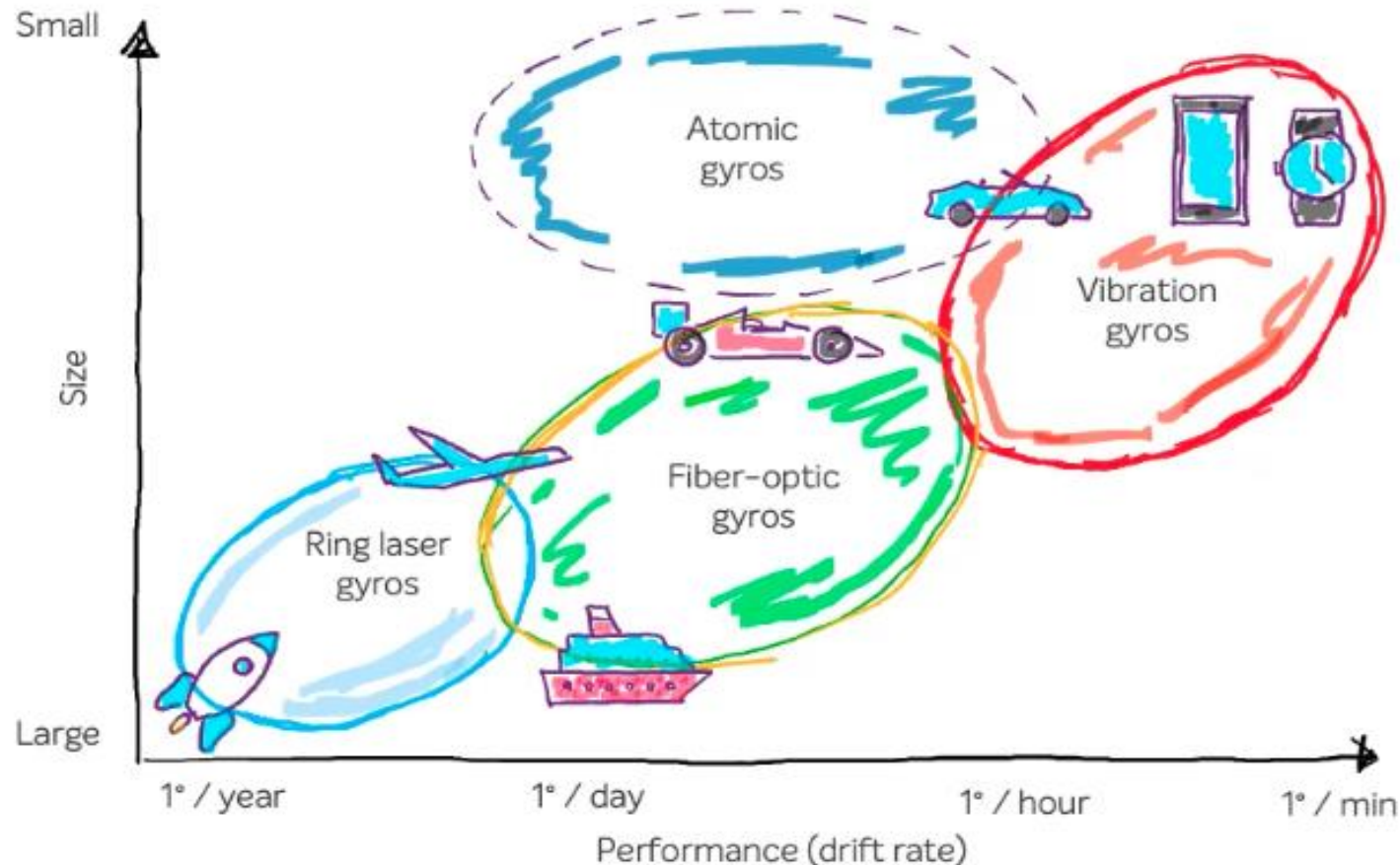


Fiber-optic Gyro (FOG)
Sagnac interference

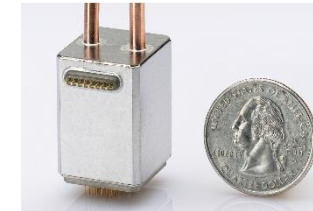


Ring Laser Gyro
Sagnac interference

There are at least four conventional inertial sensor technologies for gyroscopes



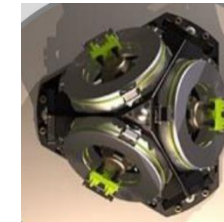
MEMS / vibration Gyro
Coriolis force



NMR (atomic) Gyro
Nuclear Magnetic Resonance
Northrop Grumman Corporation (NGC)

