

# End-to-End Optics Manufacturing

Thorlabs is a vertically integrated photonics company that offers end-to-end optical design and manufacturing services. Our highly skilled team leverages our in-house expertise and capabilities to continuously expand our offering of stocked optics, as well as to provide specialized components and assemblies to meet the unique needs of custom and OEM applications.

For OEM optics, our experienced optical design and manufacturing engineers will work closely with you to design a solution that achieves the performance requirements of your application. Our responsive team is committed to reducing your time to market by tailoring a fabrication process that minimizes manufacturing time and expense. We invite you to partner with us on your next project.



### Lenses

Lenses come in a wide variety of shapes and can be tailored to match the needs of almost any application. However, it is important to choose lenses that are appropriate for a given system. Spherical lenses are the most common and affordable, while achromatic and aspheric lenses offer improved broadband and single-wavelength performance, respectively. Cylindrical and acylindrical lenses focus light along only one axis, while axicons can be used to generate ring-shaped beams.

## Custom Optic Sizes -

- ◆ Spherical Lenses: 4 380 mm (0.16" 14.96")
- ◆ Aspheric Lenses: 10 150 mm (0.39" 5.91")
- ◆ Cylindrical Lenses: 10 250 mm (0.39" 9.84")
- ◆ Acylindrical Lenses: 10 250 mm (0.39" 9.84")
- ◆ Plano and Flat Optics: 4 380 mm (0.16" 14.96")









- Single Element
- ◆ Generally Most Affordable
- ◆ Chromatic and Spherical Aberrations







#### **Achromatic Lenses:**

- Multi-Element
- ◆ Ideal for Broadband Sources
- Fewer Aberrations Compared to Singlets







#### **Aspheric Lenses:**

- ◆ Single Element
- ◆ No Spherical Aberrations
- Diffraction-Limited Performance for Monochromatic Light Sources



One Axis







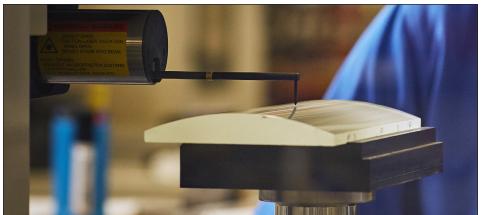
#### Axicon Lenses:

- ◆ One Conical Side and One Plano Side
- ◆ Can Create Ring-Shaped Beam Profiles
- Useful for Material Processing Applications



Cylindrical and Acylindrical Lenses:

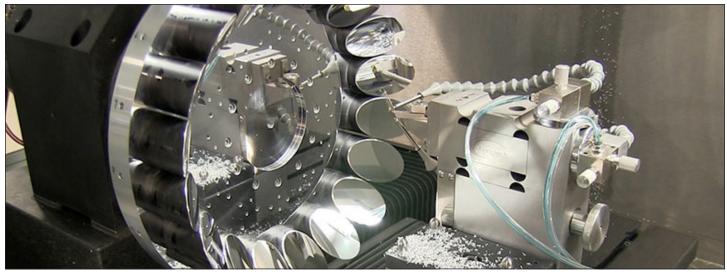
◆ Focus or Expand Light Along Only



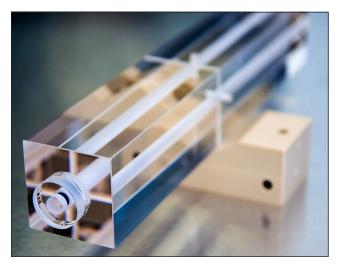
Inspection of the Surface Profile of a Cylindrical Lens



Diamond-Embedded Ferrofluids Polishing an Asphere in an MRF Polisher



Our Single-Point Diamond Turning Capabilities Allow Us to Produce Custom Off-Axis Parabolic and Aspheric Mirrors



Custom Laser Cavity Assembled with One of Our Crystalline Mirrors



Metallic Mirror Blanks Mounted for Coating in One of Our E-Beam Evaporation Chambers

Thorlabs is capable of producing mirrors of many different shapes and sizes, from plano circular, elliptical, rectangular, or D-shaped mirrors, to concave and off-axis parabolic mirrors. Mirrors can be coated with broadband metallic coatings, which offer high reflectance from VIS to MIR wavelengths, or with broadband dielectric coatings, which offer >99% average reflectance over their design wavelength range.

Laser line mirrors
are fabricated with
specialized coatings
that offer high
reflectance and high
damage thresholds
at common laser
wavelengths. Ultrafast
mirrors are optimized



Mirrors are available in many different shapes and sizes with standard or custom coatings.

for low group delay dispersion (GDD) and high reflectance for Ti:Sapphire, Ytterbium, and other ultrafast laser sources.

