

For Immediate Release

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Orca Photonic Systems, Inc. announces that it has completed delivery of a CF1250-100 Conveyor Feed Laser Cutting System to the Louisiana Association for the Blind (LAB).

This new Laser Cutting System, which features a large cutting area, automated roll-fed material handling, and 100 Watt Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) laser cutting capability, is the 2nd system of its type to be deployed by LAB.

The new system will be used by LAB to increase production capabilities in its Traction Systems product line, which includes safety matting and anti-slip tread materials for a variety of marine and aircraft applications.

According to Doug Young, Plant Manager, laser cutting offers a wide variety of benefits. “The ability to plot and cut numerous items, of virtually any shape, on a single panel and run it continuously or intermittently. and then to change to different panel designs at the touch of a button, is a tremendous asset. Utilization of the laser cutter dramatically reduces waste and eliminates cost such as blade changes and die replacements associated

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with a steel-rule die apparatus. The continuous feed system offers flexible design creation, limited only by the vertical cutting area of the machine”.

Orca Photonic Systems manufactures laser systems for a wide range of industrial applications. Orca’s Laser Cutting product line includes the Continuous Feed Laser, Shuttle Feed Laser, and Flat Bed Laser cutting systems, all of which are available with cutting areas up to 60x60 inches (1500x1500mm), or even larger on special order. The Continuous Feed Laser is designed for automated handling of roll-fed materials, while the Shuttle Feed Laser provides semi-automated handling of sheet materials. The Flat Bed Laser, allows customers with manual feed requirements to get started with laser cutting technology at minimum cost.

Established in 1927, Louisiana Association for the Blind (LAB) is a private not-for-profit 501(c)3 organization providing stable employment, vocational training and rehabilitative services to individuals who are blind and visually impaired in Louisiana. LAB employs a total of 110 people. A minimum of 75% of the direct labor force is legally blind, and holds positions in manufacturing, administrative, Job positions are carefully matched to an individual's goals and potential. LAB produces various paper office products that include an extensive assortment of Xerographic, laser and copier papers, writing tablets, index cards, and index sheets. LAB is an authorized distributor and converter for 3M Traction Systems for the Federal government. LAB offers a variety of anti-slip and safety matting materials in rolls, cut sizes, and custom kits.

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The Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act (JWOD) allows LAB and other agencies employing the blind to secure contracts to provide products and services to the Federal government. The JWOD program helps to ensure steady, long-term employment for people who are blind and is the largest single employer for people who are blind or severely disabled.

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