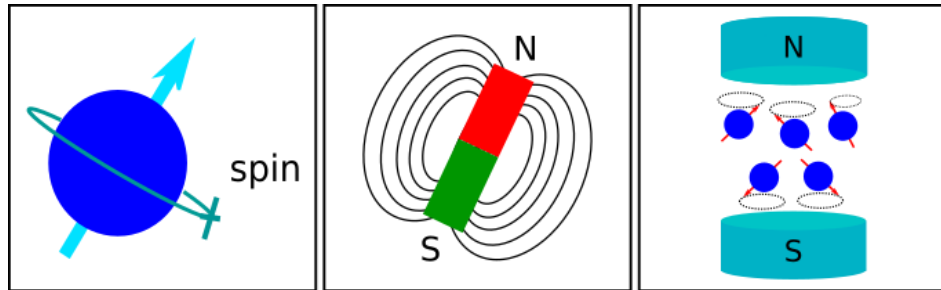


Fiber-optic Gyro (FOG)
Sagnac interference



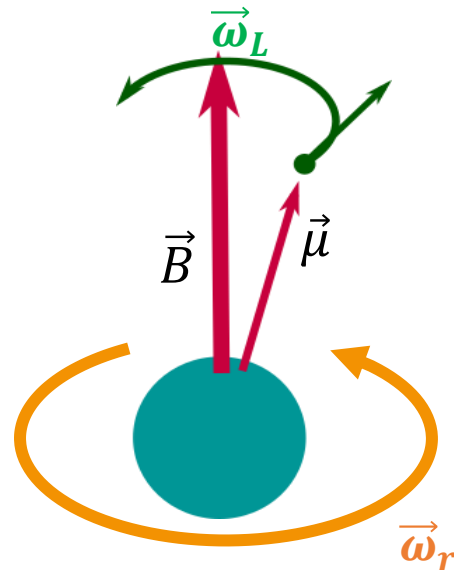
Ring Laser Gyro
Sagnac interference

We sense the nuclear spins to determine angular rotation



Rotating charges exhibit a magnetic moment $\vec{\mu}$

Magnetic moments in external B-field



What: Measuring the Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) of noble gases.

