



# Design and Manufacturing of Transparent Antennas for Satellite Communications

Themis Kallos, Chief Science Officer  
Meta Materials Inc.



# Outline

- About Meta Materials Inc.
- NANOWEB® Platform Technology
- Transparent Antennas
- Manufacturing Techniques

# About META



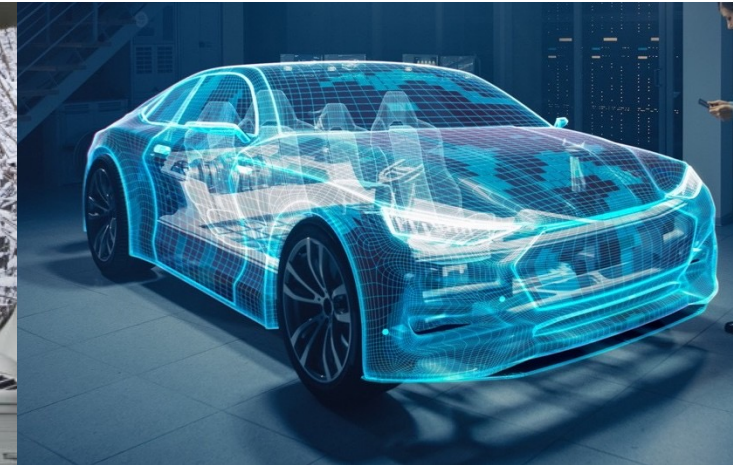
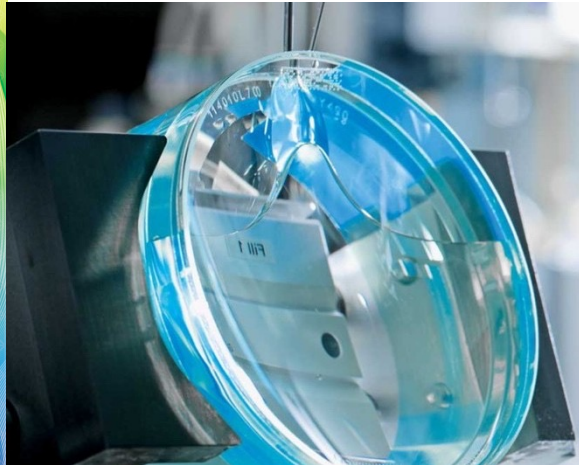
# The META Timeline

- **2021**                    **1<sup>st</sup> Metamaterial Company on NASDAQ**
- **2011**                    **META Founded (London, UK)**
- **2000**                    **Negative Refraction Demonstrated**
- **1968**                    **Veselago's Paper**
- **1865**                    **Maxwell's Equations**
- **1492 AD**                **America Discovered**
- **55 BCE**                **Romans invade Britain**
- **776 BCE**                **First Olympiad**
- **3000 BCE**               **Great Pyramid Built**
- **10,000 BCE**            **Farming**
- **200,000 BCE**         **Early Humans**

# META<sup>®</sup>



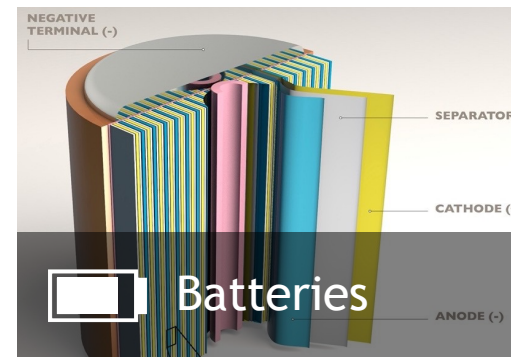
## Go Beyond.



We deliver breakthrough performance, previously thought unattainable, by utilizing nanotechnology and metamaterials to design, integrate, and manufacture **sustainable, highly-functional films & intelligent surfaces.**

# The META<sup>®</sup> Core Capabilities

We are a world class **designer, integrator and producer** of functional films and intelligent surfaces, **utilizing proprietary metamaterials** that allow us to offer **breakthrough technology and solutions** across the following industries:



# The META Design & Integration Advantage

## SPEED

- META uses AI software to design a library of patterns for different applications and which can typically develop new custom solutions within hours vs months

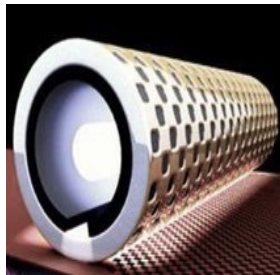
## SCALE

- META is one of the first companies to develop proprietary roll-to-roll production equipment to produce large area, high volume nanocomposites

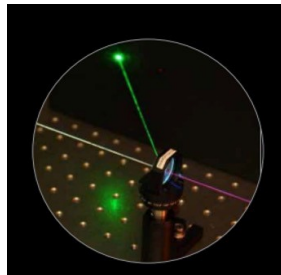
## COST

- Increasing the roll-to-roll web width and line speed should drive costs down to a few \$/m<sup>2</sup>

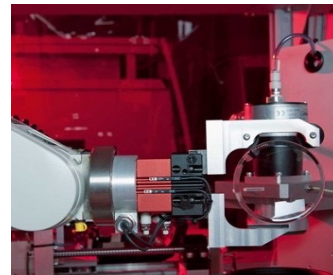
## TECHNOLOGY PILLARS



Lithography



Holography



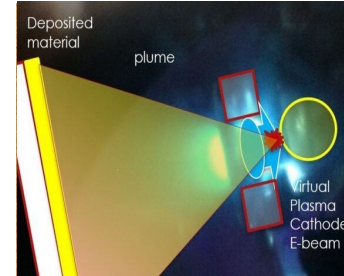
AR Fusion<sup>®</sup>  
Optical Combiner



Vleipsis<sup>™</sup>  
Electro Optics



NPORE<sup>®</sup> Ceramic  
Nanocomposites

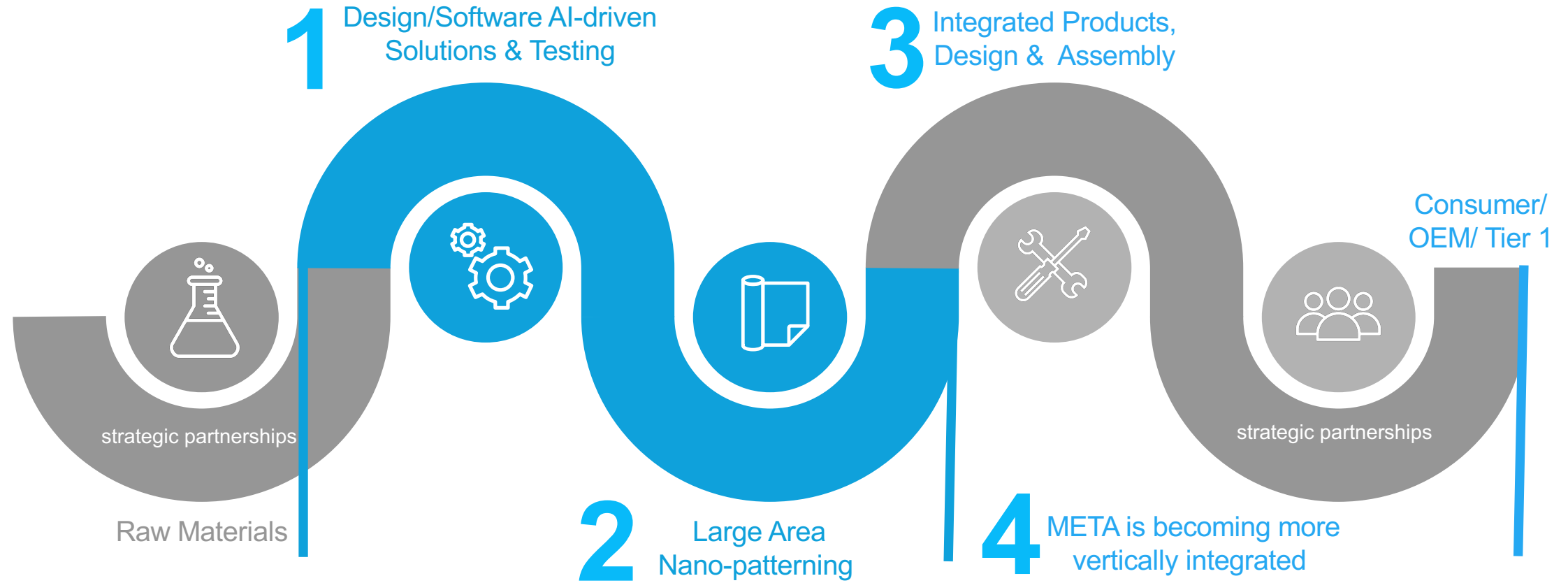


PLASMAfusion<sup>™</sup>  
High Speed Coating



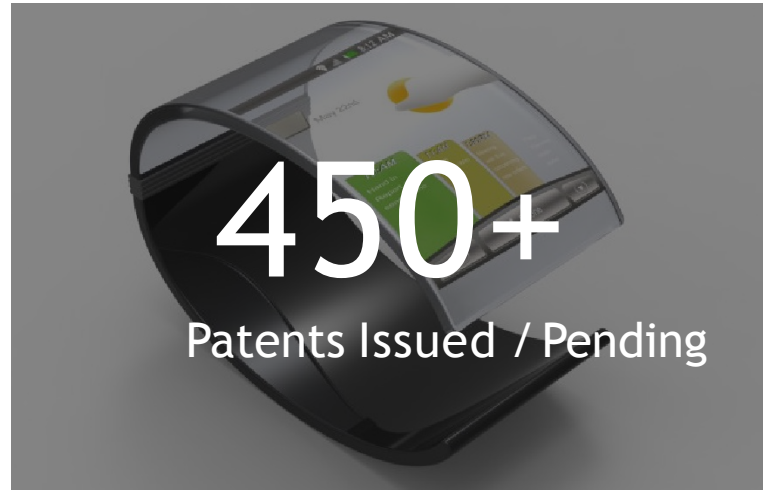
Wireless Sensing

# META Solution Provider in the Value Chain

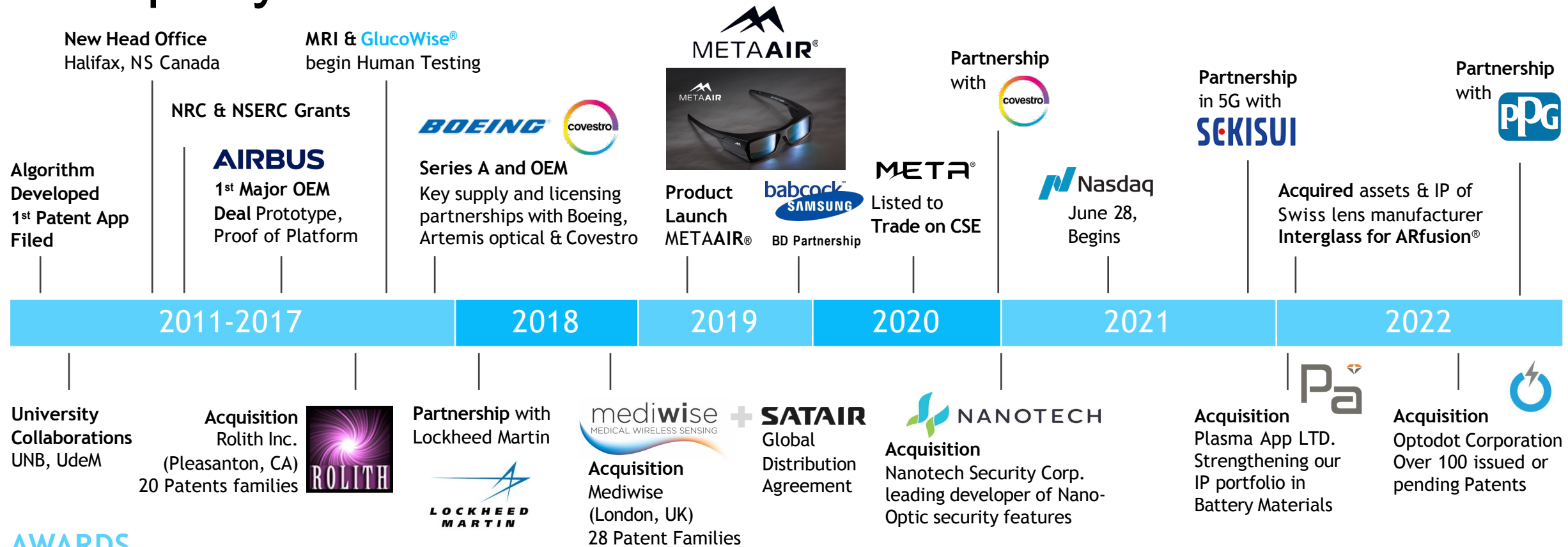




# Our Background



# Company Timeline



## AWARDS

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# META's Global Presence



**Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada**  
Head Office  
Research and Development  
Manufacturing facility

