



# New developments in the time and frequency synchronization systems based on atomic clocks and White Rabbit at Creotech

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# Creotech Instruments S.A.

Established in 2012

Headquarters in Piaseczno, Poland

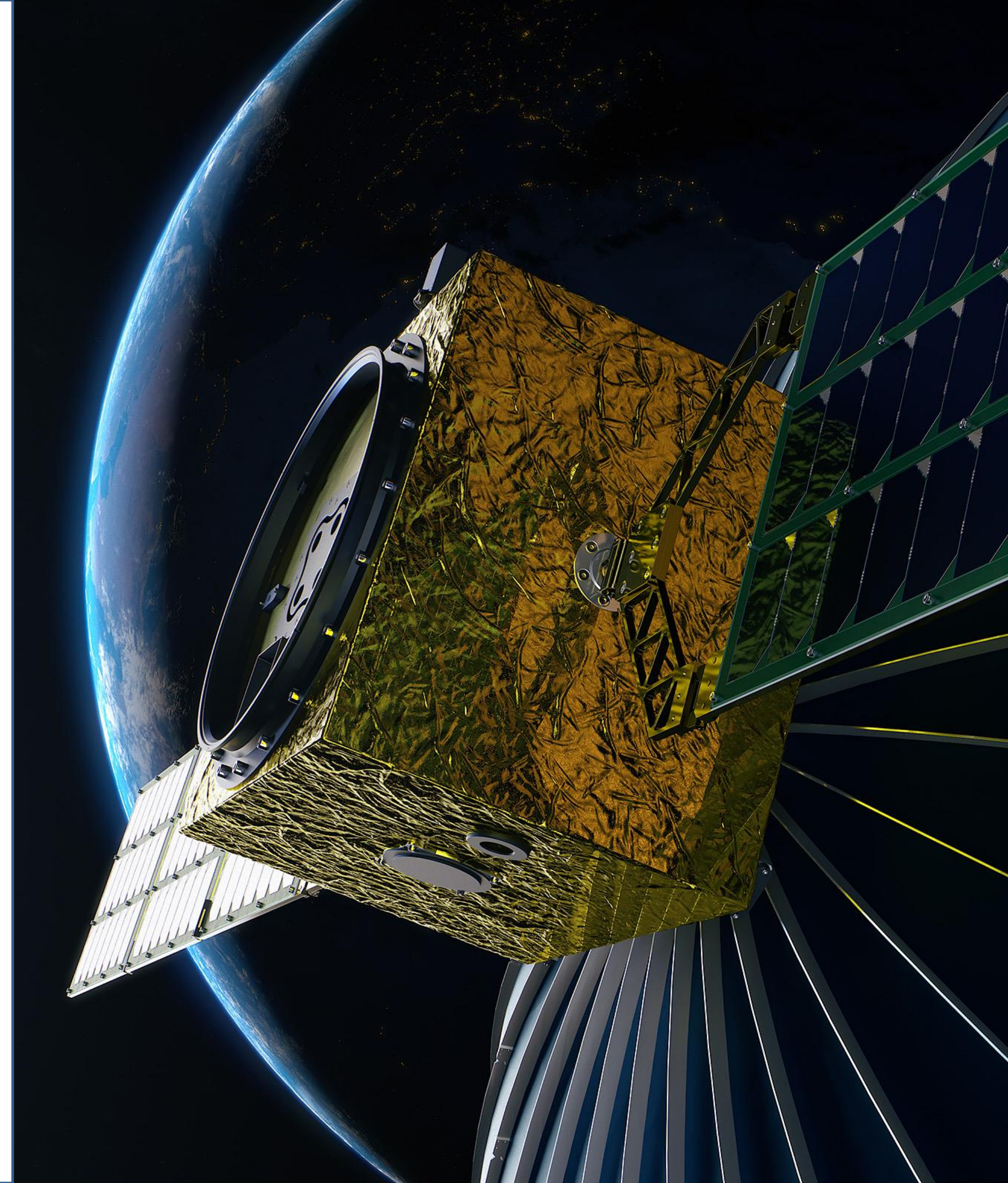
~200 employees

~80% R&D



- Certified (automotive, medical, Space) manufacturing services
- Systems for Space, satellites (>25 ESA projects)
- Cameras, drone tracking, EO
- Hardware and systems for Big Science facilities
- Control systems for Quantum Technologies
- R&D, electronics engineering consultancy services