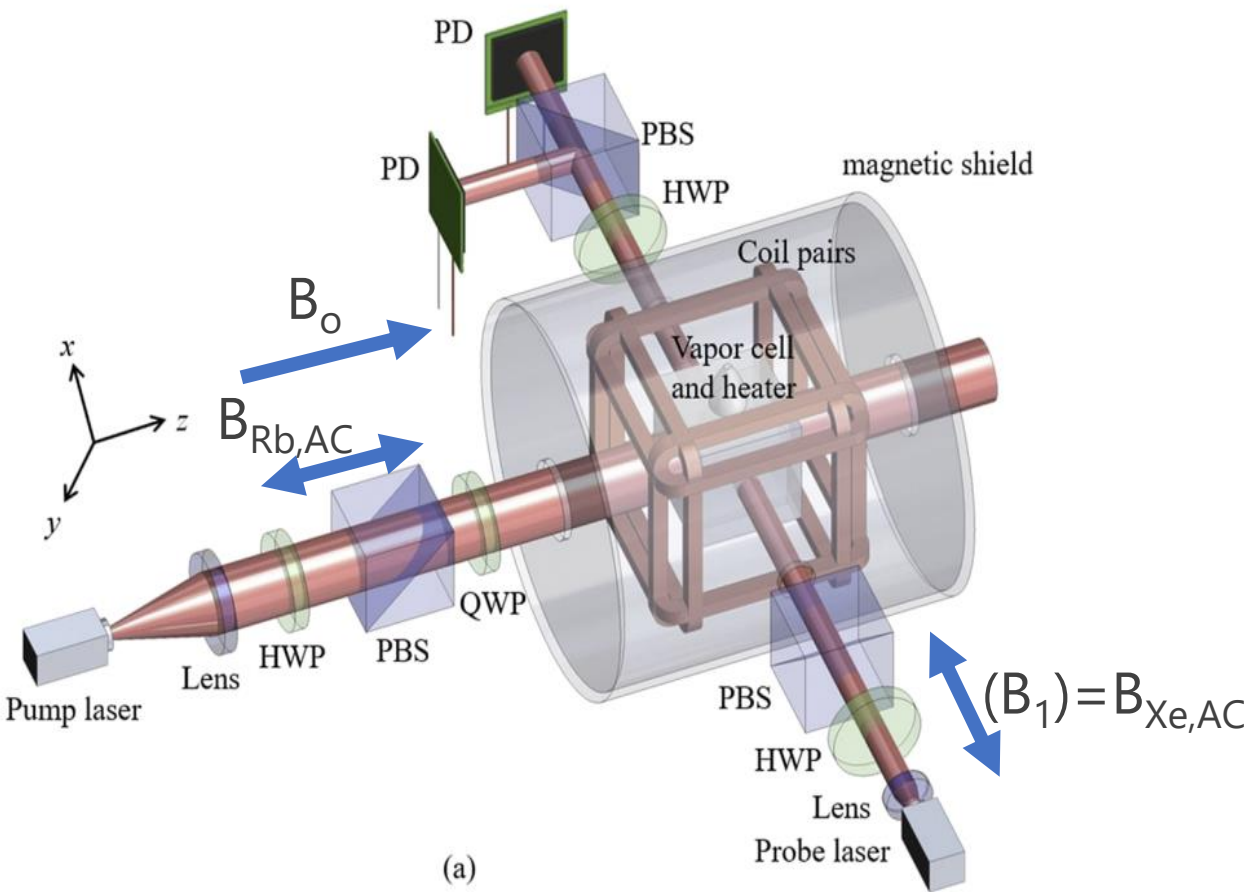
Where: Enclosed in a miniaturized atomic vapor cell, magnetically isolated from the outside world.

How: The nuclear spins of atoms are precessing in an applied and constant magnetic field at the *Larmor frequency* $\vec{\omega}_L$ defined by a natural constant.

If there is an external mechanical rotation $\vec{\omega}_r$ the Larmor frequency of the nuclear spins will shift proportional to the external rotation.

Why? determining changes in the orientation around its sensitive axis (defined by B-field) to measure angular rotation with high sensitivity.