**Thurso, PQ, Canada**  
Secure Manufacturing Facility

**London & Oxford, United Kingdom**  
CoE High Speed Coating-  
PLASMAfusion™

**Boston, MA, United States**  
CoE Battery Separators - NPORE®

**Pleasanton, CA, United States**  
CoE - Nanoweb® applications  
USA Sales Office

**Burnaby, BC, Canada**  
CoE - Security products

**Baltimore, MD, United States**  
CoE - Electro-Optics Vlepsis™

**Athens, Greece**  
CoE Medical & AI Development  
EU HQ & Sales

**Minato-Ku, Japan**  
Sales Development

- ★ HQ
- Manufacturing locations
- Centers of Excellence
- Sales Offices

# OEM Partners & Customers: Solving Global Challenges Together

Select Past and Current Co-Development Partners and Customers in Automotive, Medical, Aerospace & Defense, Consumer Electronics and Energy



AIRBUS



SEKISUI



BOEING

SATAIR



AGC



Caltech



babcock™

DENSO

CORNES  
Technologies



SONY

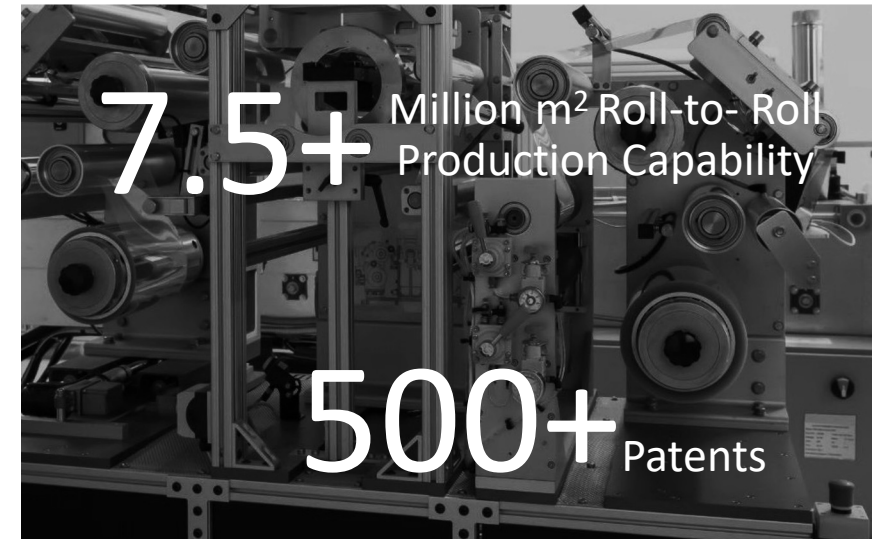


# Who we are



META<sup>®</sup> specializes in designing, originating, recombining, and mass-producing nanotechnology-based films with applications catering to a diverse range of products and markets.

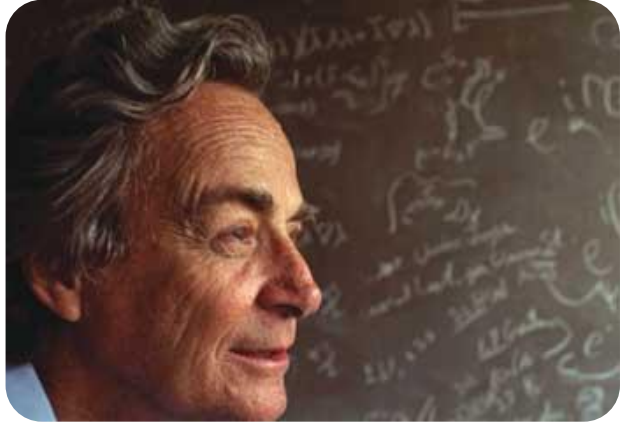
© Meta Materials Inc. 2023



# Solutions

**META**<sup>®</sup>  
Go Beyond.





*“I can’t see what exactly would  
happen,*

*but when we have some control of  
the arrangement of things in the  
small scale,*

*we will get an enormously greater  
range of possible properties that  
substances can have.”*

*1959*

Lithography

# KolourOptik®

## NANO-OPTIC GOVERNMENT AND BANKNOTE SECURITY

**KolourOptik®:** Sub-wavelength nanostructures that are near impossible to replicate and protect banknotes and government documents from counterfeits.

### Key Differentiators:

- Ultra thin (< 10 micron),
- combination of movement, depth and multiple colors,
- advanced nanoscale manufacturing processes

**Applications:** Banknotes, passports, ID cards, drivers licenses, birth certificates.

**CONFIDENTIAL**  
G10 central bank



### KolourOptik® Stripe

- Movement
- Multi-colour images
- 3D stereo depth
- “Always on”



### KolourDepth™

- Multiple 3D elements
- Multi-colour images
- Omni-directional movement
- “Always on”



### LumaChrome Foil

- Used in 30+ banknote denominations
- Easy to use
- Striking colour transitions
- Durable



# metaAIR®

## LASER GLARE PROTECTION

**metaAIR®** : Holographic laser protective films that offer professional pilots & law enforcement professionals the best combination of transparency, laser glare protection, and color fidelity.

### Key Differentiators:

- Tuned nanostructures allow the lens to control how light is deflected and blocked, so dangerous green lasers are neutralized while the rest of the visible light spectrum is unaffected
- Exceptional color recognition, and superior visible light transmission and optical filtering combined

**Applications:** Aviation Eyewear & Law Enforcement self-adhesive film for police riot visors & handheld ballistic riot shields.



PARTNERS  
**AIRBUS**  
**SATAIR**

INDUSTRIES

AVIATION WEEK   
*Laureates*

2018 Winner Best New Commercial Product

A'DESIGN AWARD  
& COMPETITION

AWARD WINNING DESIGN  
SILVER A' DESIGN AWARD

2019

# holoOPTIX®

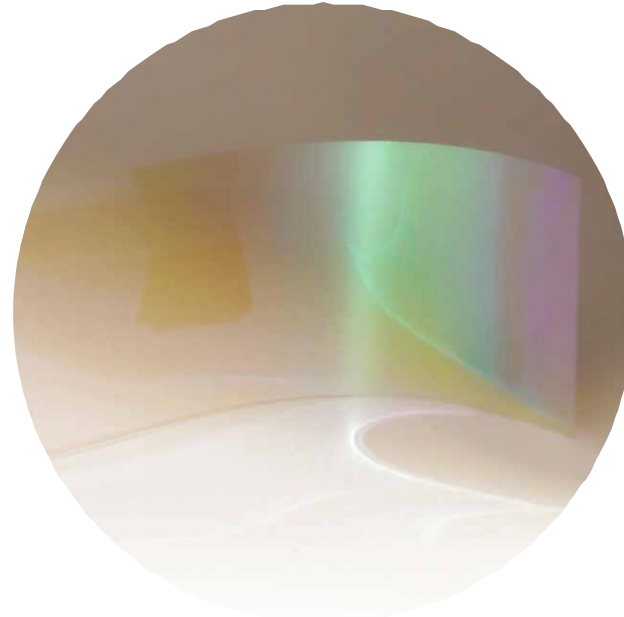
## HOLOGRAPHIC OPTICAL COMPONENTS

META's Holography platform makes it possible to design and fabricate optical components that improve on traditional lenses and mirrors by adding extraordinary optical functions.

### Key Differentiators:

- **holoOPTIX®** holographic notch filters enhance surfaces like film and glass with wavelength selectivity – the ability to reject a portion of the light spectrum while transmitting all other wavelengths.
- Achieved through laser created interference pattern - Volume Holographic Gratings (VHG) – that selectively transmit or reflect.

**Applications:** confocal microscopy, multi-photon microscopy, laser-based fluorescence instrumentation, life science applications.



### Available Products:

- **holoOPTIX®** FLEX
- **holoOPTIX®** STRATA 1" diameter form factor for life science applications
- **holoOPTIX®** SLANT 1" form factor plus unique diffraction characteristics

PARTNERS



INDUSTRIES



# ARfusion®

## LENS CASTING - PRESCRIPTION AR EYEWEAR

ARfusion® integrates optical elements for AR (augmented reality) combined with lens casting technology developed by Interglass Technology AG

### Key Differentiators:

- High volume fully automated lens casting, workstations, tools, test equipment, and technical data
- Proprietary specialty materials/foils supply in cooperation with Covestro AG
- “One stop shop” for prescription lenses and embedded elements such as optical combiners, waveguides, and eye tracking sensors

**Applications:** Complete integrated AR solutions, Cast prescription lenses, Embedded Holograms



Less energy  
(10 sec vs 50 hrs  
curing time)



