



PROF. MARKUS PESSÄ

Founder of ORC

Tampere University of Technology

Professor Markus Pessa is the Founder of ORC. He has authored 257 peer-reviewed journal articles during 1986 - 2007 on lasers, semiconductor physics, and surface science, according to ISI Web of Knowledge. His present work is concerned with nanophotonics, diode lasers, and high-efficiency photovoltaic

solar cells. He has led over 40 R & D projects of Finland and European Union over the past 10 years. He was among the first in Europe to develop an all-solid-source molecular-beam-epitaxy (MBE) crystal growth method, originally invented at AT&T Bell Laboratories, Murray Hill, N.J., currently being used in universities and companies across the world. Finnish media sometimes playfully calls him "Mr. Laser", characterizing his main achievement.

One of the most visible roles that made him known to the public at large is his contribution to setting up semiconductor wafer and laser manufacturing industry in Tampere. A forecast is that the overall optical technology industry in Finland, partly catalyzed by the Tampere research / industry activities, will grow from its present revenue of €300M (2008) to €500M by 2013, giving jobs to 2 000 people.

Prof. Pessa has set up a Laser Competence Centre Finland, 2005, which is acting as a bridge between academia and industry. He also founded an Industry Club, 2003, now comprising 30 companies. The Industry Club guides the development of strategic technologies related to photonics and optoelectronics in cooperation.

Prof. Pessa is a Knight, First Class, of the Order of the White Rose of Finland, awarded by the President of the Republic of Finland, Mr. Martti Ahtisaari, 1996. He was designated Professor of the Year (Finland) by the Trade Union of University Professors, 1997. He received the Gold Medal of the City of Tampere in 2006, and a Golden Public Service Medal from the President of the Republic of Finland, Mrs. Tarja Halonen, 2007. The Millennium Technology Prize Foundation granted a Millennium Distinction Award for his development of optoelectronics, 2007. He was awarded the Main Prize of Pirkanmaa Cultural Foundation, Finland, for his outstanding contributions to education, science and industry, 2007. He was also awarded the main 2007 Prize by Pirkanmaa Union. The Oulu University Association named him Alumnus of the Year 2007 (No. 9) on the grounds of his extremely distinguished career in the research of semiconductors and for social impact. In 2008, ORC under his leadership was awarded InnoSuomi-2008 Honorary Mention of the President (Tarja Halonen) of the Republic for commercializing optoelectronics based on compound semiconductor technology.

He was elected a Foreign Associate of the United States National Academy of Engineering as the first Finnish citizen, 2006. He is a member of the Finnish Academy of Sciences and Letters and the Finnish Academy of Technology, 1994 -. He belongs to the Board of Directors of the Kista Photonics Research Center (Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm), 2003 -, and to the Delegation of Finnish Cultural Institute in Tokyo 2002 -. He is a Fellow of the Institute of Physics IOP (London), 2004 -, and a member of the Editorial Boards of New J. Phys., 2002 - (London) and IET Optoelectronics, 2007 - (London). He belongs to program and advisory committees of inter-national conferences, symposia, and summer schools.

Jukka Heikkilä a.k.a Jups, born in 1961, holds Ph.D. (econ.) in Information Systems from the Helsinki School of Economics in 1995.

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He is professor of Electronic Business at the University of Jyväskylä, docent of Innovative Technologies at Helsinki School of Economics and Business Administration, and docent of Information Systems at the University of Turku. He has been running eBusiness education at the University of Jyväskylä for a decade and initiated Technology Based Business education for other disciplines. He is a founding member of the Information Systems Special Interest Group of the Finnish Society of Computer Science. He is also an expert member for the Finnish Information Tehnology education council and participates in the development of research agendas of the Strategic centres for science, technology and innovation in Finland (Flexible Services and Global Networks).

His current research focuses on two main areas: First, how to design and handle global, distributed ICT-enabled activities over a network of companies, and secondly, what kind of institutional structure eBusiness of intangible products require, e.g., designing the governance structure for National Enterprise Architecture Interoperability initiative of the Finnish Government. He has run numerous research and consultancy projects in co-operation with industry and other European universities of e- and mobile business.