



**Diamond Detectors Ltd**

***Fabrication and Packaging  
Capabilities***

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# Presentation Contents

- Brief Background.
- DDL road map to expand our capabilities further
- Diamond detector application examples.
- Closing comments

# Brief History



- **Diamond Detectors Ltd is currently 100% owned by Element Six Technologies and was spun out in 2007.**

## **Why DDL was created?**

- The focus of Element Six Ltd is on material development and bulk material synthesis.
- The detector/sensor market requires a diverse range of engineered products and skills. Including development, manufacture and sales.
- DDL has been formed to provide market focus and develop a range of packaged devices. To provide research and industry with a partner capable of providing the added processes needed to take diamond from material to characterised device.

# Brief History

## Diamond Detectors Ltd

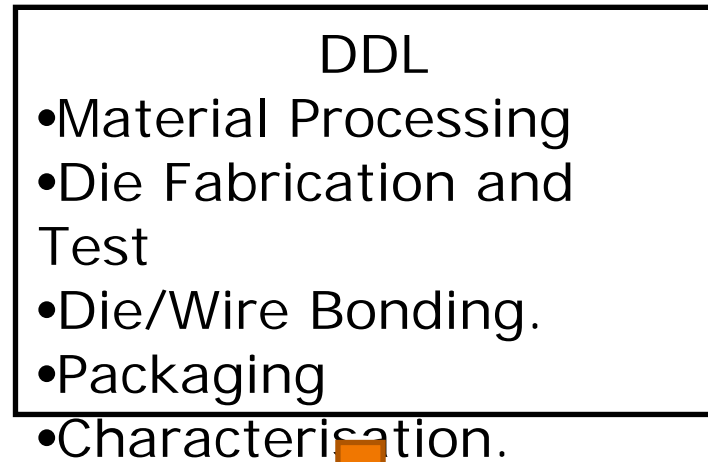
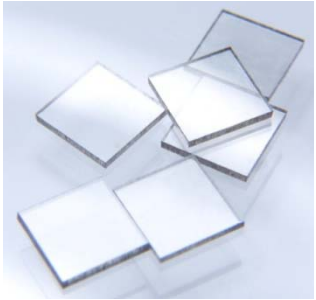


- Certificate of Incorporation February 2007  
(6097934, VAT 904 1112 82)
- Press release Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2007  
“Element Six Spins Out New Company to Develop Diamond Detectors.....”
- Moved into our own premises June 2007.  
Location Poole, Dorset.



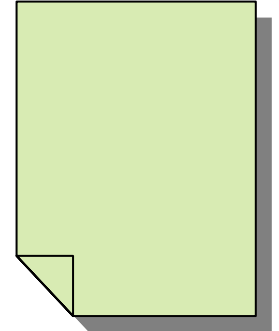
# Reason for Spinning Out To Provide Detectors

Diamond  
Synthesis E6



Packaged Solutions to  
Customers in R&D and Industry

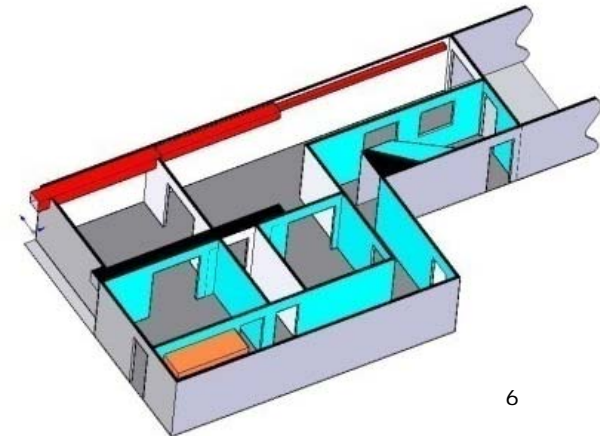
Market Driven  
Requirements or  
Specification



# DDL – Roadmap



- Phase-I (2007 - Q3)
  - Technology Transfer from E6 to DDL.
  - Build Start (access to premises from 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2007)
  - Lapping & Polishing Processes
  - Chemistry Lab.
  - Laser Lab.
  - Lithography and Assembly Clean rooms. (class 1000 & 10000)
- Phase-II (2007 - Q4)
  - Fabrication and packaging of simple devices
  - Build Completion.
- Phase-III (2008/09) Purchase of additional manufacturing tools including:-
  - Metallization (Delivery July 2008)
  - Laser Dicing (Delivery July 2008)
  - Lithography (Direct write tools)
  - Development of more complex detectors/sensors including electronics.