[www.creotech.pl](http://www.creotech.pl)



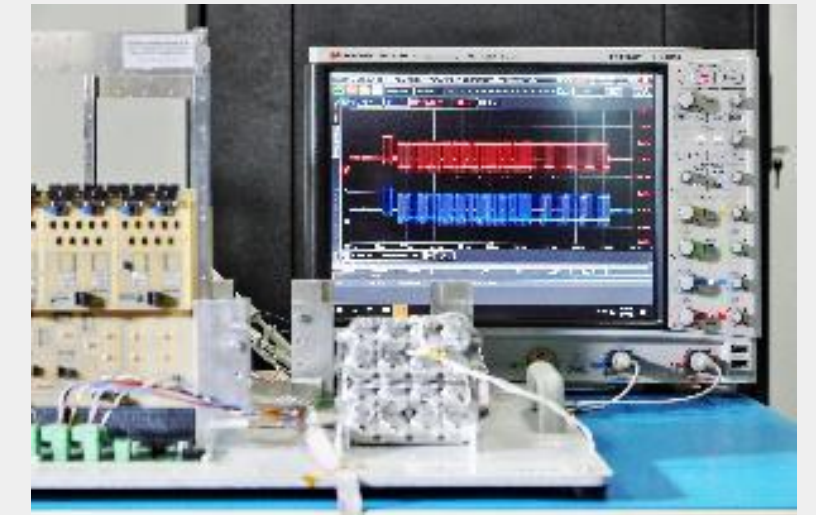
# Infrastructure and production capabilities

## PRODUCTION CAPABILITIES

- Clean-rooms ISO7-8
- ESD protection area, temperature, humidity and cleanliness control
- Three Surface Mount Technology (SMT) lines with Juki technology
- Through Hole Technology(THT) with Selective Soldering Machine (ERSA) and 10 stations
- Inspection with AOI MEK PowerSpector done by ESA certified inspectors
- Other: rework, cleaning, conformal coating, press-fit, electrical tests, climate chamber testing, component lead forming, cable stripping
- New investment on-going – X-ray, vacuum oven, ionic contamination tests
- Production of electronics for NewSpace, ie. ICEYE, ENPULSION, THORIUM
- Now in the proces of reallocation to new premises

## QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

- QMS certified according to **ISO 9001:2015** since 2015
- Project specific qualification of electronic manufacturing according to ECSS standards
- Ongoing general qualification of electronic manufacturing for deep space missions according to ECSS standards performed by European Space Agency
- ECSS qualified assembly operators, ECSS qualified inspectors



# Selected international customers of Creotech

GSII

The image features a world map with several regions highlighted in blue, indicating international customers of Creotech. The highlighted regions include North America (USA), South America (Brazil), Europe (UK, Germany, France, Switzerland, Austria, Italy, Spain, Greece, Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria, Serbia, Croatia, Slovenia, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Finland, Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Iceland, Russia, and Ukraine), Asia (India, China, Korea, Japan, and parts of Southeast Asia), and Australia. The text "till 2014" is placed over the European region. Surrounding the map are logos of various international customers, including:

