

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **TORNADO MEDICAL SYSTEMS AND A\*STAR'S INSTITUTE OF MICROELECTRONICS PARTNER TO COMMERCIALISE NANOSPECTROMETERS FOR OPTICAL COHERENCE TOMOGRAPHY APPLICATIONS**

1. Toronto, Ontario; Ithaca, NY; Singapore, August 28th, 2012 – Tornado Medical Systems is pleased to announce a partnership with the Institute of Microelectronics (IME), a research institute of the Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A\*STAR) in Singapore, to commercialize nanospectrometers for optical coherence tomography (OCT) applications. OCT is a technique for obtaining high-resolution sub-surface images of translucent or opaque materials based on light, rather than sound or radio frequency. OCT has attracted interest from the medical imaging community for its ability to provide live 3D images at near microscopic levels, offering an 'optical ultrasound' alternative for doctors.

2. This collaboration brings together Tornado's industry-leading nanophotonics capabilities with IME's deep expertise in silicon photonics fabrication to provide the first commercial nanospectrometers for OCT applications. The commercial availability of small, robust, high performance on-chip spectrometers will meet the needs of the current OCT market as well as opens up exciting new commercial opportunities for low-cost, high-performance OCT applications.

3. "This partnership builds on Tornado's deep experience with conventional OCT and nanophotonics to deliver an affordable, high performance and robust spectrometer optimized for OCT applications," said Stefan Larson, PhD, President and Chairman of Tornado Medical Systems. "This partnership, along with our recent announcement

regarding the acquisition of the spectroscopy assets of Arjae Spectral, will streamline our commercialization efforts significantly and position us for an exciting 2013.”

4. “Tornado’s collaboration with IME will ensure that we have a robust commercial product which can be delivered on time to our customers in 2013.” said Frederic Sweeney, PhD, Tornado’s VP of Business Development & Strategic Alliances.

5. “The partnership demonstrates tremendous potential of IME’s silicon photonics technology platform being applied beyond the traditional communications domain,” said Prof. Dim-Lee Kwong, Executive Director of IME, “This collaboration also exemplifies our continuous commitment to help our partners to be successful in commercializing their innovation, and contribute to the growth of the Silicon photonics industry. We are excited to be a partner of Tornado Medical Systems to realize their vision of delivering a compact OCT system that will revolutionize the marketplace.”

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### **About Institute of Microelectronics (IME)**

The Institute of Microelectronics (IME) is a research institute of the Science and Engineering Research Council of the Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A\*STAR), which is well positioned to bridge the R&D between academia and industry. For more information about IME, please visit <http://www.ime.a-star.edu.sg>.

### **About Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A\*STAR)**

The Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A\*STAR) is the lead agency for fostering world-class scientific research and talent for a vibrant knowledge-based and innovation-driven Singapore. A\*STAR oversees 14 biomedical sciences, and physical sciences and engineering research institutes, and seven consortia & centre. A\*STAR supports Singapore's key economic clusters by providing intellectual, human and industrial capital to its partners in industry. For more information about A\*STAR, please visit <http://www.a-star.edu.sg>.

### **About Tornado Medical Systems Inc.**

Founded in 2010, Tornado Medical Systems develops optical spectroscopy solutions for sample identification, detection, diagnosis and imaging. With a proven partnership model, Tornado works with large OEMs to develop ground-breaking solutions for high-performance optical engines, both in free space spectroscopy and integrated photonics, or spectroscopy-on-chip.

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