## ***DDL-Build-2007***

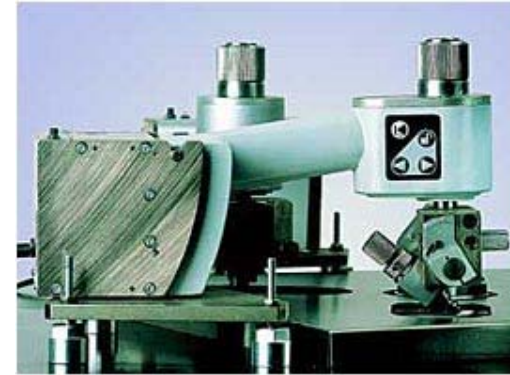
- 2 Newly built clean rooms class 1000 and 10000 (~100m<sup>2</sup>)





# DDL-Equipment & Capabilities

- Lapping, Polishing and Semi-automatic scaife



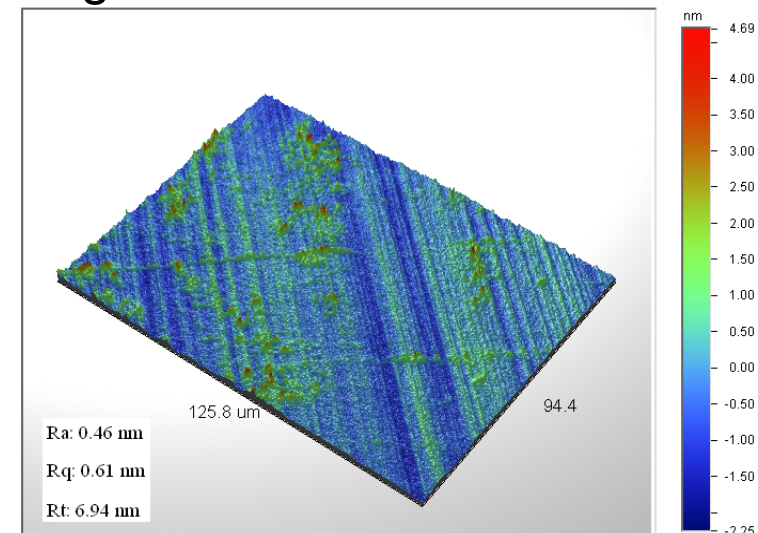
- Optical Profiler NT9100



- Diamond Thinning and Polishing Processes including
  - Lapping
  - Resin wheel polishing
  - Scaife polishing

## Typical process specifications :-

Polycrystalline standard polish	$R_a < 30\text{nm}$ .
Polycrystalline detector polish	$R_a < 12\text{nm}$ .
Polycrystalline Super polish	$R_a < 5\text{nm}$ .
Single crystal detector polish	$R_a < 5\text{nm}$ .





## DDL-Equipment

- Die bonding including universal wedge bonder (K&S 4523) and ball bonding (K&S 4124)



- Wire bond pull strength is monitored using Dage 4000 system.
- Encapsulation (UV EFOS Novacure)
- Asymtek Century Fluid/Adhesive Dispense



- High Voltage Electrical Isolation Test (Keithley 6517A, 487 and 236).

