Pavol Miškovský, Founder and CEO of SAFTRA photonics Ltd

Specialist in biophotonics and nanotechnologies. PhD degree in Biophysics in 1986 at Charles University, Prague, and DrSc. degree in Biophysics in 2000 at Comenius University Bratislava, professor in physics in 2001 at the UPJŠ in Košice, professor in condensed matter and material physics France (2002), professor in diluted matter physics and optics France (2002). He published 160 publications, H-index 28. Invited professor positions at Sorbonne university/campus Paris VI University and Orleans University, France. Fulbright scholar in USA. He was invited to over 64 international conferences (including 4 plenary lectures) and several universities and scientific institutions all over the world. He has rich experience with coordination of both international and national research and technology projects (EU FP7, H2020, Horizon Europe, NSF, NATO, bilateral (FR-SVK) and is currently supported by following grants: nanoPlast, N^{o} 09I01-03-V04-00056, Slovak Research and Development Agency, PURPEST, No. 101060634 , Horizon Europe, BioPickmol, TMS2014+313011AUW6, ERDF Operational Program Integrated Infrastructure. Winner of several international technological competitions with PickMolTM technology. He was twice honored by the award “Scientist of the Slovak Republic”.

SAFTRA photonics Ltd

SAFTRA Photonics Ltd is a high-tech company founded as a spin-off from P.J. Safarik University in Košice, Slovakia in 2014. The company's development and business strategies are based on research and development activities focused on nanotechnologies and photonics.

The company has developed and patented a breakthrough "PickMolTM personalized nanotechnology" designed for the highly selective and sensitive detection of trace amounts of organic molecules in various matrixes (water, soil, industry). The uniqueness of "PickMolTM nanotechnology" lies in its selectivity (achieved by a construction of tailored nanostructured photonic chip), sensitivity (ppb), analysis speed (instant), a possibility of performing on-spot analysis without sample pre-treatment and low price. The company has won several international awards and prizes for its "PickMolTM" technology (Bratislava, London, Prague, Brussels).

PickMolTM application fields: Sub-ppb detection of molecules of interest in the environment, food, pharmacy, and biological systems (POPs, PFAS, micro- & nano-plastics, viruses, glyphosate, drugs, peptides etc.).

PickMol™ technology is a fully green technology, which means: i) low energy consumption (significantly lower compared to classical detection methods with the same sensitivity such as mass spectrometry) and ii) fully recyclable tailored nanostructured photonic chips.

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