3 May 2021



## Renowned laser industry pioneer joins BluGlass Board

- Jean-Michel Pelaprat has joined the BluGlass Board
  - Co-founder and Director of laser diode leader, Nuburu (based in the US)
  - Has over 30 years' experience founding, leading and transforming photonics companies
- Jean-Michel's extensive business leadership and laser industry network will be invaluable to BluGlass

Australian semiconductor developer BluGlass Limited (ASX: BLG) is pleased to announce that renowned laser diode executive, Mr Jean-Michel Pelaprat, has joined the Company's Board as a Non-Executive Director.

Mr Pelaprat brings deep photonics industry expertise, with over 30 years' experience establishing, commercialising and scaling laser and semiconductor businesses. As co-founder and Director of Nuburu - a US-based company recognised as a pioneer in blue GaN lasers for industrial, medical, display and 3D applications - Mr Pelaprat helped steer the business over the past six years from start-up to a recognised industry leader.

Mr Pelaprat will continue in his role as Director and Chief Marketing and Sales (CM&SO) Officer with Nuburu.

BluGlass Chair, James Walker, said: "Jean-Michel joins the BluGlass Board at an important time as we launch our laser diode product portfolio and commence customer acquisition. Attracting someone of Jean-Michel's calibre to BluGlass is a major step-forward for the business and a recognition of the potential growth opportunities available. Jean-Michel brings a depth of both technical and commercial knowledge in the laser diode market that will prove invaluable to BluGlass."

Before founding Nuburu, Mr Pelaprat held numerous leadership positions in high-growth photonics businesses, including President and CEO of Vytran, a fiber optics capital equipment company supplying optical communications, fiber lasers, medical devices, sensing and aerospace applications. He led the business to growth and profitability during the 2009-2010 recession and served on the Board of Vytran's parent company, NKT Photonics.

Other senior roles include Chair and CEO of Novalux, Inc. a start-up developing red-green-blue (RGB) semiconductor laser sources for the projection display industry, and Director of Nuvonyx, a pioneer in infrared high-powered semiconductor lasers. He is also the founder of A2E, a consulting and advisory firm in Silicon Valley, assisting photonics, semiconductor and deep tech businesses with strategic restructures, merger and acquisition management, and revenue transformation.

Commenting on his appointment, Mr Pelaprat said: "BluGlass' unique technology approach for high powered GaN lasers has great potential to disrupt this high-demand market, with significant untapped opportunities and very few competitors. After spending time with the Bluglass leadership team and understanding the technology as well as the Company's future plans, I can see many parallels with my previous successful experiences with emerging technology companies. I look forward to utilising my skills, knowledge and experience navigating the market and applications as the business launches its first commercial lasers to market and enters its production ramp-up and revenue growth phases."

Mr Pelaprat holds a degree in Physics from the University of Montpellier, France (USTL) and has undertaken Sales Management and Finance education at the Wharton School of Business and studied Strategic Marketing for the High-

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Tech Industry at Stanford University. He previously served as the Chair of the Corporate Associates committee for several years and a Director of the Optical Society of America.

This announcement has been approved for release by the Board of BluGlass Limited.

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## **About BluGlass**

BluGlass Limited (ASX: BLG) is a global leader commercialising a breakthrough technology using Remote Plasma Chemical Vapour Deposition (**RPCVD**) for the manufacture of high-value semiconductor devices such as **laser diodes**, next generation **LEDs** and **microLEDs**. BluGlass has invented a new process using RPCVD to grow advanced materials such as gallium nitride (GaN) and indium gallium nitride (InGaN). These materials are crucial to the production of highefficiency devices used in next-generation devices from lighting, displays, virtual reality systems and industrial cutting and welding.

RPCVD's unique low temperature, low hydrogen growth platform offers many potential benefits to electronics manufacturers over existing growth techniques; including higher efficiency, lower cost, greater substrate flexibility and has the potential to enable novel applications.

In 2019, BluGlass launched its direct-to-market Laser Diode business unit to exploit its unique tunnel junction technology capability in the high-value and high-margin laser diode market. BluGlass expects to launch its first laser diode commercial product in 2021.