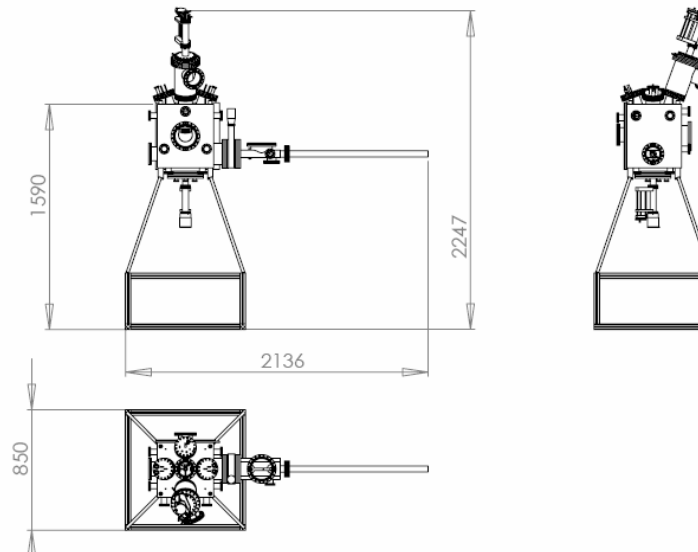


# DDL-Equipment

- Laser Dicing System
  - Shaping Software
  - Dicing up to 5mm thickness



- Sputtering System
  - 3 Targets (1 nano-cluster)
  - 4" Substrate Holder
  - Ion-Beam-Polishing
  - 850C Substrate temperature.
  - 25kev Substrate bias.
  - RF plasma clean/etch

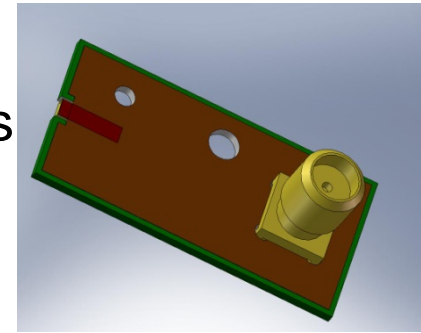
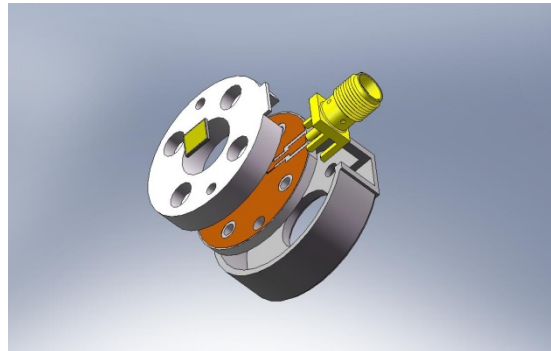
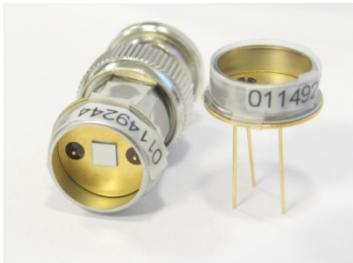


# Diamond Detector Applications

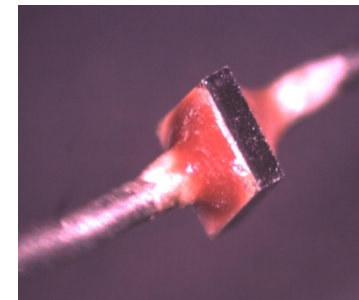
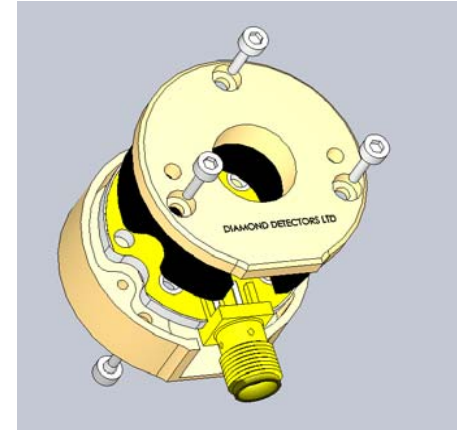
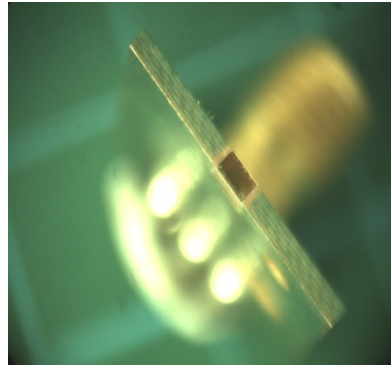