Zero water  
usage



Less material  
usage

### PARTNERS



### INDUSTRIES



CONFIDENTIAL  
OEM's



# NANOWEB®

## TRANSPARENT CONDUCTIVE FILM

Achieving performance never thought possible

### Key Differentiators:

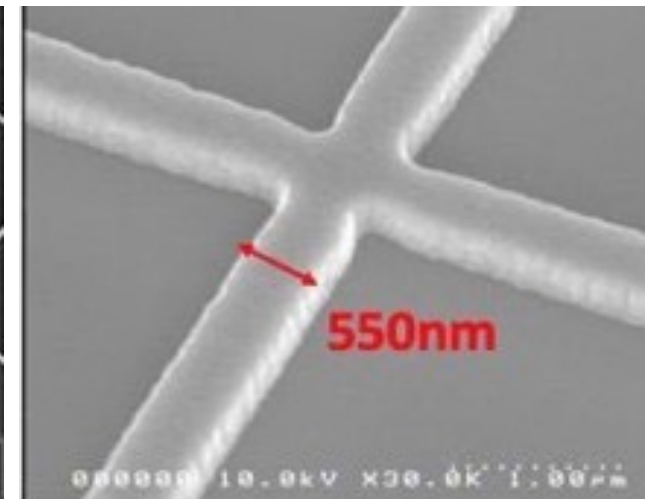
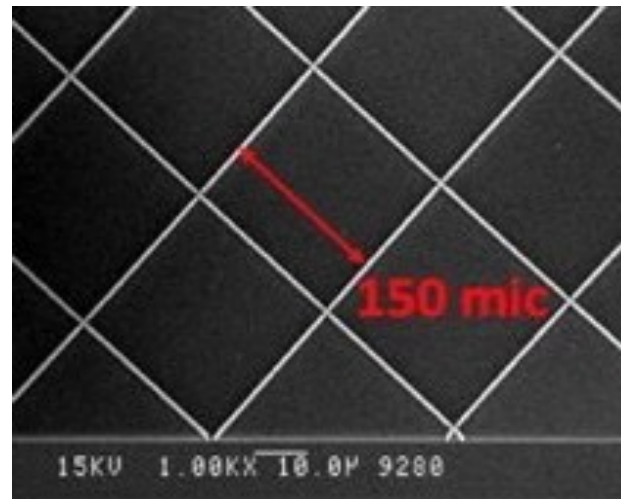
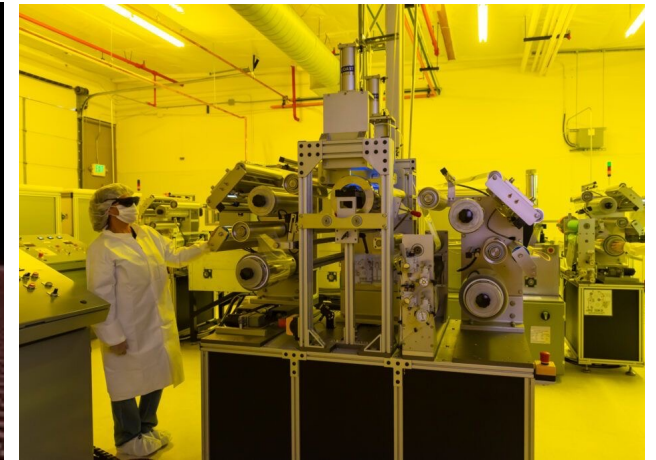
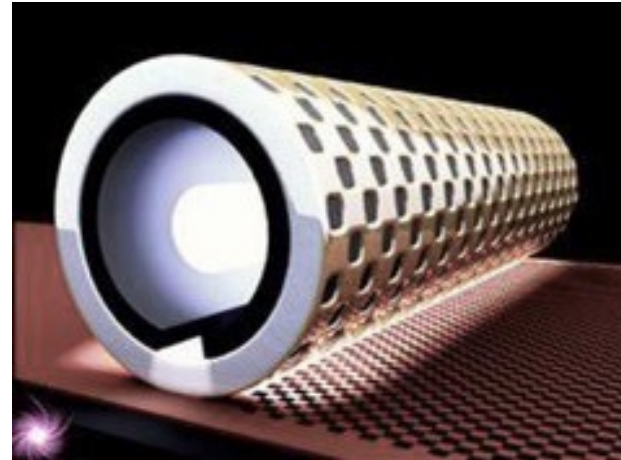
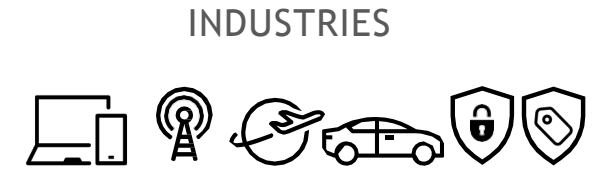
Proprietary **RML®** technology that can print sub-micron nano-structures directly into any hard or soft substrates.

**NANOWEB®** offers multiplexed patterning, where additional functions beyond de-icing / de-fogging can be incorporated into the vehicle e.g. 5G, 4G, AM, FM antennas

- 99% Transmission (excl. Substrate)
- 10-15  $\Omega$ /sq

Custom design per application for maximum performance:

- Pattern (spacing & line width)
- Metal choice (Ag, Au, Al, etc.)



# NANOWEB® Applications

PARTNERS  
Confidential OEM's +  
**PPG SEKISUI**

INDUSTRIES



## EMI Shielding

- Transparent Microwave Doors
- Automotive LiDAR protection

## 5G Reflectors / Transmitters

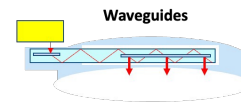
## Transparent Antenna

- Glasses
- Automotive
- Mobile Devices

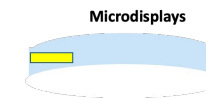
## Prescription Lens Optical Combiners

- Augmented Reality Glasses
- Electrochromic lenses

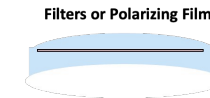
## De-Ice / De-fog Automotive & Consumer Product Applications



Waveguides



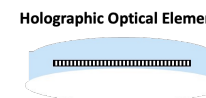
Microdisplays



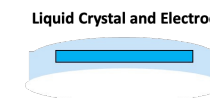
Filters or Polarizing Films



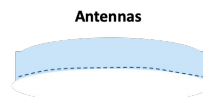
Reflective Surfaces



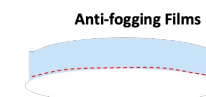
Holographic Optical Elements



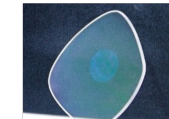
Liquid Crystal and Electrochromic Foils



Antennas



Anti-fogging Films



**NANOWEB®**  
Best Manufacturing  
Technology Award

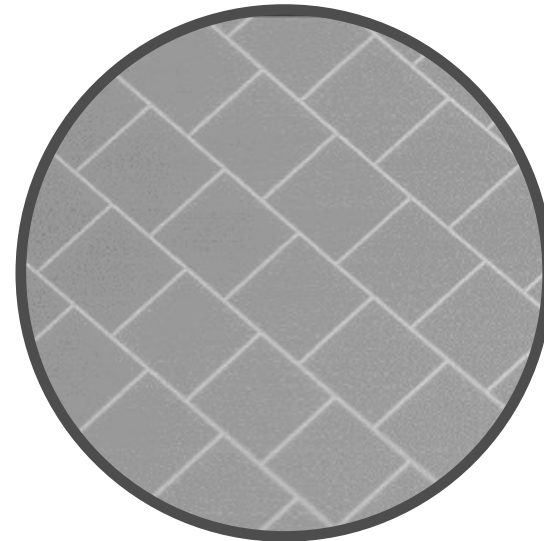
**META®**  
Go Beyond.

