



PRESS RELEASE

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F-712 fibre alignment platform

Warsash Scientific is pleased to announce the F-712 from Physik Instrumente (PI), a new system designed for fibre alignment tasks in the Silicon Photonics applications. Over the past two decades PI has been successful in providing solutions to the fibre-to-fibre or fibre-to-waveguide requirements. In more recent applications the alignment focus has shifted to the subsystem/wafer level and PI is still at the best position for offering automated solutions for packaging, testing or inspection requirements in the market.

The F-712 is a complete system including the positioner, controller, firmware based alignment algorithms and software tools. At the heart of every system is an XYZ nano-positioning stage for the high-speed and high-duty-cycle alignment task. Especially for tracking applications, the piezo-based nano-positioning stage is mandatory due to its frictionless long-lifetime capabilities. The nano-positioning stage typically sits on a micro-positioning system that performs the larger-travel tasks. This micro-positioning system can either be an XYZ system consisting of stacked M-122 linear stages combined with very stiff and robust angle brackets, or alternatively an H-811 hexapod if also rotational axes are required. There are single-sided and double-sided systems available.

The unique advantage of the F-712 system is that it provides an integrated coarse-fine solution, capable of 25 mm coarse motion and 100 µm fine motion, for aligning complex multi-axis with high speed/throughput. All axes are driven by a single digital controller with one global coordinate system, and the interdependencies of axes are automatically compensated. The software package is able to support various programming languages, e.g. LabVIEW, C++, MATLAB, Python.

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