A wide range of detector applications and detector types make diverse demands on the material

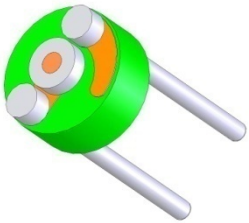
- Particle physics: beam condition monitors, trackers, beam abort systems
- Dosimetry: radiation therapy, equipment calibration, active exposure monitoring
- Nuclear applications: homeland security, nuclear reactors and fusion experiments
- Synchrotrons: white beam monitoring
- UV detectors: photolithography, flame detection and solar physics
- Alpha/Beta: air-flow and survey meters, waste incineration



# Diamond Detectors Applications



# X-ray Sensitivity Comparison for Different Dosimeter Types



**Higher sensitivity of High Purity SC CVDD**

⇒ **Smaller devices**

⇒ **Improved spatial resolution**



	<b>E6 HP SC CVD diamond</b>	<b>Commercial Silicon dosimeter</b>	<b>Air-filled Ionisation chamber</b>
<b>Sensitivity (nC/Gy)</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>7.5</b>
<b>Active Detector Volume (mm<sup>3</sup>)</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>120</b>

Data for samples irradiated in a 6MV photon beam with a 10cm x 10cm field at a source-to-detector distance of 100cm, courtesy of Scanditronix

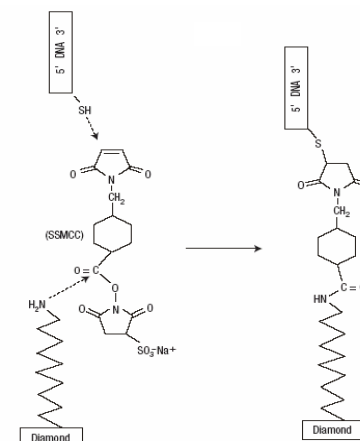
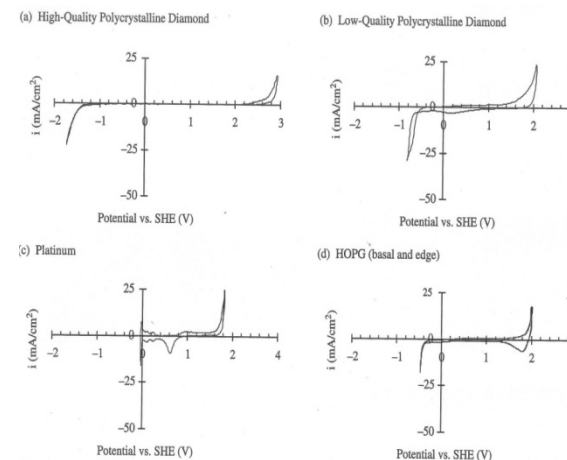
# Diamond Sensor Applications



# Why Diamond



- Wide electrochemical window
- Extremely low background current.
- Bio-Compatible (non-fouling)
- Very stable surface (Chemically inert)
- Varied surface terminations possible
- Mechanically robust



# Applications

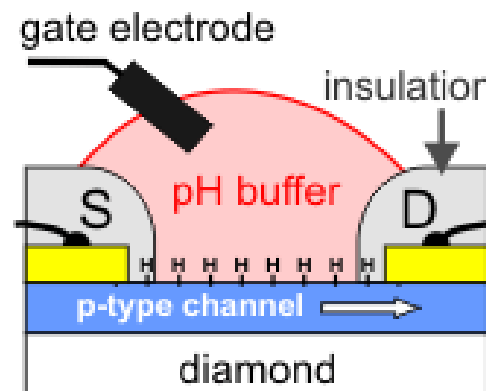
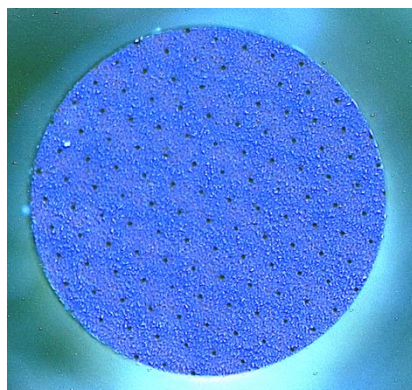
- **Electro-chemical sensors (RDE, MEA, trace element analysis)**