# Nanoweb

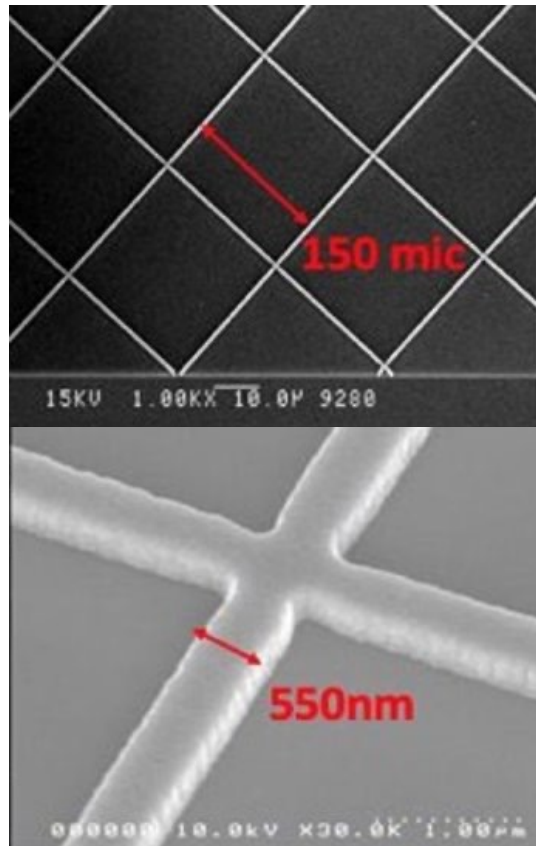


# NANOWEB<sup>®</sup>

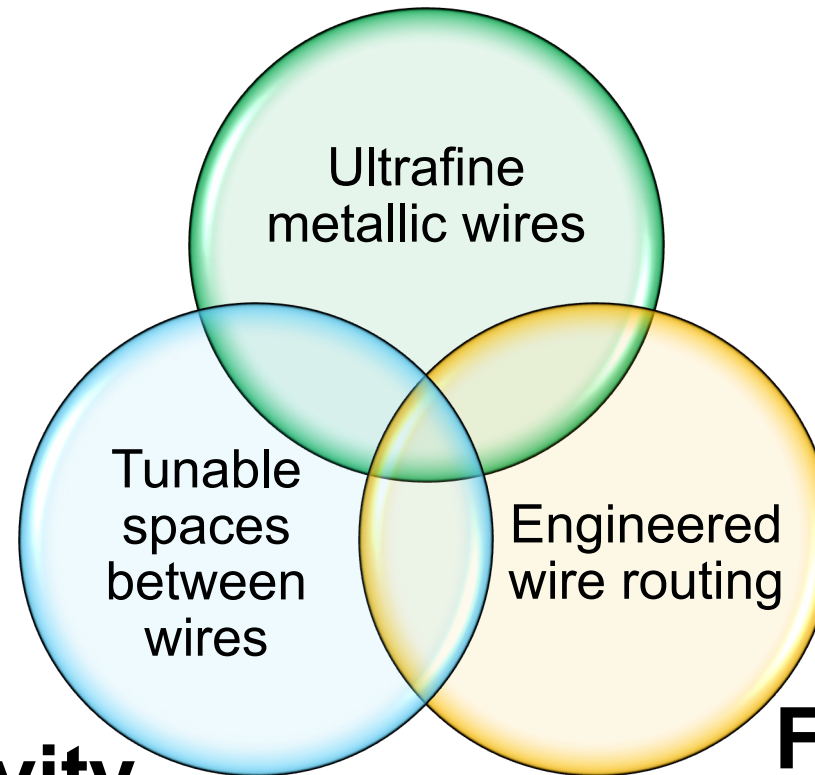
Transparent conductive film



# NANOWEB – The Engineered Transparent Conductor



## High Transparency



## High Conductivity

## Design Flexibility



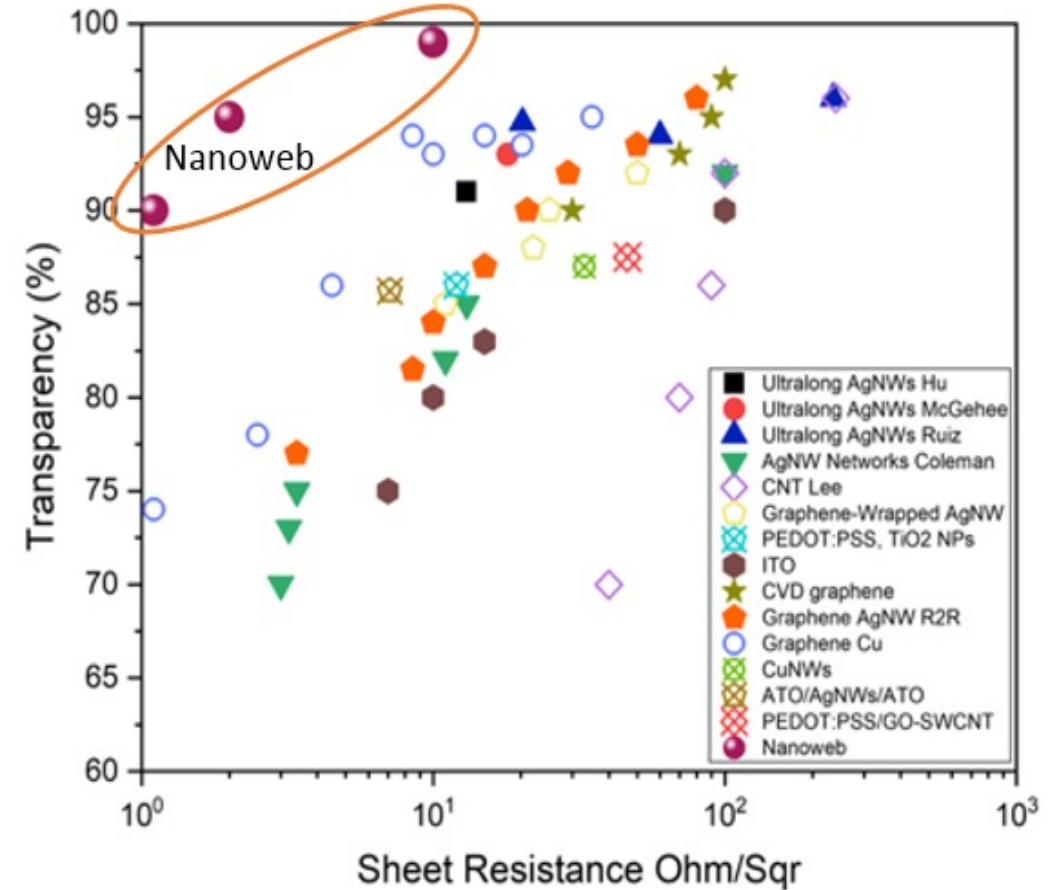
# NANOWEB - Characteristics and Performance

## DESIGN

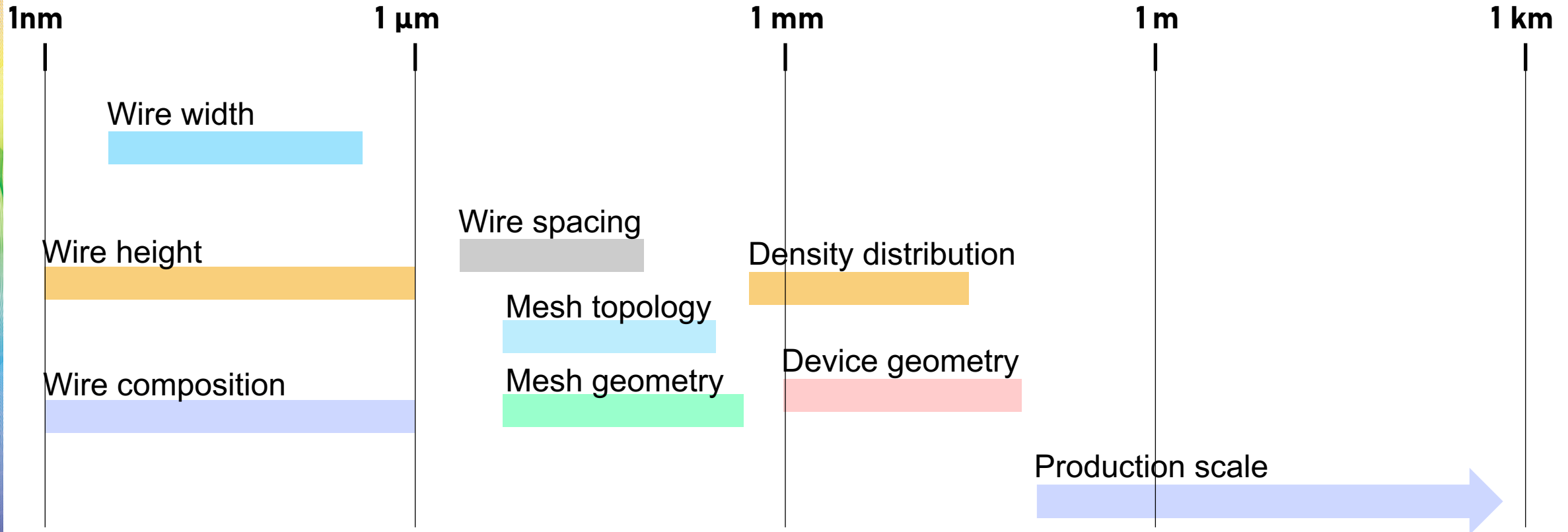
- **Wire width:** 0.20 to 1 micron
- **Wire spacing:** 10 microns and above
- **Wire thickness:** 50 nm to 1 micron
- **Wire material:** Ag, Cu, Al, alloys,
- **Substrate material:** Glass, PET, sapphire, etc.  
(PC coming soon)

## PERFORMANCE

- **Sheet resistance:** <1 to 20  $\Omega$ /sq
- **Optical transparency:** 90-98% (Fresnel corrected)

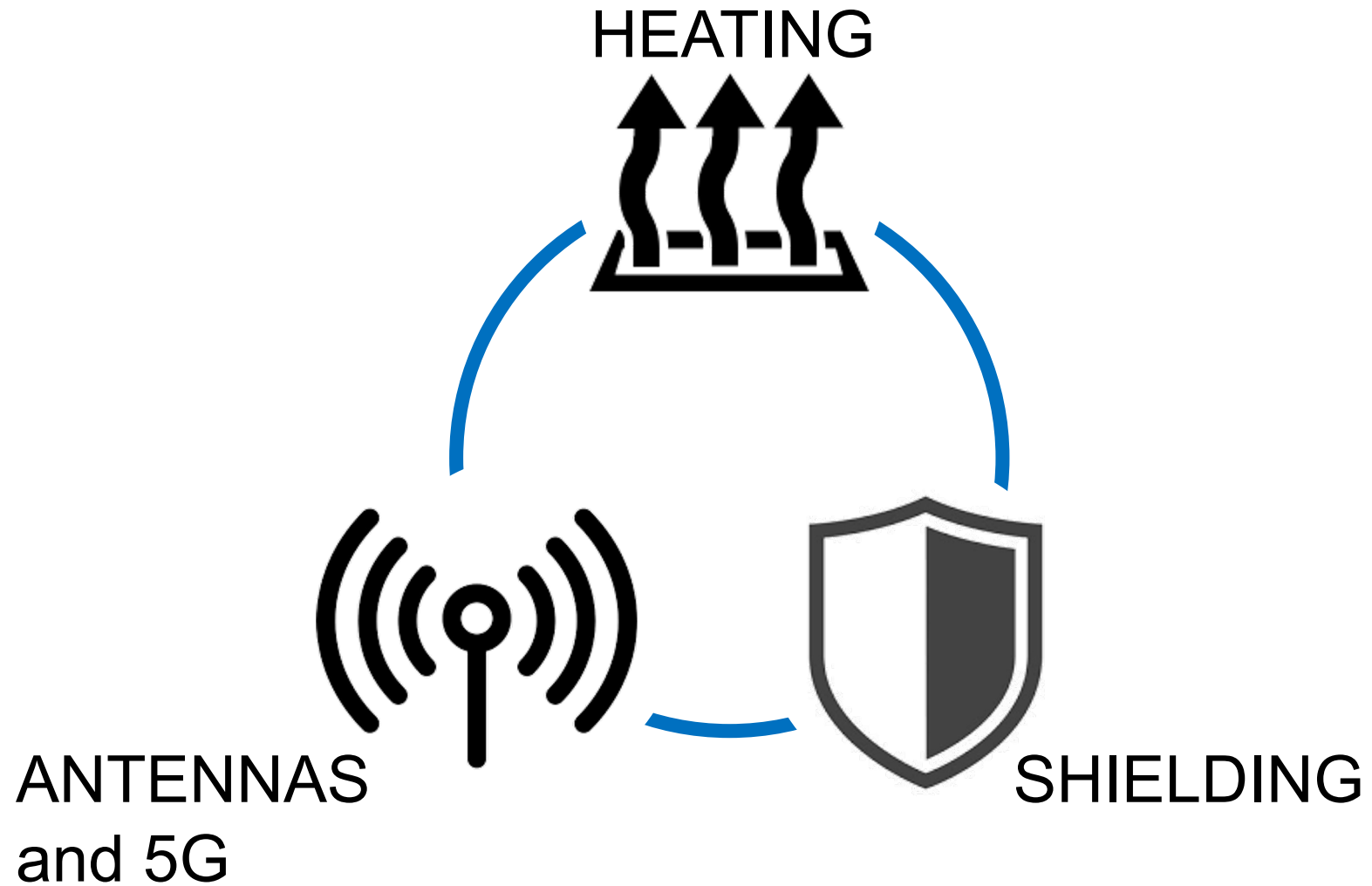


# Engineered Across Multiple Length Scales



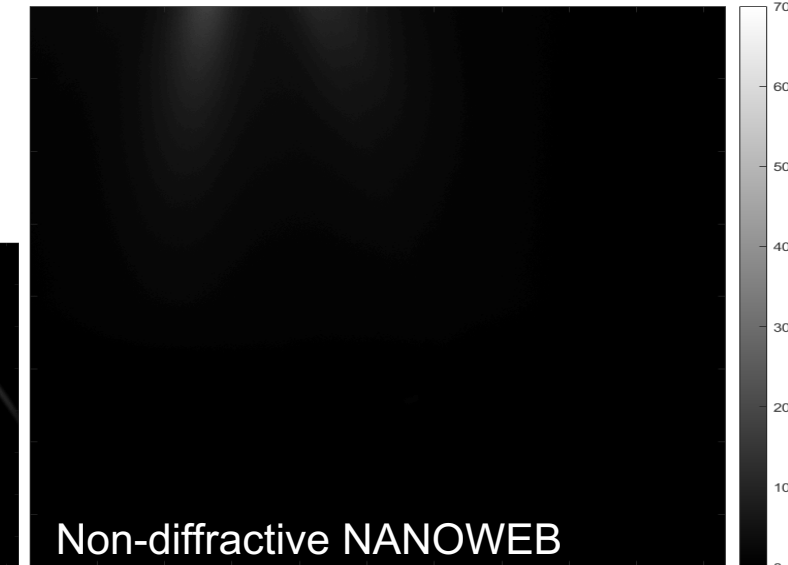
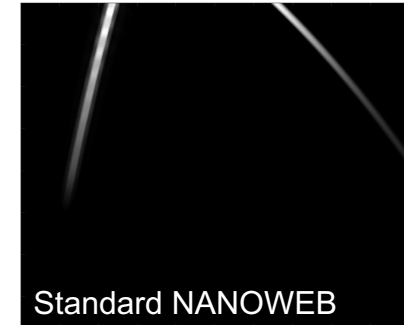
# NANOWEB

