

## Training and networking

### Consultancy

Members enjoy free limited consultancy. By involving the whole membership in the consultancy activity, members are assured of practical advice on a wide range of subjects from safety to technical and business enquiries. Where necessary the anonymity of the enquirer will be preserved.

### Forums

AILU members automatically qualify for access to one or more Forums on the website, through which questions can be posed and topics discussed.



### Workshops

AILU currently runs at least 6 full-day and many shorter events each year addressing all the key laser process technologies and applications. Members enjoy a generous discount to attend workshops and to exhibit. Members receive advanced notice of workshop topics with the opportunity to recommend speakers, subjects and venues.

### Member directories

Members have unlimited access to the directory of corporate and individual members, with full contact details and useful background information, providing a valuable reference source for member networking.

### Laser User Groups

Currently AILU has two well established laser user groups, the Job Shop Group and the Market Development Group, that address the needs of subcontractors and of product and service providers, respectively. The newest group, the Medical Group, was launched in November 2007 and there are plans for more groups to reflect the increasing diversity of members' interests.

Among other group activities, members of special interest groups have their own internet forums, through which they can pose questions and discuss items of common interest.

Dear Colleague,  
We at AILU pride ourselves on working with our members to ensure that they gain the maximum benefit from their membership.



As a network-based organisation, driven by a fascination for lasers and their many uses, we can offer excellent support, consultancy and guidance via our dedicated team.

If you have any questions about joining AILU or would like to join the Association for a trial period, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Dr Mike Green  
Executive Secretary

## Joining AILU

Membership of AILU is open to the worldwide laser community and those with an interest in lasers and their applications: both individuals and organisations. There are concessionary rates for students and other groups.

You can apply for membership of the Association either online (at [www.ailu.org.uk](http://www.ailu.org.uk)) or by calling the AILU office on +44 (0)1235 539595.

To apply online click the 'AILU Membership' link in the left hand column of the home page. It contains information and prices of all membership categories. It also gives a link (top right) to the online Registration form.

Payment is not required at the time of applying for membership; and the annual subscription pays for a full 12 months, whatever time of the year you join.



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# Introducing AILU



# The association for laser users

## What is AILU?

AILU is a well-established, independent not-for-profit organisation run by and for the laser community. AILU is the leading organisation dedicated to meeting the needs of laser users.

AILU is a UK based organisation with members extending across five continents. Members include the main UK players in manufacturing industry, job shops and research organisations as well as manufacturers and suppliers of lasers and laser-related equipment and services.

## Background

AILU was formed in 1995 and is recognised worldwide as unique in the high level of practical advice it is able to offer on technical and business matters related to laser applications in manufacturing. It is a leader in fostering co-operation and collaboration within the laser community, promoting best practice in industrial laser materials processing and allied technologies and to support the maintenance and improvement of standards for laser safety and performance.



If you would like to know more have a look at our website at [www.ailu.org.uk](http://www.ailu.org.uk)

## Key benefits of AILU Membership

- **The AILU Magazine:** The Laser User
- **The AILU Website:** Forums; Virtual Laser Expert; Design for Laser Manufacture: hundreds of technical articles; picture library.
- **Training and Networking:** Free consultancy; Workshops; Member Directories; Special Interest Groups.
- **Web site:** free multiple entries in AILU's Products and Services Directory.

## Who is AILU for?

- Laser users in all sectors.
- Those using lasers or laser fabricated components as part of an in-house manufacturing process.
- Laser job shops.
- University departments, research institutes and consultants in laser processing.
- Machine builders, laser system integrators, and equipment suppliers.
- Associations and other organisations with a direct or indirect interest in laser technology and applications.

## The AILU Magazine

The Laser User magazine is AILU's in-house quarterly magazine. It is a members-only magazine with a primary circulation to those active within the industrial/commercial laser community. It is widely circulated and well read within Corporate Member companies and freely distributed at laser events and trade shows.

The magazine is highly praised for the quality of its material. Packed with useful information for both the novice and experienced user, it includes peer-reviewed articles with extensive expert comments (to help give a balanced view and to broaden the scope of the paper).



“... the best source of practical laser user information available anywhere.”

Subjects covered in the magazine include developments in laser sources and optics, state-of-the-art reviews of applications and a wide range of papers on safety standards and practice as well as business aspects of laser technology.

The magazine is ISSN registered, articles are peer reviewed and members are actively encouraged to contribute articles; letters, news and comments are also welcome.

Contact AILU for a sample issue.

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E: [info@ailu.org.uk](mailto:info@ailu.org.uk) W: [www.ailu.org.uk](http://www.ailu.org.uk)

**See for yourself:** Go to [www.ailu.org.uk](http://www.ailu.org.uk) select the Laser User magazine page and type in a laser-related topic of interest in the 'search' box. The results will display papers from past issues that contain your search terms in the title (though this is likely to be only a fraction of the relevant papers). By joining AILU you will be able to read or download any or all of these papers free of charge.

## The AILU Website

[www.ailu.org.uk](http://www.ailu.org.uk)

The AILU website at [www.ailu.org.uk](http://www.ailu.org.uk) comprises an open area, a registered visitor area and a members area. The open area provides lots of useful information including a directory of the laser-related products and services offered by AILU members, information about key laser processes and applications, job vacancies, a calendar of forthcoming events, news items, and links to other laser information sites including many regional, national, European and international networks and the Photonics Knowledge Transfer Network.



The single most popular area of the site for visitors is the Products and Services Directory. Corporate members enjoy a free directory listing under all relevant categories and are emailed all sales leads arising from visitors to the site.

In the members' area there are forums for posting questions and initiating discussions, a page for posting 'situations vacant' notices, access to hundreds of articles on laser technology and applications, a library of laser-related pictures and the members' directory.

Members can submit news items and events to this highly-rated site and can add logos and active web links in the open area of the site, enhancing their internet presence. Web content is edited for inclusion in our quarterly magazine.

# [www.ailu.org.uk](http://www.ailu.org.uk)

## Design for Laser Manufacture

AILU's outreach project, the Design for Laser Manufacture (DLM) website is available at [www.designforlasermanufacture.com](http://www.designforlasermanufacture.com).

The site is directed primarily at design engineers, to encourage them to browse through pictures (of laser-manufactured parts), video clips, presentations and documentation, with the aim of inspiring them to "think laser" at the start of the design process. Members are encouraged to provide material for the site. The site also provides a useful vehicle for AILU members to advertise their laser-related products and services.