

#### EPIC Meeting on Photonics for Space: **Opening New Horizons at Exail**









### "Earth Observation with Optical Filters"

Jason Palidwar

Product Group Manager – Aerospace & Specialty Optics

jason.palidwar@iridian.ca www.iridian.ca



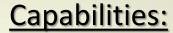
## About Iridian

#### Canadian designer and manufacturer of custom optical filter solutions

- ~180 staff providing extensive expertise in optical filter manufacturing
- Canadian corporation, established in 1998; now part of IDEX Optical Technologies
- All manufacturing done in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
  - Achieved ISO9001:2015 certification in May 2016
  - Registered in Canadian Controlled Goods Program
- Officially opened 45,000 sq. ft. custom-built facility Nov 2012

  | Property | Property

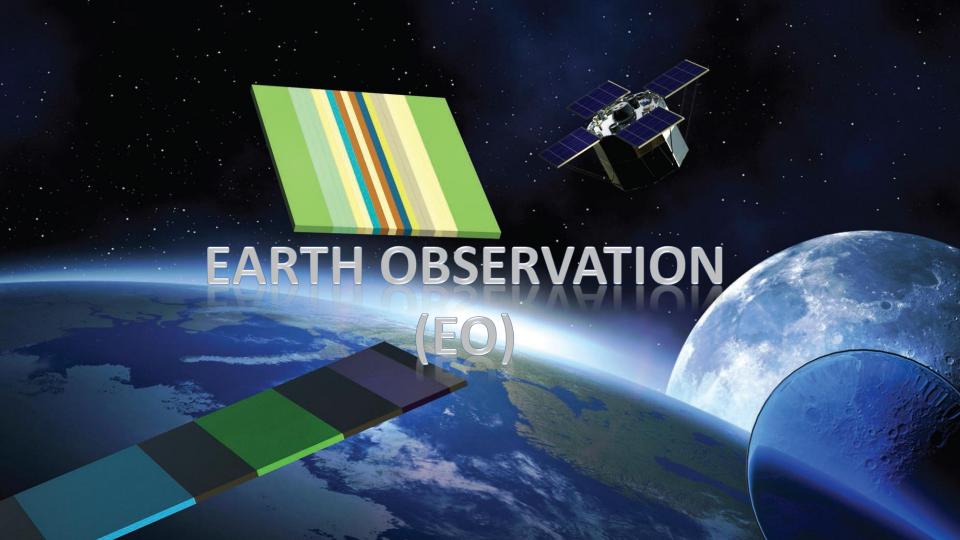
Iridian designs and manufactures thin-film dielectric optical filters and filter arrays



- WL range: 300nm to 15um
- Customized solutions
- Single/Multi-band; Multi-zone
- <1mm² to >150mm dia.

#### Technologies:

- Energetic sputtering (25 chambers) + 1 evaporator
- Custom design/control software
- In-house polishing, processing, photolithography



"Measurement is the first step that leads to control and eventually to improvement.

If you can't measure something, you can't understand it.

If you can't understand it, you can't control it.

If you can't control it, you can't improve it."