# NANOWEB Application Areas

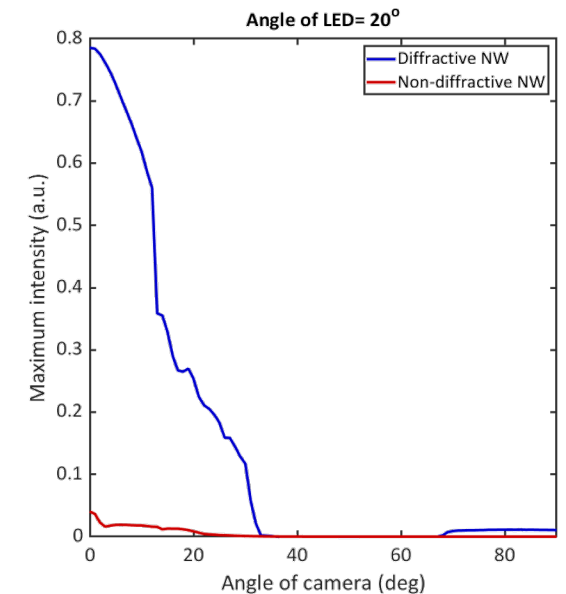


# Engineered Diffraction Management

- Transmitted diffraction in visible regime tuned by mesh geometry
- Reduced artifacts for imaging sensors operating in the visible & NIR (LIDAR and cameras)



	Standard mesh	New mesh geometry – I	New mesh geometry – II
<b>Optical transmittance</b>	99%	99%	99%
<b>Haze</b>	1 %	1 %	< 0.7 %
<b>Sheet Resistance</b>	10 $\Omega$ /sq	6 $\Omega$ /sq	6 $\Omega$ /sq
<b>Availability</b>	Available	June 2023	August 2023



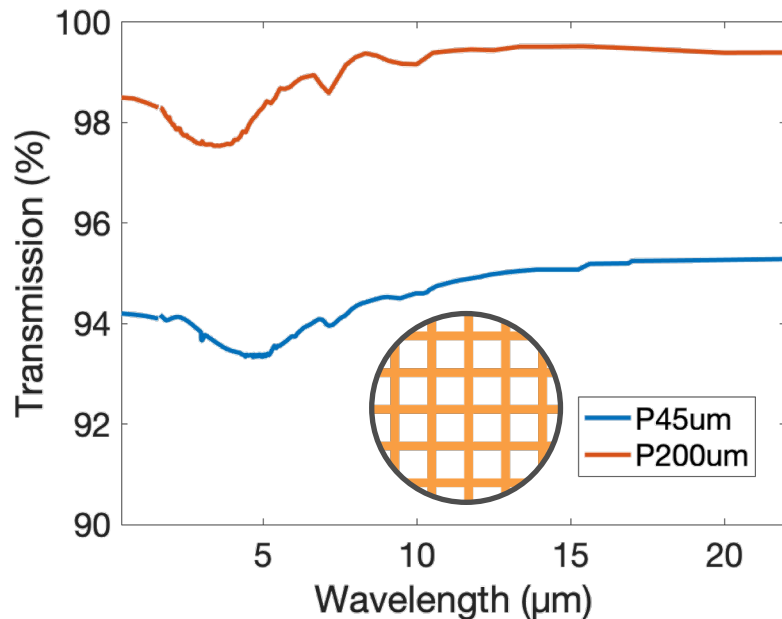


# Long Wavelength Transparency

*Multimodal sensor compatible*

## THERMAL

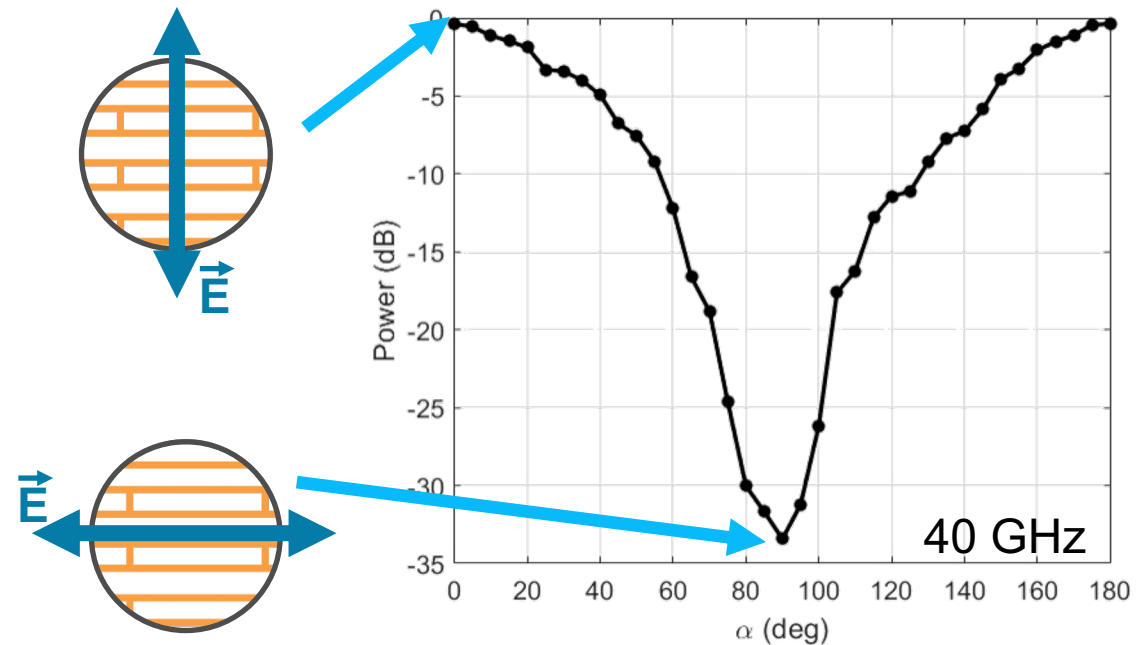
- Grid designs maintain high transparency from visible through LWIR region (unlike ITO)



2023-04-12

## RADAR

- Transparency into the RF achieved through adapted mesh design



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**META**<sup>®</sup>  
Go Beyond.

# Transparent Antennas



# Transparent Antenna Benefits

Integrate high-performing antenna functionality while maintaining visibility

Benefits:



Invisible & aesthetic



Compatible with lidar,  
camera systems



Integrated de-ice,  
de-fog options



Lightweight for easy  
installation



Directional, Omni-  
directional antenna



Highly customizable  
for multiple bands



High conductivity



Multi-band,  
ultra-wide band



Excellent radiation  
performance

# Library Antenna Application Designs

## Antenna for Augmented Reality WiFi/BT, 2.4/5.0 GHz

- Transparent antenna on the glass lens enables hi-band I/O reducing BULK and POWER – Eyeglass Formfactor

## Automotive communication

- Transparent antenna (arrays) on the roof or windshield for LEO satellite communication (Ka/Ku bands)
- Vehicle to vehicle communications for autonomous driving

## Automotive radar/lidar for collision avoidance (77 GHz)

TV reception: Transparent antennas on window for TV signal (400-800 MHz)

mm-wave 5G (26-28 GHz)



Transparent 5G Antenna invisible to naked eye

AR glasses with Transparent 5G antenna



Vehicle with ADAS and/or LEO satellite comms

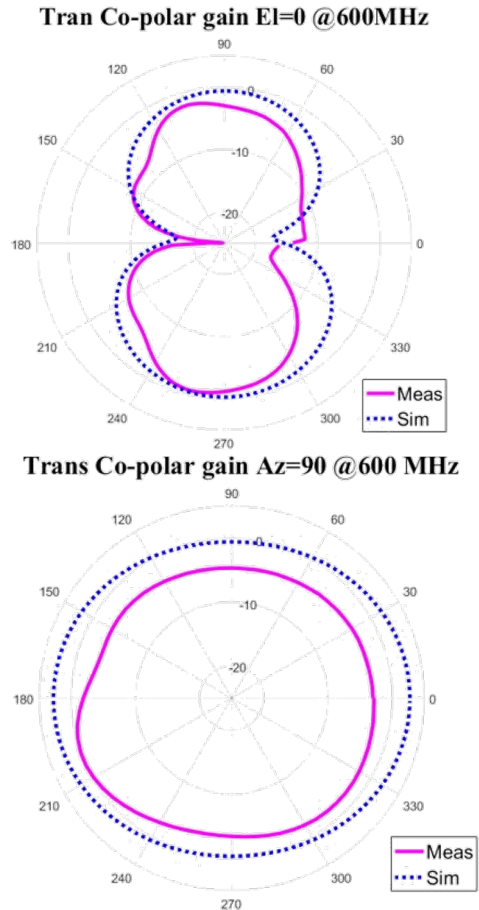


# Antennas



## *Transparent antennas enable new design flexibility for antenna placement*

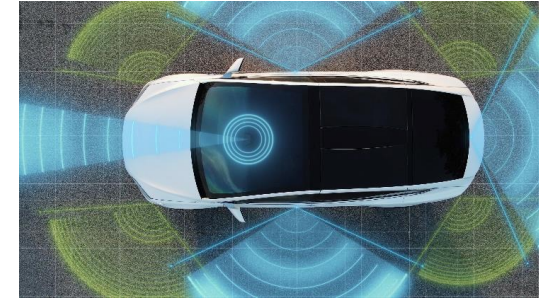
- Radar TX/RX antennas embedded in windshield or headlamps
- 5G antennas in glazing
- Satellite antennas in rear windows or sunroof
- Conventional antenna modelling approaches work (no need to model nano-properties)



# Antennas

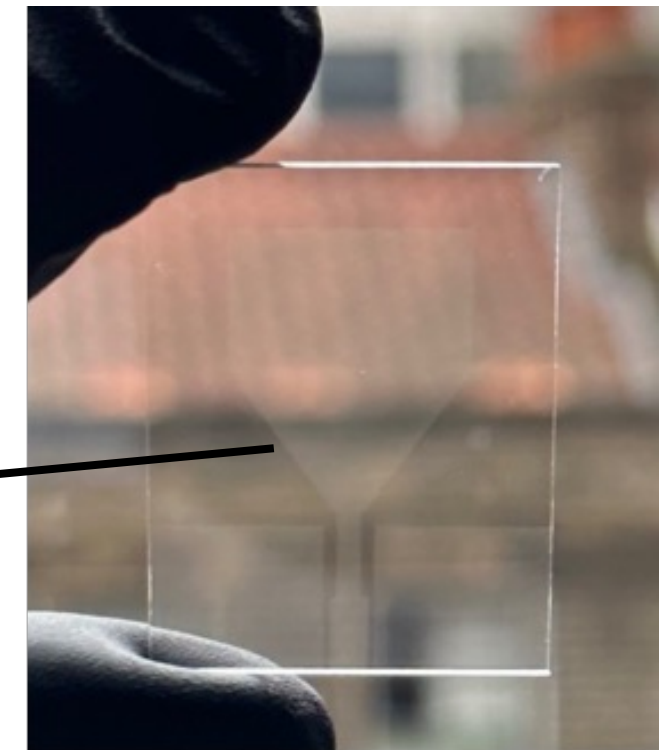
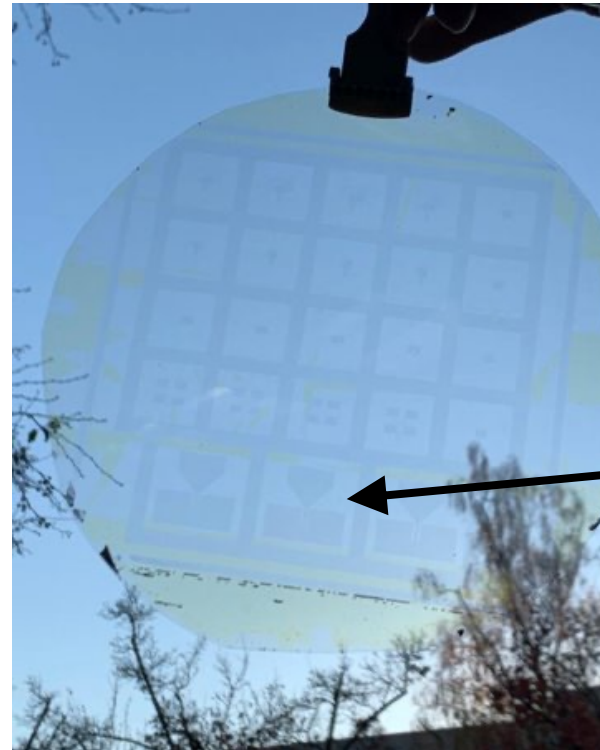


