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Optikos Corporation Wins SBA Massachusetts Small Business Exporter Award

Wakefield, MA. – June 30, 2008 - Dr. Stephen D. Fantone, president of Wakefield-based Optikos Corporation, has been named the U.S. Small Business Administration's 2008 Massachusetts Small Business Exporter of the Year.

The Small Business Exporter of the Year Award is presented annually to an individual or individuals who own and operate a small business engaged in exporting. Nominations are evaluated on the following criteria: (1) Increased sales, profits and/or growth of employment because of exporting. (2) Creative overseas marketing strategies. (3) Effective solutions to export-related problems and (4) Voluntary assistance with other firms engaged in exporting.

“SBA is gratified to have played a role in Optikos’s expansion into the international marketplace,” said Bob Nelson, SBA Massachusetts Director. “Eastern Bank established an SBA Export Working Capital Line of Credit in May 2001, which has been renewed annually, that has enabled the company to increase its export sales over five years to 30% of revenues.”

About Optikos Corporation

Optikos Corporation, an ISO 9001 certified company, is the world’s leading manufacturer of equipment for the measurement of optical image quality. Optikos is also a leading provider of optical product development services helping development, design, and industrial product firms bring their visions to reality. Optikos has received several awards and over 60 patents for its engineering work and continues to develop optically based products for their own product lines and for the consumer, industrial and life sciences industry. Headquartered in Wakefield, MA Optikos is a privately held engineering consulting and manufacturing firm founded in 1982. Visit www.optikos.com for more information.

Stephen D. Fantone received S.B. degrees in electrical engineering and management from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and received his Ph.D. in optics from the Institute of Optics at the University of Rochester. Dr. Fantone serves on the board of Rofin-Sinar Technologies, Inc. (RSTI) and was Chairman of Benthos, Inc. (BTHS) of North Falmouth, MA until its sale to Teledyne Technologies, Inc.(TDY) in 2006. Dr. Fantone is a senior lecturer at MIT and serves on a number of non-profit boards including the Optical Society of America where he has served as Treasurer since 1996, the Pioneer Institute, and the Sea Education Association.