H. James Harrington

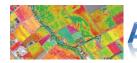


# Why Earth Observation (EO)?



**FORESTRY** 





AGRICULTURE









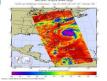


#### **BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE**





#### **CLIMATE/WEATHER**



IRIDIAN

P F C T R A I

ECHNOL

G

Ε

#### **EO** Evolution

#### **LANDSAT-1**

1972 (*NASA*) 4 spectral bands 80 m resolution 1800 kg



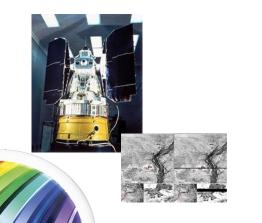
#### **SENTINEL-2B**

2017 (*ESA*)
13 spectral bands
10 m resolution
1140 kg



#### **SUPERDOVE**

2019 (*Planet Labs*) 8 spectral bands <1 m resolution 4 kg

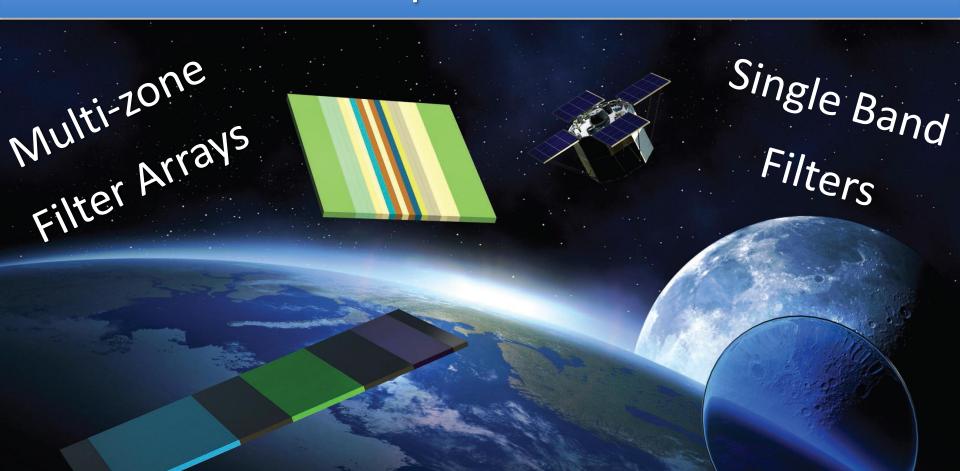






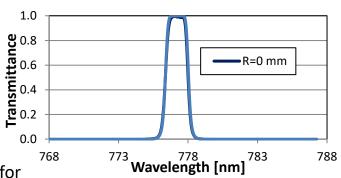


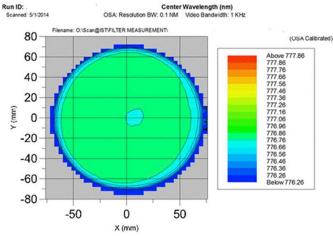
## **EO Optical Filters**



### EO Example: Lightning Imager

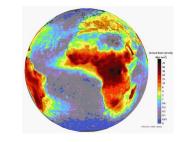






777.4 nm oxygen triplet line for lightning detection from space

- Requires narrow BPF (~1.72 nm FWHM)
- Large clear aperture (125mm)

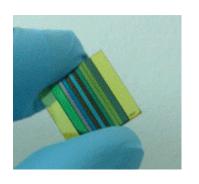


Change in CWL (uniformity)	0.094nm	Δ ≤ 0.013%
Change in Bandwidth (FWHM)	1.705nm – 1.735nm	Δ ≤ 1.8%
CWL targeting	$\pm$ 10 pm	Δ ≤ 0.003%
Change in peak Transmittance	98.70% – 99.52%	Δ ≤ 0.82%

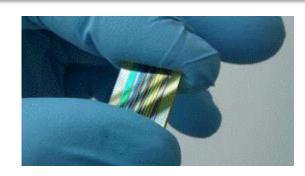


The above mentioned NBPF has been developed under a contract with Leonardo S.p.a for the Lightning Imager Instrument, in the frame of the ESA program Meteosat Third Generation (MTG), with Thales Alenia Space France as prime contractor.

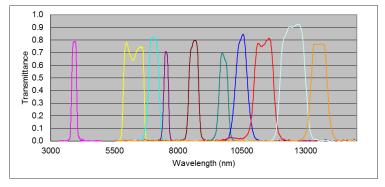
# Example: EO MultiSpectral Imaging







These images show a MZF with ten band pass filters between 3  $\mu m$  and 13  $\mu m$  developed under a subcontract from ABB Canada for the Space Technology Development Program of the Canadian Space Agency.





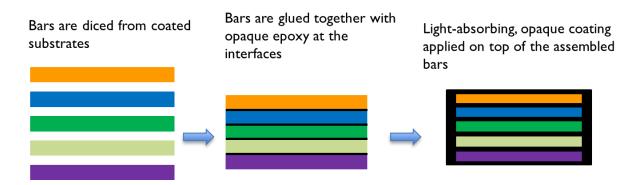
## Filter Array Manufacturing Approaches

- Demonstrated capabilities for butcher block style build of multizone filter assemblies for use in space
- Demonstrated capabilities for photo-lithographically patterned monolithic multi-zone arrays for use in space
- Demonstrated capabilities for hybrid builds using monolithic elements assembled together as a butcher block



### Multi-Zone Filters: Assembled Arrays

- Addresses needs in multi-spectral imaging applications requiring:
  - many bands
  - complex filter coatings/constraints on cost

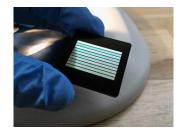


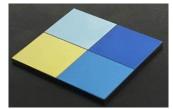


As many as ten (or more) different spectral bands

turn single detectors into multi-spectral imaging devices!







### Multi-Zone Filters: Patterned Arrays

- For applications requiring a small transition zone, patterns not possible to achieve by assembly, or arrays requiring excellent coplanarity
- ISO 6 class clean room capable of patterning up to 150 mm diameter wafers
  - Patterning capable of up to five different zones
  - Zone-to-zone transitions 5-100 μm (dependent on complexity)
- Patterned MZF's can include black coating transitions zones
  - isolate the separate spectral bands
  - reduces potential for cross-talk at the detector









### Patterned vs Assembled

	Patterned Array	Butcher Block Assembly
Max # of filters/zones	5	10+
Coating Yields	compounding	individual
1D vs 2D pattern	1D or 2D	2D much more complex
Complexity of filter	thickness limited	unlimited
Zone transition width	10s of um	250um
Zone edge light leakage	none	application dependent
Co-planarity	monolithic	controlled by process
Off angle cross-talk	design dependent	minimized by epoxy seam

## Why Iridian?



- Reliable Partner
- Valuable Expertise
- Custom solutions

#### Products of:

- High Quality & Reliability
- Competitive pricing

CCGP certified ISO9001:2015 certified



#### Jason Palidwar

Product Group Manager – Aerospace & Specialty Optics jason.palidwar@iridian.ca

www.iridian.ca