- Lithographically defined antenna structure(s)

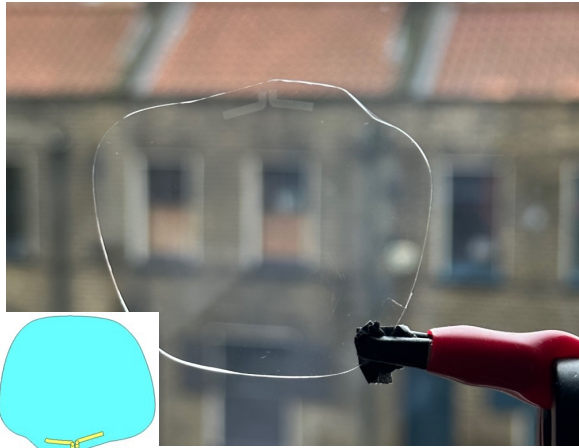


Multiple antenna designs on one wafer:

Frequency	Application
2.4 GHz	WiFi / BT
5.0 GHz	WiFi
10 GHz	5G (proposed)
26-28 GHz	5G-FR2



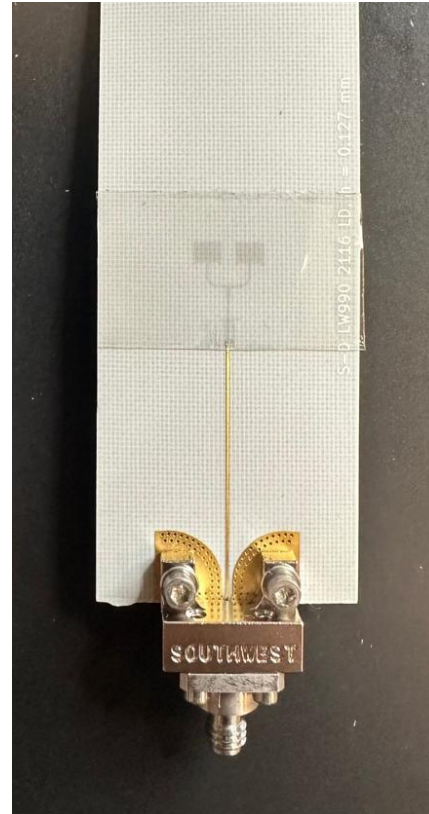
# Selected Antenna Samples Produced in 2022



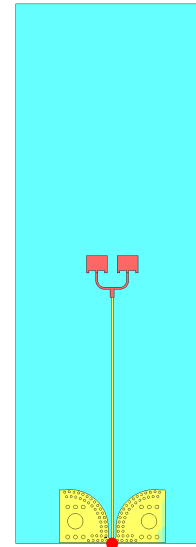
Dipole @5GHz on lens



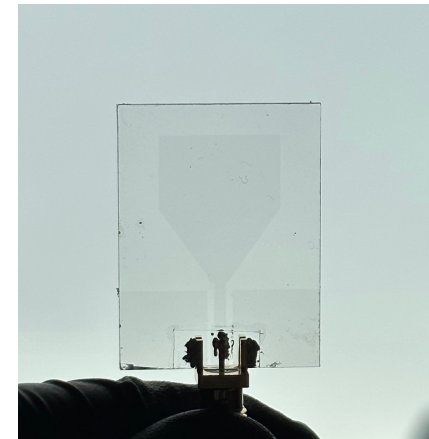
Dipole @2.4 GHz on lens



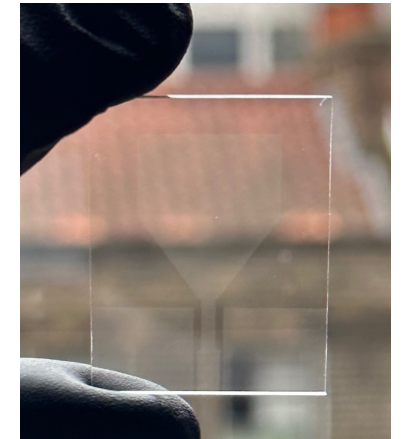
Automotive Radar 40 GHz



TV antenna patterned on Glass @400-800 MHz



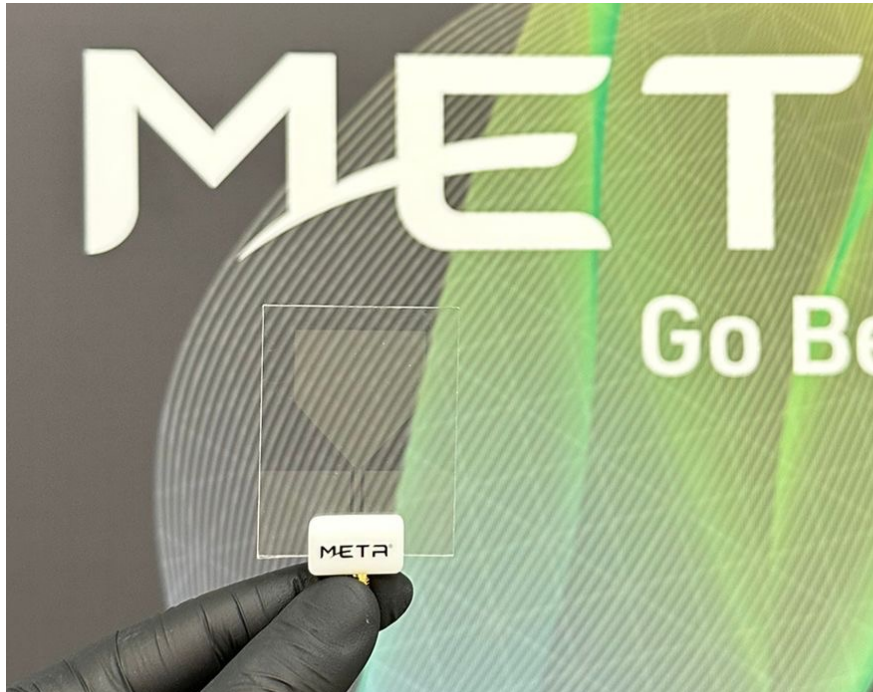
Monopole @5.5 GHz on glass



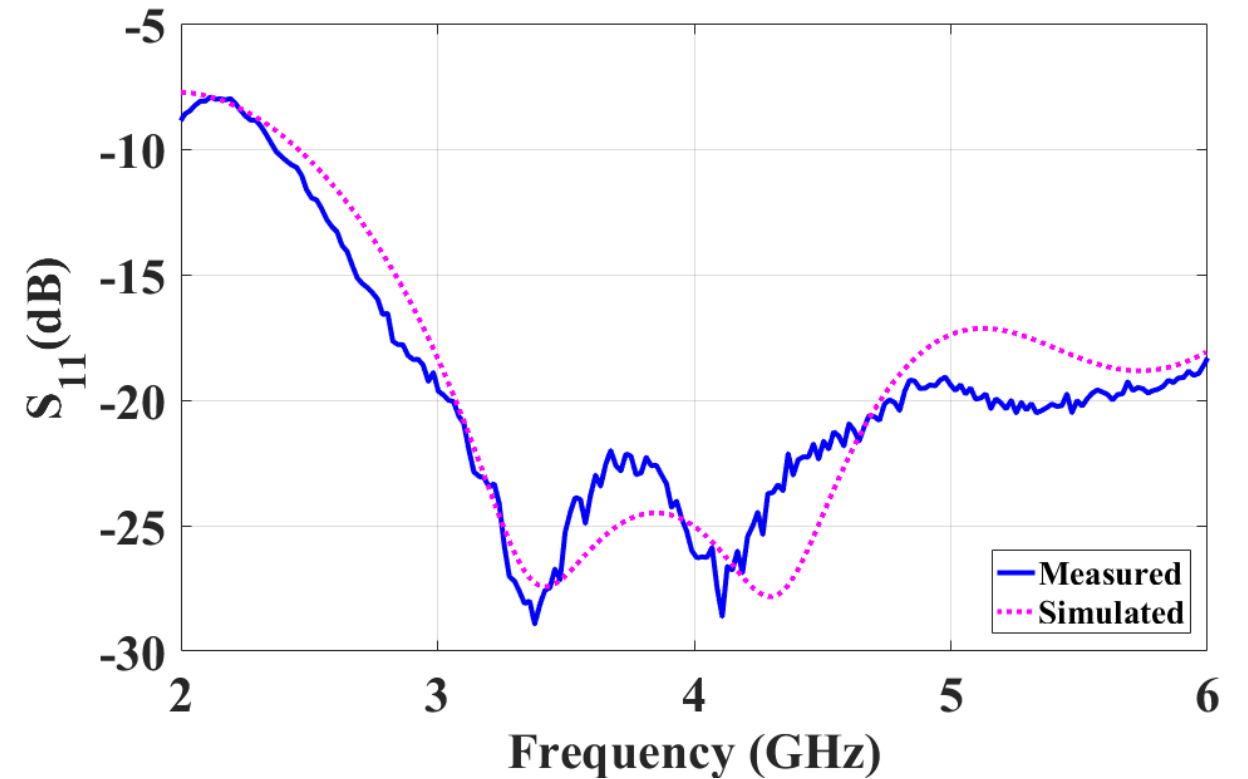
# 5.0 GHz WiFi Gen1 on glass lens on frame; AWE 2022 demo



