



PRESS RELEASE

SurFunction strengthens management team with Alexander Hornung (CSO) and Dr. Daniel Müller (CTO)

Saarbrücken, September 11, 2025 – SurFunction GmbH, an innovation leader in the field of laser-based surface functionalization based on nature's model, is further expanding its management team.

With Alexander Hornung as the new Chief Sales Officer (CSO), a proven market expert will take over responsibility for global sales, business development, and further growth. In addition, Dr. Daniel Müller has been appointed Chief Technology Officer (CTO) and will be responsible for the technological development of the ELIPSYS® platform and all research and development activities.

With this expansion of its management team, SurFunction is sending a clear signal for growth, innovation, and the consistent implementation of its vision for a new technology platform for sustainable surface systems.

Alexander Hornung brings more than 15 years of international experience in technology development, business development, and strategic leadership to the table. As Global Technology Manager at Stäubli AG, he built a global innovation network and successfully established new business models. In his new role as CSO, he will focus in particular on expanding the international sales network and market penetration of SurFunction.

Dr. Daniel Müller has been Technical Director at SurFunction for several years and recently completed his doctorate at Saarland University with summa cum laude honors. In his thesis, he investigated the use of ultrashort pulsed lasers in innovative DLIP processes for biomedical applications. It is particularly noteworthy that his structures have even been successfully used on the International Space



Station (ISS). With his appointment as CTO, he assumes responsibility for all technological developments and the expansion of SurFunction's research activities.

"With Alexander Hornung and Daniel Müller, we are gaining two outstanding members for our management team. Their expertise in sales and cutting-edge technologies will significantly advance SurFunction - both in terms of international market expansion and the technological excellence of our ELIPSYS® platform," says Dr. Dominik Britz, co-founder and managing director of SurFunction.

SurFunction as a pioneer of sustainable surface systems

The personnel changes come at a time of significant success:

- By integrating fiber laser technologies into the modular ELIPSYS® platform, SurFunction has laid the foundation for a new industrial generation of sustainable surface systems. This makes DLIP economically scalable for the first time and opens up disruptive fields of application in medical technology, microelectronics, aviation, energy, and mobility.
- ELIPSYS® also offers the possibility of combining DLIP with other nanotechnologies in a targeted manner. This could lead to the development of groundbreaking hybrid surface systems in the future that set new standards in terms of functionality, sustainability, and industrial applicability.
- In order to tap into this potential in an even more targeted manner, SurFunction recently completed the acquisition of Surcoatec AG. This strategic expansion strengthens the company's position as an integrated provider of innovative surface solutions and opens up additional synergies in research, development, and industrial implementation.

"SurFunction is at a turning point, both technologically and organizationally. Together with our partners, we will redefine surface technologies - efficiently, sustainably, and internationally scalable," explains Alexander Hornung (CSO).



"I am delighted to be able to help shape the technological development of SurFunction in my new role as CTO. Recent research has demonstrated the potential of DLIP for high-tech applications - even for use in space. We now want to consistently translate this strength into market-relevant solutions," adds Dr. Daniel Müller (CTO).

We are exhibiting:

September 22-26, 2025

EMO Hannover

Hall 6 - Booth F18

October 21-24, 2025

17th Blechexpo Stuttgart

Hall 6 – Booth 6107

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Background information on DLIP and ELIPSYS®:

Surface structures play a decisive role in the performance of almost all technical components, as generations of research have clearly shown. Nature itself offers fascinating examples of the efficiency of surface structures: the non-stick properties of the lotus plant or the iridescent color effects on butterfly wings are only possible thanks to complex micro- and nanostructures. However, replicating these natural phenomena industrially has been a significant challenge to date due to a lack of technologies that allow for cost-effective production.

However, fundamental solutions to this problem have been found thanks to groundbreaking research in recent decades and the invention of "Direct Laser Interference Patterning" (DLIP) by Prof. Dr. Frank Mücklich and Prof. Dr. Andrés Lasagni. DLIP has laid the foundation for revolutionizing the way we design surfaces at the micro and nanoscale. This technology utilizes the principle of interference, comparable to the interaction of water waves colliding with each other. This analogy can be applied to light rays, which are split and then superimposed in such a way that they interfere with the material surface. The result is highly efficient and precise structures that were previously only found in nature.

The consistent further development of DLIP technology by SurFunction GmbH has opened the door to broad industrial application. ELIPSYS® (Extended Laser Interference Patterning System), the most advanced DLIP generation, enables the particularly fast and economical production of complex surface structures that improve the properties of a wide range of products (e.g., non-stick, antibacterial, energy-efficient, low-friction, highly electrically conductive, or tamper-proof). DLIP and ELIPSYS® thus mark a turning point in the manufacture and functionalization of material surfaces for a wide range of industries.



About SurFunction GmbH (www.surfunction.com):

SurFunction is a leading system provider in the field of deep/green tech with a focus on surface modification. Headquartered in Saarbrücken, the company uses a wide variety of laser-based processes based on award-winning and patented interference technologies (DLIP). This enables cost-effective, cross-scale surface structures to be created in record time, modeled on those found in nature. Surfaces can thus be equipped with new, powerful, and particularly environmentally friendly properties.

True to the motto "NATURE KNOWS BEST," SurFunction taps into innovative potential and gives companies from a wide range of industries a big competitive edge. SurFunction aims to improve its customers' products or processes and actively help conserve resources. To do this, it offers comprehensive system expertise—from surface functionalization as a service to integrating complete systems into industrial production environments.

In addition to its headquarters in Saarbrücken, SurFunction has a development team in Dresden that works with the Technical University (TUD) on new optical laser systems and beam guidance technologies — in particular for the further development of the DLIP platform. Furthermore, there are close research collaborations with Saarland University and the Material Engineering Center Saarland (MECS) in the field of new, structure-driven surface principles. These partnerships enable close integration of basic research, materials science, and industrial application.