- Elettra Sincrotrone Trieste
- KIT (Karlsruher Institut für Technologie)
- CERN
- esa
- ITER (China, India, Japan, Korea, Russia, USA)
- NIST (National Institute of Standards and Technology)
- DESY
- eli
- beamlines
- SOLEIL SYNCHROTRON
- ESRF (The European Synchrotron)
- UNIVERSIDAD DE GRANADA
- GOETHE UNIVERSITÄT FRANKFURT AM MAIN
- THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN MADISON
- ETH zürich
- UNIVERSITY OF OREGON
- ess (EUROPEAN SPALLATION SOURCE)
- UNIVERSITY OF SUSSEX
- IFIN-HH
- LNL S
- JOINT INSTITUTE FOR NUCLEAR RESEARCH
- UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD
- Argonne NATIONAL LABORATORY
- RWTH AACHEN UNIVERSITY
- Australian Government National Measurement Institute
- CCFE (CULHAM CENTRE FOR FUSION ENERGY)
- The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA
- MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology)
- BERKELEY LAB
- UK Atomic Energy Authority
- Science & Technology Facilities Council
- cnrs
- CCFE (CULHAM CENTRE FOR FUSION ENERGY)
- WESTFÄLISCHE WILHELMS-UNIVERSITÄT MÜNSTER
- diamond
- UNIVERSITÉ DE GENÈVE
- Bose Institute
- UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
- Niels Bohr Institutet
- University of Glasgow

# Quantum and time synchronisation systems

Quantum computers are the most promising area for the development of computing and digital technologies. We develop specialized systems that control qubits and quantum computers.

Together with the CERN laboratory, we are implementing the White Rabbit standard for sub-1 nanosecond time synchronisation - currently in demand in research centres, but the first deployments in telecommunications and energy systems are underway.

Together with Oxford University we are working on the Sinara standard. It allows to assemble control and measurement systems from simple electronic "building blocks", e.g. for quantum computers. Currently, we have implemented into production >30 electronic systems in the Sinara standard.

**In May 2022, we were invited (in the consortium led by Innsbruck U.) to build the first large-scale quantum computer for the European Union**

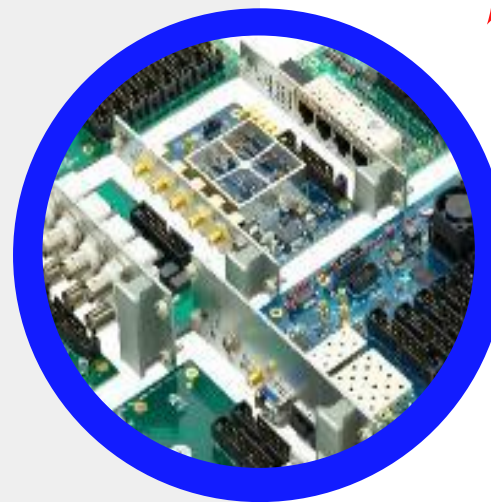
In October 2022, we were selected to join the group of entities that will create the European Union's quantum computer network. The first Polish quantum computer will be built in Poznan. The project is being carried out in cooperation with the Polish Academy of Sciences.

**Estimated CAGR (2017-25): 29.5%**  
(Persistence)



## BETTER TIME SYNCHRONISATION

The White Rabbit standard allows to achieve a factor 100 better synchronisation than today. Application area: telecommunications (5G), power grid synchronisation, air navigation control, autonomous cars.



## SYSTEMS FOR QUANTUM COMPUTERS

The Sinara standard allows for a factor of 20 improvement in the efficiency of creating quantum systems - standardised operation, efficiency, low power consumption, small volume, simplicity of connections.



## CONTROL SYSTEMS

From November 2020, we also started to supply entire systems that control quantum processes.

# Sinara/ARTIQ project for Quantum Technologies

- ▶ Bottom-up initiative of the ion trap community
- ▶ Modular control and measurement hardware ecosystem, tailored to the needs of ion-trap experiments
- ▶ Compatibility with ARTIQ open software
- ▶ ~70 modules in EEM format + 3 MTCA cards



