

## Bookham Launches New Focus™ Vortex™ II Precision Laser

**San Jose, Calif., – January 26, 2009**, Bookham, Inc. (Nasdaq: BKHM), has launched the Vortex™ II Precision Laser – the latest addition to the New Focus™ portfolio of high performance, finely tuned lasers. The Vortex II laser offers industry leading stability due to innovative patent pending magnetic damping and StarFlex motion actuation.

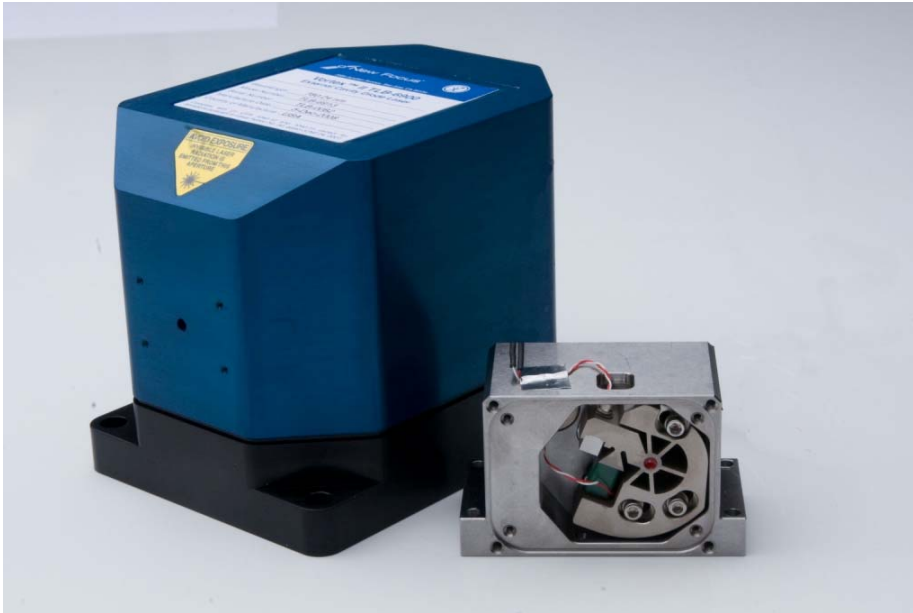
The low susceptibility to vibrations, frequency stability, and narrow linewidth of the Vortex II laser are specifically enhanced to meet the demanding needs of the atomic spectroscopy and laser locking communities. The laser demonstrates reduced mechanical susceptibility, making it more stable without feedback. The Vortex II laser line will be available through the New Focus Catalog and website – [www.newfocus.com](http://www.newfocus.com).

The StarFlex design ensures that the moving elements of the Vortex II laser offer the greatest possible stability in a dynamic mechanical system where vibrations on the order of nanometers can have detrimental effects. The novel, patent-pending magnetic damping also helps to reduce undesirable spurious vibrations.

“The Vortex II laser is a truly innovative design and the result is a laser that offers exceptional stability,” said Michael Radunsky, Product Line Manager for New Focus products. “Atomic spectroscopy is hugely demanding and requires the utmost precision in all components; we’re confident that the Vortex II laser more than meets those requirements. The Vortex II laser line is the product of several generations of ECDL technology experience, including space qualification, numerous design awards and patented technologies.

“We believe the exceptional performance of the Vortex II laser will have significant impact on the market and applications in atomic spectroscopy.”

The Vortex II laser will be demonstrated for the first time at the Photonics West 2009 Bookham booth (#1515).



**Image Caption: The New Focus Vortex II Laser with StarFlex motion**

For a high resolution version of this image, please contact [howard@bcspr.co.uk](mailto:howard@bcspr.co.uk)

**Notes to editors**

1. Photonics West is taking place at the San Jose Convention Center, San Jose, California, January 24-29, 2009. For further information, visit <http://spie.org/photonics-west.xml>
2. Bookham will be exhibiting at the Photonics West exhibition, January 27-29, at booth #1515
3. To arrange an interview with representatives of Bookham before or during the show, please contact Howard Jones on [howard@bcspr.co.uk](mailto:howard@bcspr.co.uk) or +44 7980 772 285

Contact Info:

Julie Molloy  
 Bookham, Inc.  
 +44 (0) 7967 223 448  
[julie.molloy@bookham.com](mailto:julie.molloy@bookham.com)

or

Howard Jones  
 BCS Public Relations  
 +44 (0) 115 948 6901  
[howard@bcspr.co.uk](mailto:howard@bcspr.co.uk)

About Bookham

Bookham, Inc. is a leading provider of high performance optical products, spanning from components to advanced subsystems. The company designs and manufactures a broad range of solutions tailored for the telecommunications optical infrastructure and selected markets, including industrial, life sciences, semiconductor, and scientific. The Company utilizes proprietary core technologies and a vertically integrated manufacturing organization to provide its customers with cost-effective and innovative devices, as well as flexible, scalable product delivery. Bookham is a global company, headquartered in San Jose, Calif., with leading-edge chip fabrication facilities in the UK and Switzerland, and manufacturing sites in the USA and China.

#### About New Focus

New Focus, a Bookham brand, is a leading name in the provision of photonics solutions for demanding semiconductor, life science, industrial, scientific, and other applications. New Focus products include high-performance lasers, modulators, detectors, high-resolution actuators, optomechanics, and optics for precision measurement and processing.

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