

# What is LightFORUM?



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*An Grúpa Optaice Feidhmí*



LightFORUM is the industry outreach activity of  
LightHOUSE.

NCLA established in 1989

- Aim to promote the use of laser materials processing technology in Irish industry

Core activities in laser materials processing

- Technology transfer and promotion
- Applied research
- Fundamental research

Industry sectors

- Medical device
- Electronics & semiconductor
- Precision Engineering

In 2006

- Annual turnover > €1 million
- 25 Research Staff
- Interacted with ~ 50 client companies

- Applied Optics established 2002
  - Aim: Research and training in imaging and related areas
  
- Core Activities
  - Adaptive optics
  - Retinal imaging and visual perception
  - Electromagnetic optics
  
- Industry sectors
  - Medical devices
  - Imaging
  
- In 2006
  - Grants > €1.5M
  - ≈25 research staff
  - Interacted with ≈10 companies

# 2007 Highlights (1)

- Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) UREKA Grant
  - “LightSCHOOL” undergraduate research experience, 10 students, 3 months in summer (three year programme).
  
- LightHOUSE adopted by NUI Galway as part of strategic research agenda.
  
- PRTL-4 Awards
  - NanoTIERE, €2.7M to LightHOUSE, see talks by Ger O’Connor and Diarmuid O’Brien.
  - National Biophotonics Imaging Platform, €1.3 to NUI Galway
  - Preparations underway for Photonics bid under PRTL-5

# 2007 Highlights (2)

- Skillnets and BMW Research Briefings
  - Outreach activities for industry, David Greenwood will give short overview just after lunch
- FP7 proposals (2 @NCLA), including coordination of a 25-partner project
- SFI Renewal of Applied Optics Group funding,  $\approx$ €4.5M over five years (direct cost)
- *Photonics in Industrial Production*- Competence Centre
  - David Gillen to talk in detail

# Future Prospects



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+ Biophotonics