(Oil, Mining, Automotive, Medical, Food, Water, Environmental, Emissions , etc)

- **PH-Sensors**

- **Temperature-Sensors**

- **Conductivity**



# Diamond Sensor Devices

- **Microelectrode Array (MEA)**
  - Structured array of many small (2 - 25 $\mu$ m) BDD electrodes surrounded by non-conducting intrinsic diamond
  - Housed inside sensor with membrane to select analyte
  - Requires analyte-specific solutions in contact with surface
- **Applications**
  - Petroleum industry (well logging)
  - Academic research (biology, electrochemistry)
  - Environmental (trace element analysis)
  - Process monitoring (food / beverage, chemical, pharmaceutical)
  - Medical.
- **Development status**
  - Prototypes available (2<sup>nd</sup> generation in design)

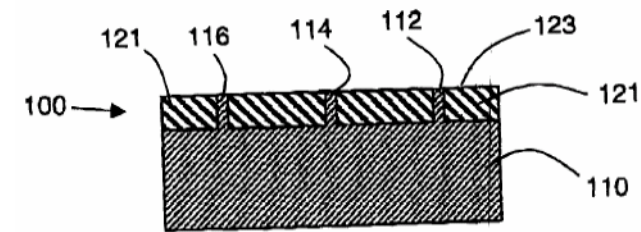
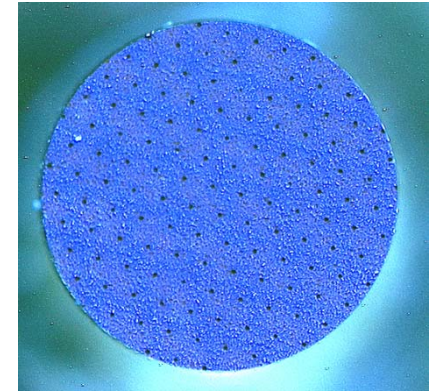
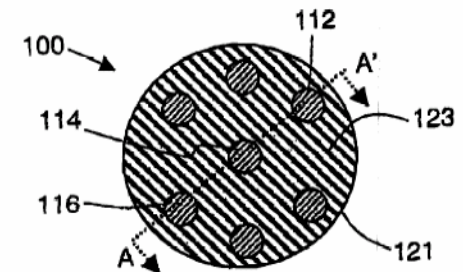


Figure 1a



# Diamond Sensor Devices



- **Rotating Disc Electrode**

- Small BDD disc (3 – 10 mm) attached to a shaft and protected by a PEEK coating
- Used in conjunction with a potentiostat

- **Applications**

- Trace metal analysis (stripping voltammetry)
- Pharmaceuticals (new drug analysis)
- Electrochemical investigations in aqueous electrolyte and organic solvents

- **Development status**

- Small volume production



# Closing Comments

# Closing comments



- From early experiments using naturals, diamond detector applications have grown into diverse applications with a growing interest from commercial and research markets where high performance detectors/sensors are required.
- Outstanding technical challenges remain including surface quality, metallization and material size for high purity single crystal.
- DDL continue to support single crystal development with E6 R&D  
The goal of this development is predominantly to improve yield and size.
- CVD diamond high purity single crystal and polycrystalline materials are now readily available. DDL stock material to avoid long lead time on standard product.
- DDL have a number of parties interested in thin materials in both single crystal and poly. This work has been more difficult than expected but process is being made.



# Closing comments



- New markets are being opened up by improved material quality, larger available sizes, and an increased understanding of diamond performance
- New diamond detector applications are being driven by technological advances in other fields e.g. radiation therapy
- A new detector company, Diamond Devices Ltd, has been set up to service these markets.

**The End**  
**Thank you**