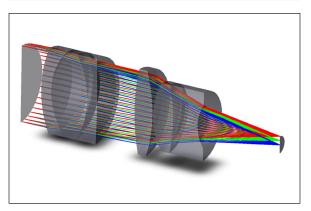
We also offer single-crystal, GaAs/AlGaAs coated supermirrors, which provide extremely high reflectance (>99.99%) at their center wavelength. These mirrors are ideal for high-performance applications such as high-finesse laser cavities and can be ordered with custom center wavelengths.

For more information regarding custom optics or special services, contact our team of technical project managers by emailing techsales@thorlabs.com.

### DESIGN

#### FABRICATION

#### VERIFIC



Design engineers use software packages including Solidworks, Zemax, Code V, and Optilayer to design optics to fit your application.



Expert opticians shape raw materials into polished optics using both Computer Numerical Controlled (CNC) machines and conventional polishing equipment.



Optics are validated and ve metrology and inspection ec custom inspection services.

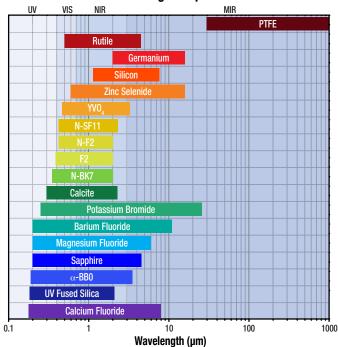
## Optical Substrates Optimized for Your Application

The combined transmission range of our wide selection of optical substrates extends from the UV into the MIR, making it possible to produce optics and assemblies that are ideal for use in numerous applications.

Our facilities are capable of producing optics of many different shapes and sizes, from plano filters, windows, and mirrors to off-axis parabolic mirrors, spherical lenses, and aspheric lenses. Select optics can be precision polished to <0.5 µm wavefront error utilizing Magnetorheological Finishing (MRF). We also manufacture polarization optics, such as wave plates, retarders, and polarizers, from crystalline substrates.

Stock items can be modified upon request to meet your specific criteria. If our vast catalog does not contain a solution for your application, our team of application engineers and OEM specialists will work with you to create an item or assembly that will. We are happy to accommodate requests that require the shaping of challenging and exotic materials.

#### **Transmission Range of Optical Materials**



### Substrates -

- ◆ Aluminum◆ Laser Rods
- CeramicsOptical Fiber
- CopperOptical Glass
- ◆ Crystals◆ Polymers
- Integrated Optical Devices

### **Available Services** -

- Customization of Catalog Optics
- Precision Mounting
- Spectral Scans
- Comprehensive Interferometric Characterization
- Volume Ordering

- Optical and Mechanical Schematics
- Certified Optical Performance Data
- Custom Optical Assemblies
- ◆ QuickTurn™ Optics with Rapid Turnaround

## CATION COATING ASSEMBLY



rified using our extensive quipment. We also provide



A range of coating techniques to deposit metallic and dielectric coatings are performed by our coating technicians with in-process spectral characterization.



Products are assembled at specialized workstations, many of which are custom-designed and built from our broad portfolio of photonics equipment.

## Spectral, Anti-Reflective, and Highly Reflective Coatings

#### Reflective or Absorptive Neutral Density Coatings

Choose from a range of fixed attenuations.
We also produce continuously variable, step-variable, and apodizing filters.



## Narrowband, Broadband, Notch, and Edgepass Coatings

Our filters can be optimized for passband transmission, stopband suppression, or specific environmental or experimental requirements in various bandwidths.



#### Polarizing and Non-Polarizing Beamsplitter Coatings

Various coatings can be deposited on the surfaces of our polarizing and non-polarizing beamsplitters, including broadband, laser line, and high-power options.



## Broadband Dielectric, Narrowband, and Metallic Mirror Coatings

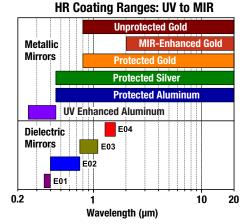
Deposited metals include gold, silver, aluminum, nickel, Inconel, and chromium on a variety of plano and curved substrates.

Dielectric mirrors with >99% reflectance are available.

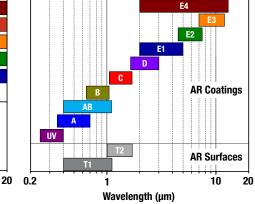


#### **Textured Anti-Reflective Surfaces**

Using a proprietary process, sub-wavelength nanostructures are created on the window surfaces. This results in extremely low, broadband reflectance of <0.25% and high laser damage thresholds.