A hot vapor cell is the sensor core of a NMRG

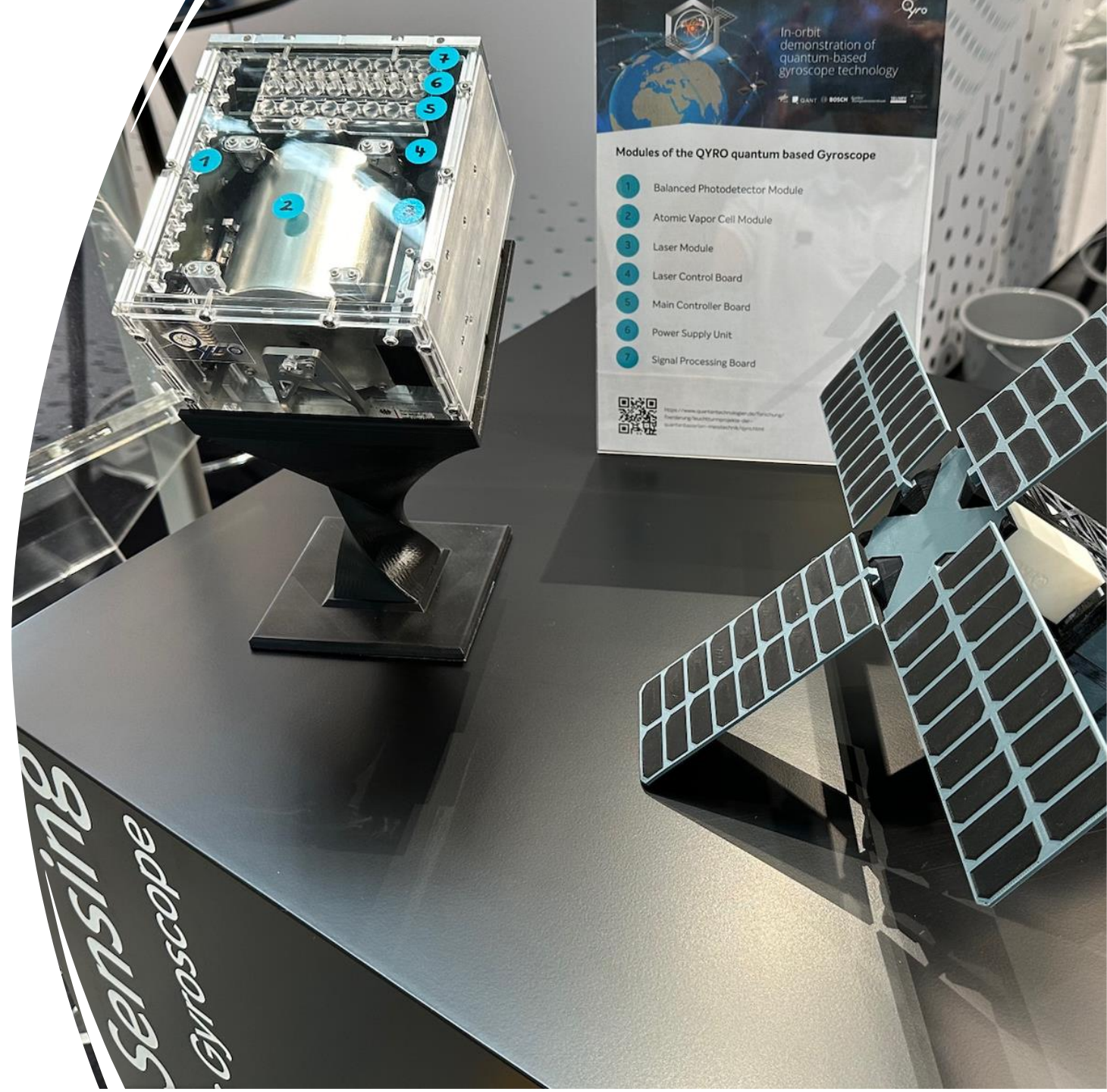


AIP Advances **10**, 075209 (2020)

Component	Function	Partner
Laser diodes	795 nm Pump and Probe (VCSEL)	FBH,TPC, TLB
MEMs vapor cell	Rb, Xe hermetically sealed, heated	BOSCH
Magnetic fields and shielding	3-axis magnetic coils (B_0 , B_{Rb} and B_{Xe}) 3-layer magnetic shielding	BOSCH
Detector	Polarization filtering probe beam detection (balanced detector)	Q.ANT
Laser driver	Low noise current and temperature driver	Q.ANT

FlatSat model (non-functional) was presented at Quantum Effects fair in Stuttgart (October 2023)

- QYRO FlatSat in real scale
- PETER CubeSat model on the right (white box in satellite is the QYRO unit)
- Launch is planned in 2027





100
1923–
2023

Thank You.

Contact Person

Dr. Berthold Schmidt | CTO

www.trumpf.com

