Foreword

Jobin Yvon HORIBA Group

The History, Perspective and Company Philosophy of This Multinational Corporation



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This year marks the 50th anniversary of the foundation of the HORIBA Group and the 6th anniversary of the Jobin Yvon (JY) Group being part of the HORIBA Group.

JY is a very illustrious company history with roots going back almost Two centuries. JY was founded in 1819 by Jean-Baptiste François Soleil in Paris. Throughout the 19th century and the 20th century, JY was a pioneer in the development of optical instruments working in collaboration in the field of Optics, polarisation and spectroscopy with several of the most famous scientists of the time such as Fresnel, Arago and Babinet. Amédée Jobin and his son-in-law Gustave Yvon, both graduates from Ecole Polytechnique, continued this tradition, producing the first Fabry-Perot interferometer. Today, JY is working with some of the most advanced research laboratories worldwide, looking for commercial applications of the latest discoveries, as witnessed by the development of Holographic Gratings with Professor A. Labeyrie now at Còllege de France, the Raman Micro probe (MOLE) with Professor Delhaye from Université de Lille and Phase modulated spectroscopic Ellipsometers with Professor Drevillon from Ecole Polytechnique, for example. Through these collaborations and its gifted own teams, JY has built its reputation for producing high quality, reliable instruments and components and for being a world leader in Spectroscopic systems with its core technologies of diffractive optics, multi-channel detectors, and spectroscopic excellence.

In the late 1960's and early 70's, JY built on the remarkable versatility of its pioneering holographic diffraction grating technology, to produce some of the key advances in optical spectroscopy with several patents in the field of aberration corrected diffraction gratings and spectroscopic systems. The numerous patents granted at that time still define the field to this day.

In 1973, JY created its first subsidiary in the USA followed by Germany, Italy, the UK and more recently China, in this way progressively becoming a global company. The company grew by pioneering advanced instrumentation in several fields such as Raman spectroscopy, spectroscopic ellipsometry and by acquiring:

- · In 1988, Spex a US company specialized in spectrometers, Raman spectroscopy, fluorescence.
- In 1995, Dilor, a company specialized in Raman spectroscopy.
- · In 1996, Sofie, a company specialized in process control in the semi conductor field.
- · In 1999, the modular and lifetime fluorescence activity of SLM.
- · In 2002, the laser ellipsometry activity of Philips.

Serving diversified global markets, the sales of the company have demonstrated a robust growth towards the 100 Million (euro) mark and today the JY distribution network spans more than seventy countries with sales divided almost equally between Europe, the US, and Asia.

In 1997, JY became a member of the HORIBA Group. Our goal within the HORIBA Group is to continue our tradition of innovation in spectroscopy and to enhance our strong position as a leading supplier of spectroscopic solutions. This philosophy is integrated in the company's long history and exemplified by

the HORIBA Group Motto "Explore the Future". In order to achieve those goals, JY is continuing its tradition of excellence in opto-mechanical systems, state of the art detection systems, electronics and software as well as collaboration with the foremost scientific institutions worldwide. Backed by the strength of the HORIBA Group in finance, advanced manufacturing techniques, and quality systems, we look forward to continued growth as we approach our bicentennial celebration.

As part of a multi-national corporation, JY has a deep appreciation and understanding of the European, American, and Asian cultures. This is inspired by our Company Values which permeate our company:

- · Honesty and Integrity
- · Customer First
- · Respect and Listen to People
- · Enthusiasm and Team Spirit
- $\cdot\,$ An Open Mind to Innovation

Our people are the key element and the driving force behind our growth and success worldwide. The JY Group employs approximately 550 people worldwide, of which 70 are PhDs in various functions. We have always considered the potential of our people and the diversity of their cultures to be our single greatest asset. Our managers face the challenge of realizing that potential by cultivating the best employees, by training them to excel, and by providing our staff with the challenges that they need to grow. By channelling investment into educational and training initiatives, both internal and external, our hope is that we can open a door to society that will allow us to recruit and retain talented individuals who will develop into a creative corps, leading JY as part of the HORIBA Group through the 21st century.

As part of it's evolution strategy, JY had to take a fundamental decision between the products diversification and the natural tendency to stay in the original technologic know-how area. The original and profitable strategy chosen by the Company has been to find diversification space, with important growth possibilities, using the basic technologic know-how and to move from the basis of our technological experience in the Diffractive Optics, into different Spectroscopic techniques. The result has been a robust expansion in several markets fields, maintaining a very clear technologic personality and with a deepening of the scientific level. In the recent few years the company innovation rhythm has accelerated with an increasing of international patents granted.

Now, JY's goal is to be recognized as the technology and market leader in the seven product lines which you will discover in the following articles:

- · Raman spectroscopy
- · Ellipsometry and optically based semiconductors process control and quality testing
- · Fluorescence spectroscopy
- Monochromators, spectrographs, high performance multi-channel detection systems and modular spectroscopy systems
- · Forensics products
- Diffraction Gratings and OEM spectroscopic systems including Multi-channel detection systems
- · Emission spectroscopy including ICP, Spark and Glow discharge

This brief description of the assets of our company demonstrates its continuing vitality helped by its ongoing ability to accept challenges as a necessity and a catalyst for positive change. Our expansion worldwide and our being part of the HORIBA Group constitutes a proof and a warranty of our future strength, it reinforces our alertness to new technologies and is a foundation to our willingness and enthusiasm to go forward.