

PRESS RELEASE

17th November 2014

A Lithuanian consortium won one of the laser public procurement tenders of the ELI-ALPS facility in Szeged, Hungary – project starting ceremony was held at the Hungarian Embassy in Vilnius.

A press conference was held today in Vilnius, part of the project ELI laser research centre implementation (ELI-ALPS), in the major project phase 1 (GOP-1.1.1-12 / B 2012-0001) of ELI-HU Non-profit Ltd. On the ceremonial event –held in the Hungarian Embassy in Vilnius - it was announced that the Lithuanian UAB „Ekspla” / UAB „Mokslinė-gamybinė firma „Šviesos konversija” consortium won the public procurement tender for the SYLOS laser system.

The value of the contract and also of the laser system is more than EUR 4 million. The amount of financial support for the first implementation phase of ELI-ALPS Research Centre is 36.9 billion HUF, 85% of which is provided by the European Union's Structural Fund.

This morning, a project starting ceremony was held in the Hungarian Embassy in Vilnius, on the occasion of the contract made between the Lithuanian UAB „Ekspla” / UAB „Mokslinė-gamybinė firma „Šviesos konversija” consortium and the ELI-ALPS laser research center in Szeged, Hungary. On the press conference, his excellency Mr. Zoltán Pecze, Hungary's Ambassador to Lithuania; Lóránt Lehner, managing director of ELI-HU Non-Profit Ltd., Prof. Károly Osvay, research technology director of ELI-HU Non-profit Ltd. together with..... solemnly opened the project of ELI-ALPS SYLOS laser system and signed the project opening document.

The Lithuanian UAB „Ekspla” / UAB „Mokslinė-gamybinė firma „Šviesos konversija” (Light Conversion) consortium won the public procurement tender for the design and construction work for the SYLOS laser system. The value of the contract and also of the laser system is more than EUR 4 million. The winning consortium is responsible for the detailed engineering design, construction, delivery of the SYLOS 1 laser system and also for entry into service in Szeged. Each phase of the implementation is closely monitored by both the consortium and the ELI-HU Non-Profit Ltd..

Prof. Károly Osvay research technology director of ELI-HU Non-profit Ltd. has pointed out on the scientific importance of the agreement:

„The SYLOS 1 laser system will be able to generate for times higher, 4 Terawatt peak efficiency pulses than the current state of the art. The equipment is based on optical parametric amplification, not on the conventional laser amplification method. It is worth noting that the researchers of Vilnius University are worldwide recognized in the field of optical parametric

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processes for many decades. The current signed contract is the very first made between a genuine consortium from a new EU Member State and the ELI facilities. “

Lóránt Lehrner, managing director of ELI-HU Non-Profit Ltd. said on the ceremony: *“I hope that the construction of the Hungarian laser research centre will facilitate the technical and scientific development of Hungary, contribute to the competitiveness of its distinct industry, support the economical growth of the region and will result in a successful Hungarian-Lithuanian cooperation in the European Union. This facility becoming one of the centres of the international scientific life, compels the settling of foreign professionals and Hungarian researchers relocate to Hungary.”*

The main object of ELI-ALPS (Extreme Light Infrastructure Attosecond Light Pulse Source) project is creating a unique European research centre, providing the international research community with laser pulses and further sources based on these. The Szeged facility will stand out from the institutes producing the highest intensity laser pulses in the world with its highest repetition rate and shortest pulses. This facility is expected to lead to reaching outstanding results not only in the field of ultrafast physical processes but also in biological, medical and materials sciences.

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