



PRESS RELEASE

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Peter Smith Health Technology Innovation Awards 2007

The first ever Da Vinci Network and NHS Innovations East Midlands Health Technology awards were made at a gala dinner on 19 March 2007. It was attended by more than 100 researchers, clinicians and senior representatives from the region's largest medical research organizations, hospitals, universities and business development agencies.

A team combining Professor John Tyrer and Dr Leon Lobo's expertise in optical engineering with the clinical knowledge of Professor John Marshall, Dr Nathaniel Knox Cartwright and Dr Philip Jaycock of the Department of Ophthalmology, King's College London won a £4,000 prize for their work in developing the Corneal Strain Mapper, an innovative, non contact instrument capable of measuring strain in human eye.

This device is now being used in St Thomas' Hospital, London to investigate the best technique to use when performing refractive surgery and corneal transplantation. The results of this work have been reported in medical journals and presented at a number of international medical conferences and should enable surgeons to both improve patient outcomes and reduce the risk of postoperative complication.



Dr. Jennette Smith awarding Dr. Philip Jaycock with second prize.

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Notes for editors about Laser Optical:

Laser Optical Engineering Ltd (LOE) is an expert technology company, specialising in the development of innovative and bespoke laser based vision products and services.

Established as an independent spin-out company from Loughborough University in 1996, Laser Optical is a customer focussed company offering you access to a range of expertise. We pride ourselves on an ability to turn theoretical ideas into commercial products which can be used in real-life situations.

The company is a member of ALLU, the UK's Association of Industrial Laser Users and the Photonics Cluster and is certified to ISO 9001:2000 standard.

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