

To whom it may concern:

The products and capabilities of the Optical CrossLinks Corporation (OXL) are of great interest to my research and development group within the Phantom Works Division of the Boeing Company. I have conducted considerable research over the last several years, and to my knowledge, the technology supplied by OXL appears to be unique in the world.

OXL technology is important to aerospace work for three reasons. First, it provides a level of precision in the distribution of optic signals among disparate optic processing devices that is unique. OXL networks can accept optical fibers or embedded optical and optoelectronic devices, thus making it unnecessary for the devices to be modified to suit the network. This capability supports the important aerospace needs of reduced system weight, improved system performance, and increased system safety via EMI immunity.

Second, OXL technologies support the production of passive internal structures for optical signal distribution and processing directly in the OXL material itself. This also supports the goals listed above.

Third, OXL technologies have the potential for supporting low cost manufacturing in low quantities. That is particularly important in the aerospace industry, because it is compatible with the two great realities that drive aerospace. The first being that the aerospace industry, of necessity, produces small numbers of very high value products that must operate with unparalleled reliability and safety; and second, that many aerospace products must be able to perform actions that no other product can perform. These realities apply to some degree to all products, but technologies that allow the aerospace industry to thrive in spite of them are particularly important, because few industries have such serious consequences of failure; consequences which could range up to the death of hundreds of people in peacetime accidents, and range up to defeat in war.

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