# ANT-NGS-P25-GEN-004 Measured Data

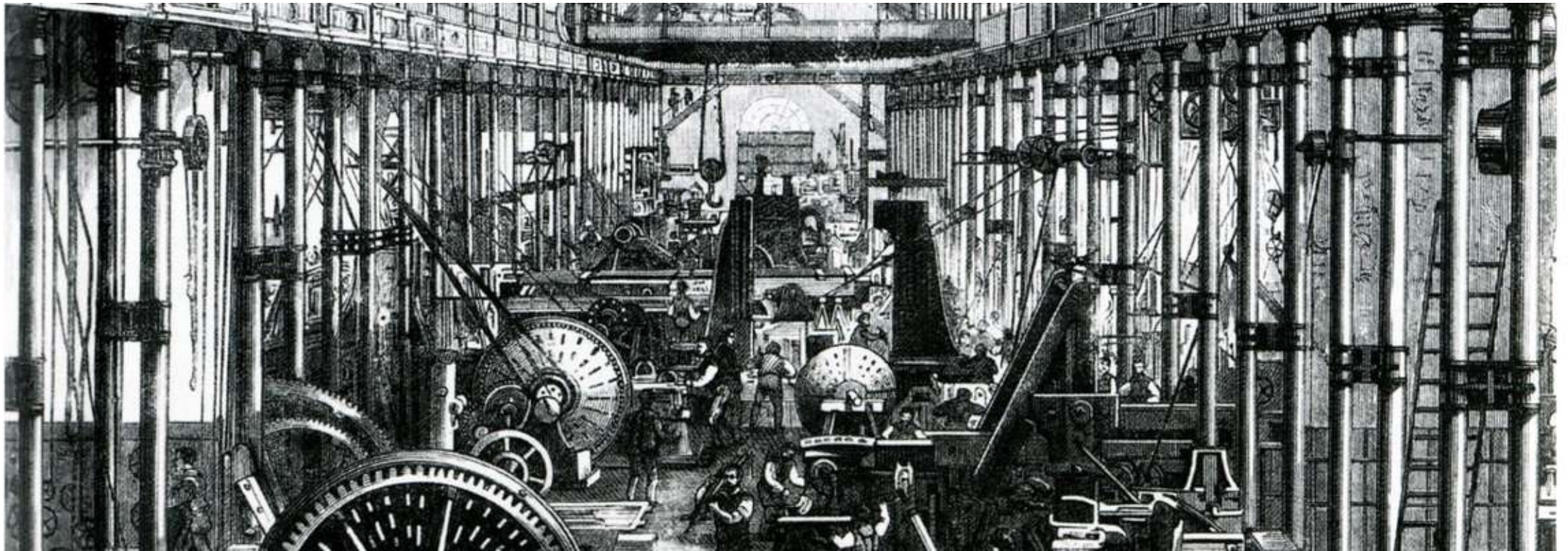


Nanoweb P25 Monopole  
ANT-NGS-P25-GEN-004



# Manufacturing





**1950s**

Silicon  
Transistor



**1**  
Transistor

**1960s**

TTL  
Quad Gate



**16**  
Transistors

**1970s**

8-bit  
Microprocessor



**4500**  
Transistors

**1980s**

32-bit  
Microprocessor



**275,000**  
Transistors

**1990s**

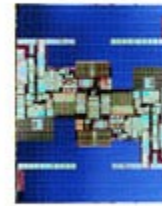
32-bit  
Microprocessor



**3,100,000**  
Transistors

**2000s**

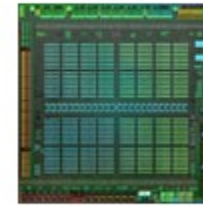
64-bit  
Microprocessor



**592,000,000**  
Transistors

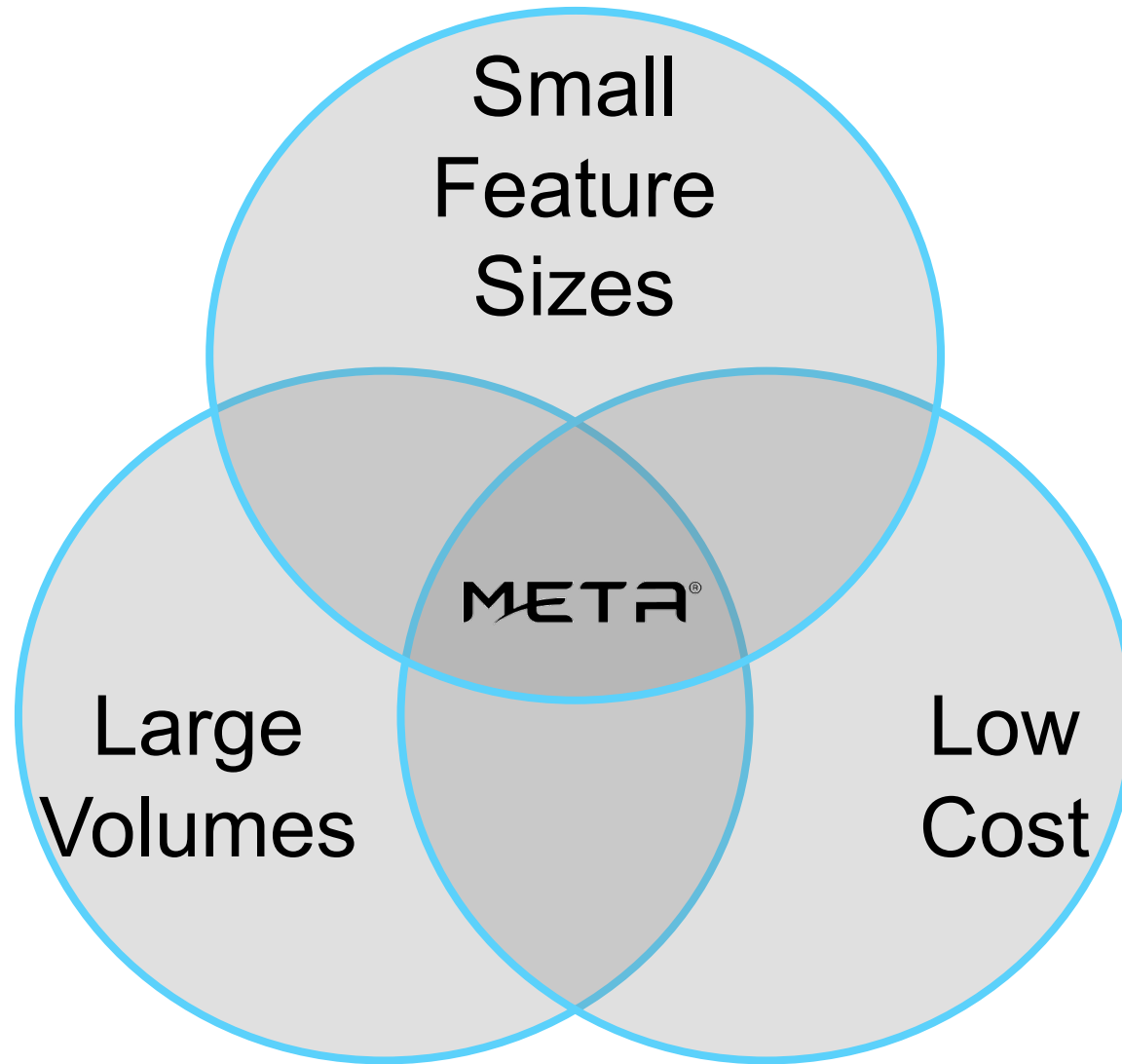
**2010s**

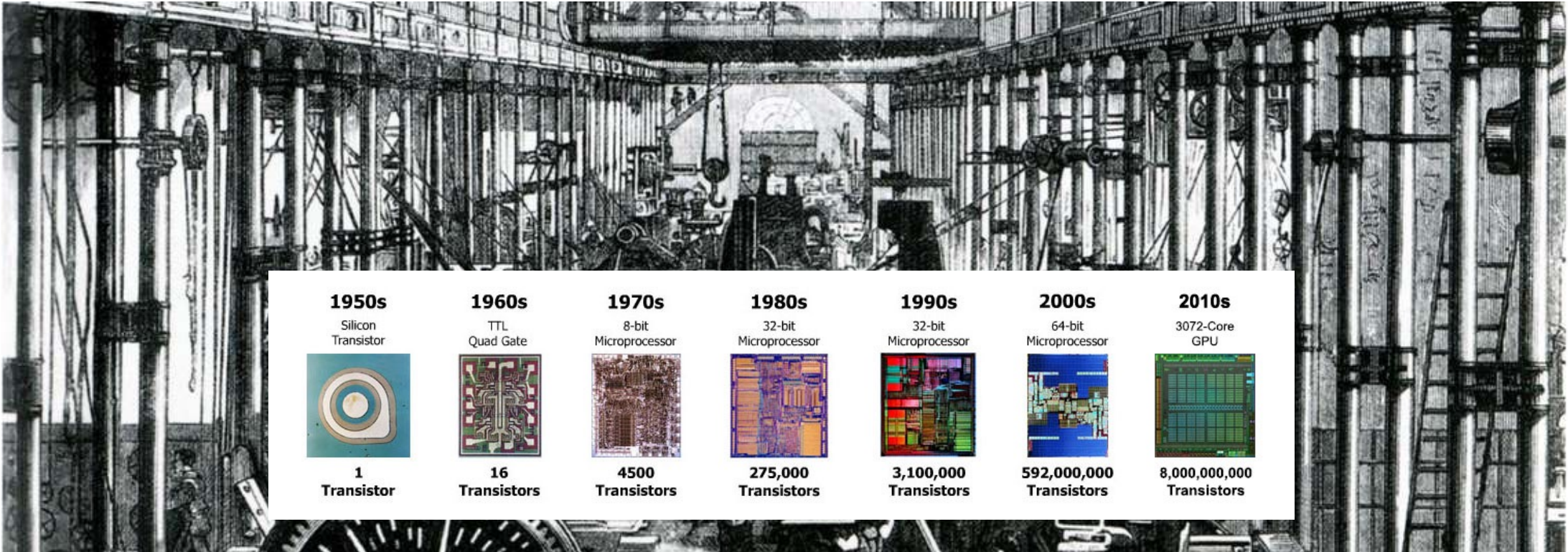
3072-Core  
GPU



**8,000,000,000**  
Transistors







# R2R Lithography Capabilities at META

## R2R UV-NIL

Merging of Micro and Nanostructures:  
KolourOptik® secure brand protection

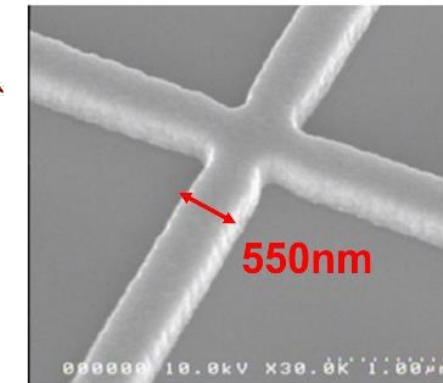
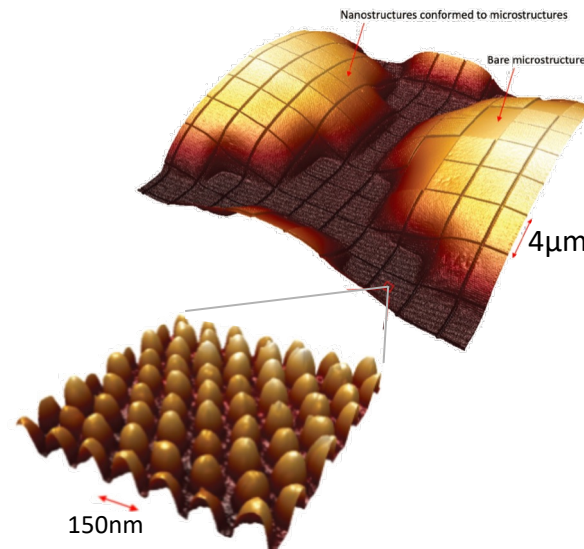
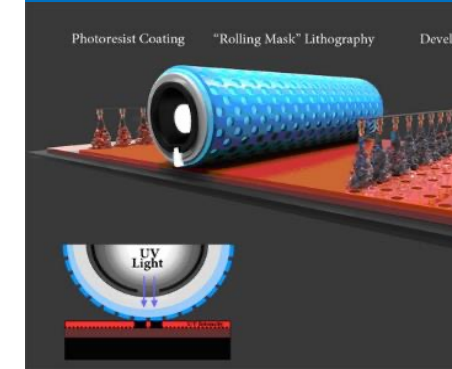
## RML Lithography

