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## Press Release

Nightingale-EOS Limited has received a substantial investment from Mercia Technology Seed Fund and Finance Wales. This investment leverages additional grant funding from the Welsh Assembly Government to complete development of the company's first product, targeted at the medical device manufacturing market. The company's laser-based measurement technology, called Beam Profile Reflectometry (BPR), is able to measure non-destructively the characteristics of the thin coatings applied to medical implants such as cardiac stents and replacement joints, using a single measurement to determine both coating thickness and composition. By making it easier and quicker to measure these characteristics, the technique can be used for in-line QA inspection as well as laboratory testing, thus providing medical device manufacturers with a low cost, robust solution for complying with the FDA's *Process Analytical Technology (PAT)* initiative. The technology promises to make such devices safer and more affordable, and to accelerate the development and introduction of new coating technologies.

The company's development centre is in Wrexham and it will open an applications laboratory and sales office at the Coventry University Technology Park, where the West Midlands Manufacturing Measurement Centre (WMMMC) is also based.

Alistair Taylor, the company Chairman, said "*There are clear benefits for medical device manufacturers in adopting technology such as this to streamline their production processes, reduce cost and improve quality. This investment enables the company to bring the technology to its customers in time for the next generation of devices*".

The deal was the first co-investment between Mercia Technology Seed Fund and Finance Wales plc.

Everard Mascarenhas of the Mercia Technology Seed Fund commented "*In Nightingale-EOS we see a company with a strong IP position and technology that addresses a need poorly served by existing solutions in a rapidly-growing market.*"

Leanna Davies of Finance Wales added "*Nightingale-EOS adds to the already significant cluster of optical technology companies based in North-East Wales, and we are impressed by its prospects for long-term growth*".

For further information, please contact:

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