

Fraunhofer Institute for Applied Optics and Precision Engineering IOF



Laser-induced ignition for combustion engines



### **Ambition**

Stricter emissions and consumption standards require new concepts for internal combustion engines. Downsizing and lean-burn strategies improve efficiency and reduce emission but demand better ignition processes.

Laser-induced ignition offers significant advantages over traditional electric spark ignition and is suitable for both classic and new combustion processes, and new "green fuels."

### **Advantages**

- Ignition of lean mixtures and new fuels
- Improved engine efficiency and reduced fuel consumption
- Longer spark plug life (no electrode)
- Static or dynamic laser focusing allows for free positioning of ignition point
- No flame quenching



Four laser spark plugs installed on a gas engine by company 2G Energy AG

# **Our expertise**

We develop complex and ultra-stable optomechatronical systems for harsh operating conditions like extreme temperatures, vibrations, and high/low pressure.

Design, manufacturing, system integration, packaging and testing serves for the complete value chain for prototypes and feasibility experiments.

### **Applications**

- Combustion engines for energy co-creation
- Large marine engines
- Rocket propulsion systems for space
- Energy generation in hydrogen and methane plants



A close-up view. On the left: without pre-chamber. On the right: with pre-chamber.

### **Contact**

is shown.

Department

Opto-mechatronical Components and Systems

## **Head of Department**

during performance tests. The phenomeon of air breakdown

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