RML® produces sub-micron metal mesh:  
NANOWEB® antennas, 5G communication,  
EMI shielding, de-ice/de-fog

### NIL Lithography

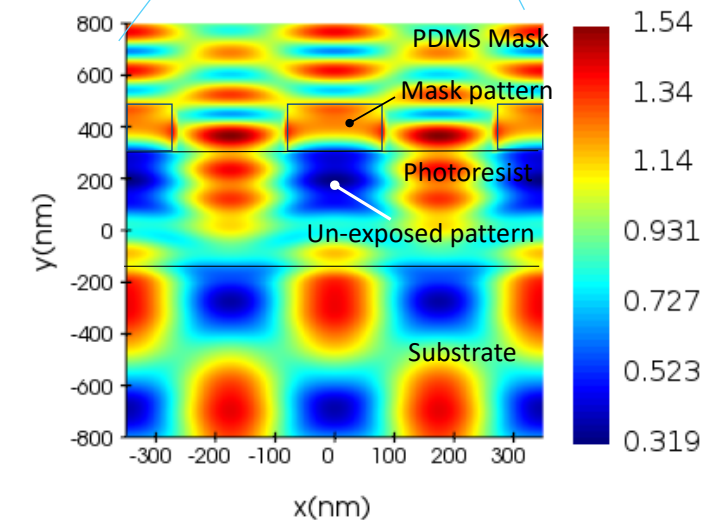
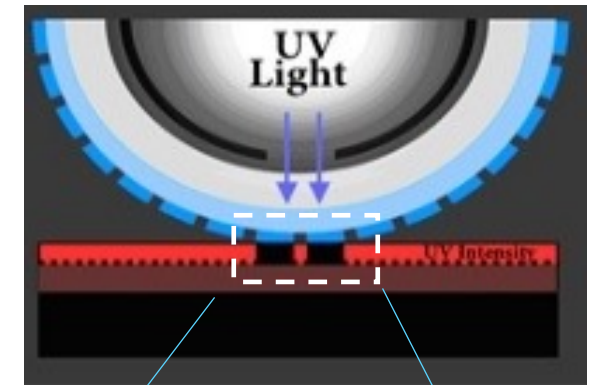
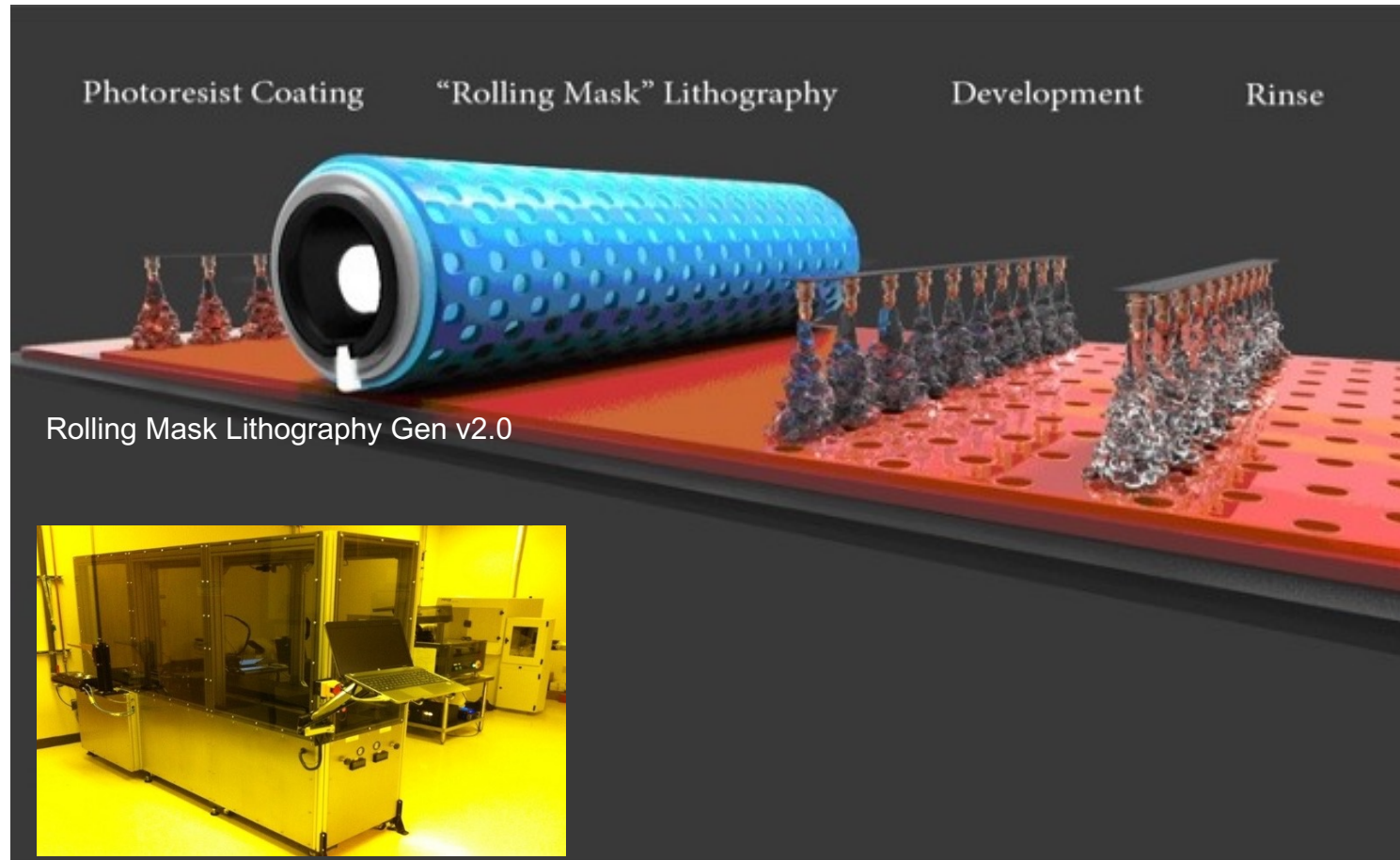


### Rolling Mask Lithography



# Rolling Mask Lithography

Proprietary **RML**<sup>®</sup> technology can fabricate nano-structures directly onto rigid or flexible surface



# Roll-to-roll Nanoimprint Lithography

## Industrialized Nanofabrication

### Design

- Optical Physics & Nanostructures
- Proprietary Software, 3D Image/Motion Graphics Development



### Origination

- High-Resolution Electron Beam Lithography
- Proprietary Nanofabrication Processes and Intellectual Property



### Recombination

- Expertise in recombination of nanostructures to preserve quality and fidelity over large areas



### Production

- Decades of experience in high-volume, roll-to-roll web processing
- Secure facility with capacity >7 million m<sup>2</sup>

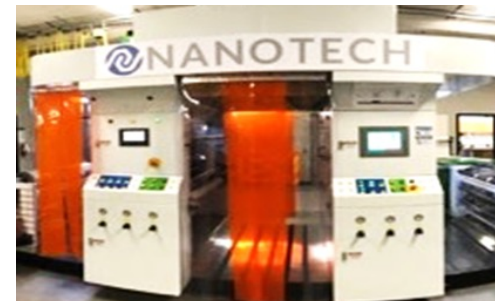
**EBL Origination**



**SR-NIL UV Recombination**



**R2R UV Casting NIL**



**R2R Vacuum Deposition**

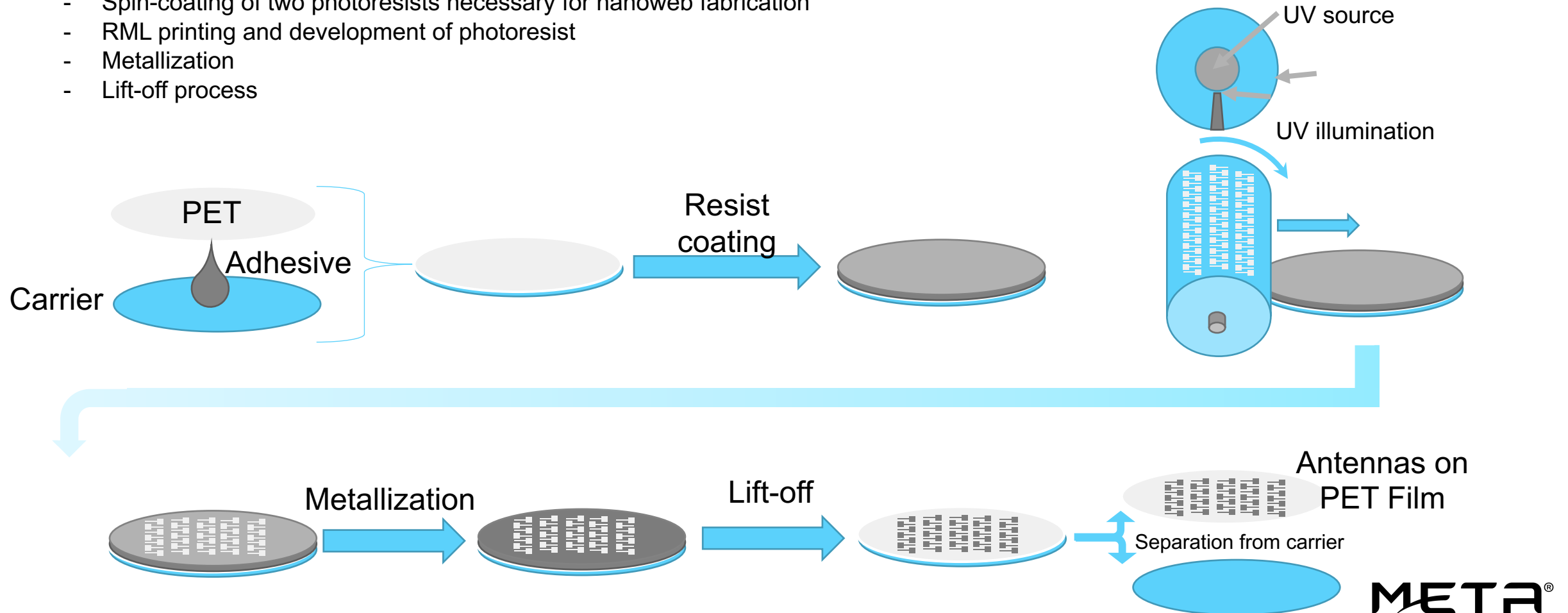


# Fabrication – Nanoscale R2R Patterning “for Free”

Fabrication of Antennas:

- Laminate PET on wafers carriers using UV curable as adhesive
- Spin-coating of two photoresists necessary for nanoweb fabrication
- RML printing and development of photoresist
- Metallization
- Lift-off process

Rolling Mask lithography (RML) process



# In Closing





“Themos,  
I made marble look like  
TRANSPARENT VEIL

You got this”

- Strazza