#### AR Coating\* & Surface Ranges: UV to MIR



## **Custom Optical Assemblies**

Optical assemblies consist of complex combinations of optical components and mechanical and electronic hardware. Such assemblies are used in a variety of life science, medical, industrial, semiconductor, entertainment, and defense applications. Proper design, assembly,

and testing are key to ensuring any optical system works as intended. At Thorlabs, we have 90 000 sq. ft. of manufacturing space dedicated to custom optical assemblies. We can help you tackle and solve complex optical design challenges and can transition a product seamlessly from early concept planning all the way to volume manufacturing.



We will work closely with you to design a solution that fully achieves the requirements of your application.

### -QuickTurn™ Optics-

- Custom Optics and Engineered Multi-Element Assemblies in a Fraction of Typical Industry Lead Times
- Our Vertically Integrated Structure Allows Us to Eliminate Typical Wait Times Between Manufacturing Steps
- Enables our Customers to Have Shorter Product Development Cycles and Faster Times to Market

### Custom Solutions—

Our design engineers rely on extensive experience and cuttingedge equipment to deliver a variety of challenging assemblies:

- Doublets
- Triplets
- Fast Lenses
- ◆ Focus Lens Assemblies
- ◆ Zoom Lens Assemblies
- ◆ Wide Field of View (FOV) Lenses
- Athermal Lens Systems
- Imaging Lens Assemblies
- Microscope Objectives
- Coupling/Collimation Assemblies

## **Optical Isolators**

Thorlabs offers custom optical isolators with a wide range of center wavelengths, operating temperatures, package sizes, and various other specifications. Our Free-Space Isolators are available in fixed and adjustable narrowband options, as well as broadband and tandem options. Our Fiber Isolators are available with SM or PM fiber.

#### Free-Space Optical Isolators:

- Fixed Narrowband, CWLs from 633 to 1550 nm
- Adjustable Narrowband, CWLs from 375 to 4500 nm
- Broadband, CWLs from 650 to 1000 nm
- Tandem, CWLs from 633 to 1550 nm

14500W4 Free-Space Isolator,  $CWL 4500 \pm 50 \text{ nm}$ 



IO-5-532-HP Free-Space Isolator, CWL 532 -22/+18 nm

#### **Fiber Optical Isolators:**

SM Fiber, CWLs from 660 to 2000 nm

◆ PM Fiber, CWLs from 780 to 2000 nm



### **Application Services-**

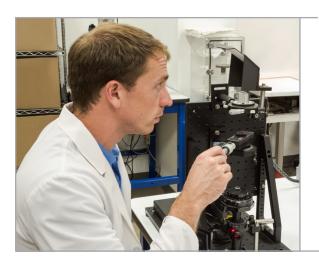
- Direct Integration to Laser Head Assemblies
- Combination Isolator and Fiber Coupling Units
- Filter Integration
- Active Temperature Control and Monitoring
- Feedback Monitoring

## Optics Manufacturing Facilities at-a-Glance

## **Optical Coating**

- Ion Beam and Magnetron Sputter Deposition
- ◆ E-Beam Deposition With or Without Ion Assist
- Resistive Heating Evaporation Deposition
- ◆ In-Process Spectral Characterization
- Coatings Ranging from UV to MIR Wavelengths
- Class 1,000 Clean Room





## Metrology & Inspection -

- Spherical and Aspherical Optics with Sub-Nanometer Surface Precision
- Angstrom-Level Surface Roughness Evaluation
- Transmitted and Reflected Wavefront Error
- Focal Length and Radius of Curvature
- Parallelism, Surface Analysis, Center Thickness, and Centration Errors
- Precision Contact and Noncontact Profilometry
- Laser Alignment of Optical Assembly

### Shaping & Finishing

- Spherical/Aspherical Grinders and Polishers
- Single-Point Diamond Turning Machines
- Mills, Dicing Saws, and Coring Drills
- Automated Edging Machines
- ◆ Large Volume, Double-Side Polishers
- Magnetorheological Finishing (MRF)
- Conventional Grinders, Polishers, and Saws





## Manufacturing Quality Standards -

- ◆ Compliances Met: ITAR, RoHS, and REACH
- Military Specifications: MIL-PRF-13830B and MIL-C-48497A
- ◆ ISO Standards: ISO 10110, ISO 19012, ISO 8039, ISO 9345, and ISO 9001:2015
- ◆ Additional: ANSI/ASQ Z 1.4-2003

## **Worldwide Support**



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\*Production Facilities for Products Featured in this Brochure

