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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**SYNOVA EXPANDS GLOBAL PRESENCE WITH OPENING OF ITS FIRST  
MICRO-MACHINING CENTER (MMC) IN THE U.S.**

***Silicon Valley-Based Technology Lab Supports U.S. Customers and the Growing Electronics Market***

**SEMICON West, San Francisco, Calif., July 10, 2006**—Synova, the world’s pioneer of water jet-guided laser technology, today announced that it will open its first micro-machining center (MMC) in the United States, specifically in the San Francisco Bay Area. Slated to open in January 2007, the Silicon Valley-based MMC will serve as a competence center for demonstration, sample testing and application development. In addition, this facility will offer micro-machining services to the local industry. Until now, the company’s application labs were based at Synova’s headquarters in Switzerland. However, the establishment of a customer support center in the U.S. fortifies Synova’s global expansion efforts, providing an optimum environment for the company to better serve its customers throughout the world.

“Establishing our presence here in the U.S. not only demonstrates our commitment to our existing customers, but also shows our focus on speeding the adoption of our technology to an under tapped, yet significant, customer base,” said Synova chief executive officer, Bernold Richerzhagen. “The U.S. poses large market opportunities for us in the areas of inkjet printer head MEMS, hard disk drive (HDD) and organic light emitting diodes (OLEDs) sectors. Our establishment here is an important milestone for Synova as we continue to further penetrate these burgeoning markets.”

Heading up the MMC, Synova reports it has hired Joseph Battaglia. In addition to overseeing the MMC’s activities, Battaglia is responsible for directing sales of the company’s Laser MicroJet® technology throughout the U.S. He brings over 16 years of engineering and sales experience in the capital equipment and technology

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industries to his new role at Synova. Most recently, he was field sales and marketing development manager for North America at EFD/Nordson Corporation. Prior to that, he was with Speedline Technologies and Cookson Electronics in various roles including product marketing, new business development and semiconductor corporate account sales. Joseph Battaglia holds a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Wentworth Institute of Technology, Boston, Mass.

### **SYNOVA OPENS FIRST MICRO-MACHINING CENTER IN THE U.S**

Synova's proprietary Laser MicroJet technology replaces traditional cutting technologies, such as conventional lasers and diamond blade saws, which are unable to precisely cut inkjet print head MEMS, HDDs and OLEDs without damaging the materials due to their thermo-mechanical stress sensitivity. With the compound annual growth rates (CAGR) for inkjet printer head MEMS, HDDs and OLEDs forecasted worldwide at 8.8 , 15.5 and 74 percent, respectively, Synova's water jet laser-guided technology will enable customers to remain at the forefront of these sectors and allow them to capitalize on these markets potential.

Featuring an application laboratory with two of Synova's most recent Laser MicroJet tools—a LDS 300 A and a LCS 300—the MMC provides its customers with quick and effective access to the company's water jet-guided laser technology and expertise. The new facility will be set up during the next 6 months and fully operational in Q1 2007.

Synova will be exhibiting at SEMICON West 2006, at the Moscone Convention Center in San Francisco, Calif., July 11–13. Editors interested in learning more about the company's Laser MicroJet technology and new U.S. MMC facility are invited to visit Synova's booth # T21 (West Hall, Level 2), or contact Karen Do (MCA) at [kdo@mcapr.com](mailto:kdo@mcapr.com) to set up a briefing with an executive during the show.

#### ***About Synova***

Founded in 1997, Synova is a leading supplier of state-of-the-art laser solutions for the semiconductor, electronics, flat panel display (FPD) and industrial micro-machining industries, among others. As the inventor of laser dicing technology, Synova—through its proprietary Laser MicroJet<sup>®</sup> (water jet-guided laser) technology—is fast emerging as the ideal provider for addressing the exacting manufacturing specifications and low cost-of-ownership (CoO) requirements associated with the volume production of today's advanced electronic devices. Headquartered in Lausanne, Switzerland, Synova is a privately held company with subsidiaries located in Hong Kong, South Korea, Japan and the United States. Additional information about the company is available on the Internet at: [www.synova.ch](http://www.synova.ch)

*Laser MicroJet is a registered trademark of Synova.*

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