

## PRESS RELEASE

### **Global energy leader GE and PhotonFirst enter into partnership for development of transformer monitoring solutions**

Asset monitoring & diagnostics expertise of GE's Grid Solutions matched with PhotonFirst's innovation leadership in chip based sensing

Lisburn, UK, Alkmaar, The Netherlands, September 12, 2022 – With a signing ceremony on the premises of GE's Grid Solutions in Lisburn, GE and PhotonFirst announced a strategic technology collaboration. As the energy transition accelerates, reliability and optimization of key grid assets such as power and network transformers are critical, with real-time monitoring increasingly important to create smarter and safer grids. Fiber optical sensing based on integrated photonics offers exciting new opportunities to monitor the performance of transformers in a scalable, low-cost, robust and intelligent way. GE's Grid Solutions Monitoring & Diagnostics group has selected PhotonFirst as it's preferred partner for development and supply of smart transformer monitoring systems. Jointly, the parties have the ambition to develop easy to deploy greenfield and brownfield solutions, fully integrating with GE's advanced asset monitoring software solutions.

"This is an exciting collaboration as it will further enhance the asset health information customers can obtain, enabling greater reliability, grid stability and financial efficiencies for our customers" said Graham McGuigan, GE's Grid Solutions Product Line Leader for Monitoring & Diagnostics. "In collaborating with PhotonFirst, our aim is to deliver advanced solutions which enable grid operators to leverage asset condition intelligence for quicker and more informed, operational and planning decisions". Alfonso Ambrosone, Senior Product Manager at GE's Grid Solutions, added "This chip-based technology allows for a scalable, small footprint and relatively low-cost solution, that fits strategically in our product portfolio and matches our customer demands". Leendert-Jan Nijstad and Nick Singh, respectively COO and CTO of PhotonFirst, concluded "We are proud to have been selected by GE for this challenging application that fits perfectly on our technology roadmap. Our industry leading applications combine multiple measurands like temperature, pressure, vibration etc. with larger volumes. This one ticks all the boxes and maximizes the unique characteristics of integrated photonics'.

*End of press release*

**More information**

Pictures of the signing ceremony and more information on the PhotonFirst chip-based sensing systems can be found on the [www.photonfirst.com](http://www.photonfirst.com) website.

**Picture 1:** Team (left to right)

*GE Grid Solutions Monitoring & Diagnostics:*

- *Darren Montgomery – R&D Leader*
- *Chris Calvert – R&D Manager*
- *Adam Young – R&D Physicist*
- *Alfonso Ambrosone – Product Manager*
- *Graham McGuigan – Product Line Leader*

*PhotonFirst:*

- *Leendert-Jan Nijstad – COO*
- *Ewoud Velu – Project Manager*
- *Ivar Koren – Sr. Application Engineer*

**Picture 2:** Handshake (left to right)

- *Graham McGuigan – Product Line Leader – GE Grid Solutions Monitoring & Diagnostics*
- *Leendert-Jan Nijstad – COO – PhotonFirst*

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**About PhotonFirst**

Since 2006, PhotonFirst is unlocking the power of the photon to measure temperature, strain, pressure and shape. It is our ambition to become the global innovation leader in integrated photonics sensing and OEM's partner of choice for advanced applications. We support our customers to develop new or improved (better, faster, cheaper, more efficient) photonics sensing solutions and have everything needed in-house to industrialize, produce, scale, certify, supply and service these subsequently. Our front-row position in validation of new technology is ensured through an ambitious research and innovation agenda and partnerships with leading institutes. We measure the world.

[www.photonfirst.com](http://www.photonfirst.com)



### **About GE's Grid Solutions**

Grid Solutions, a GE Renewable Energy business, are focused on bringing together technologies and expertise to help solve the toughest power system challenges, accelerating the global transition to a greener, more resilient and reliable grid.

<https://www.gegridsolutions.com>