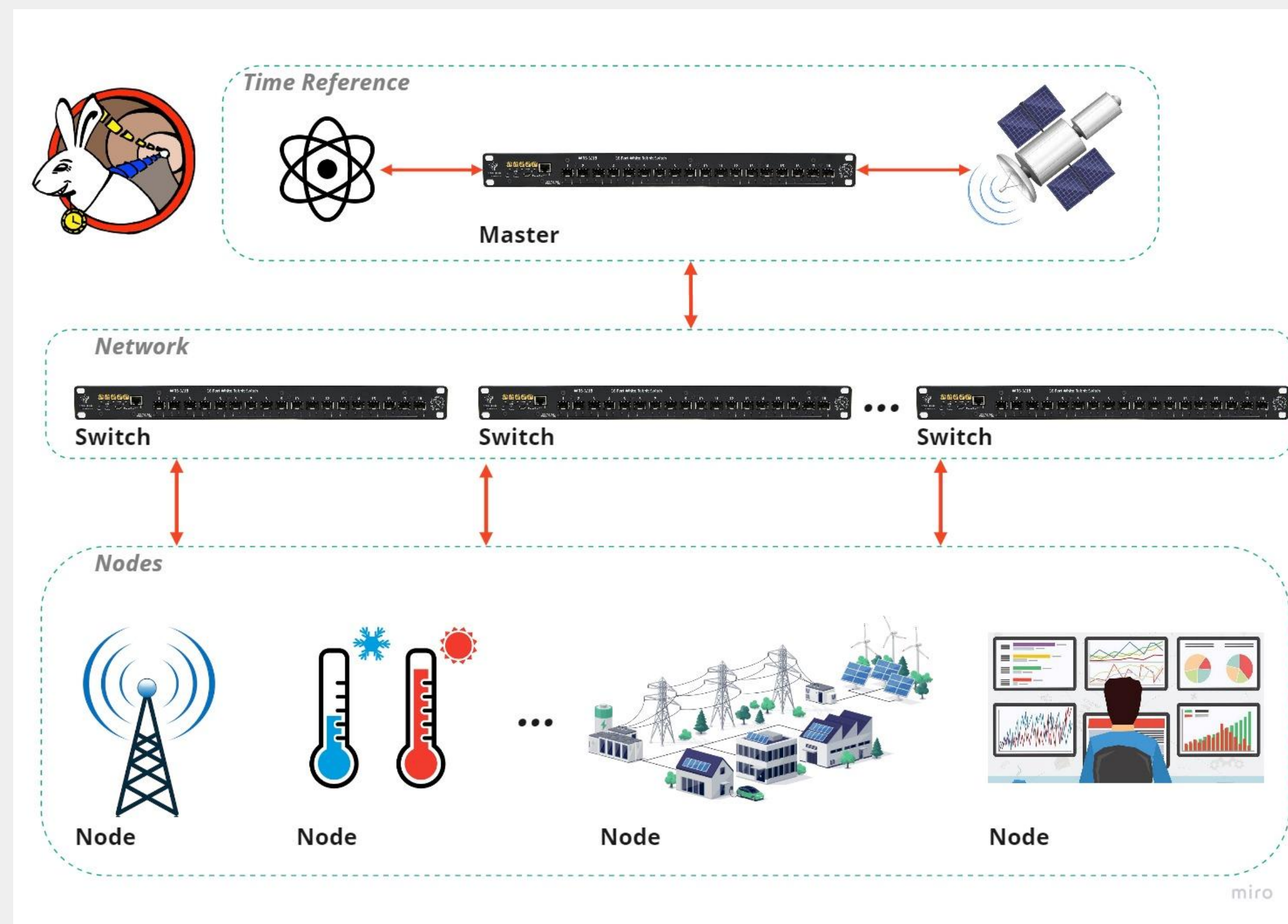
# White Rabbit

## Hard Real Time System

- ▶ External event to system response time is guaranteed (a few microsecond scale)
- ▶ Transparent, modular and extensible system

## White Rabbit System

- ▶ Scalable sub-ns time and event transfer with picosecond precision
- ▶ Time synchronization over large distances (~100km)
- ▶ Accurate timestamping
- ▶ Frequency reference with low jitter (1PPS and 10MHz)



# PTP

White Rabbit is now  
IEEE1588-2019 High Accuracy Profile



# White Rabbit Switch

- ▶ The key component of the White Rabbit System that provides precision timing and high accuracy synchronization in an Ethernet-based network. WRS distributes the clock of a WRS master (or its internal clock) to all the nodes in the network using a hierarchical architecture.

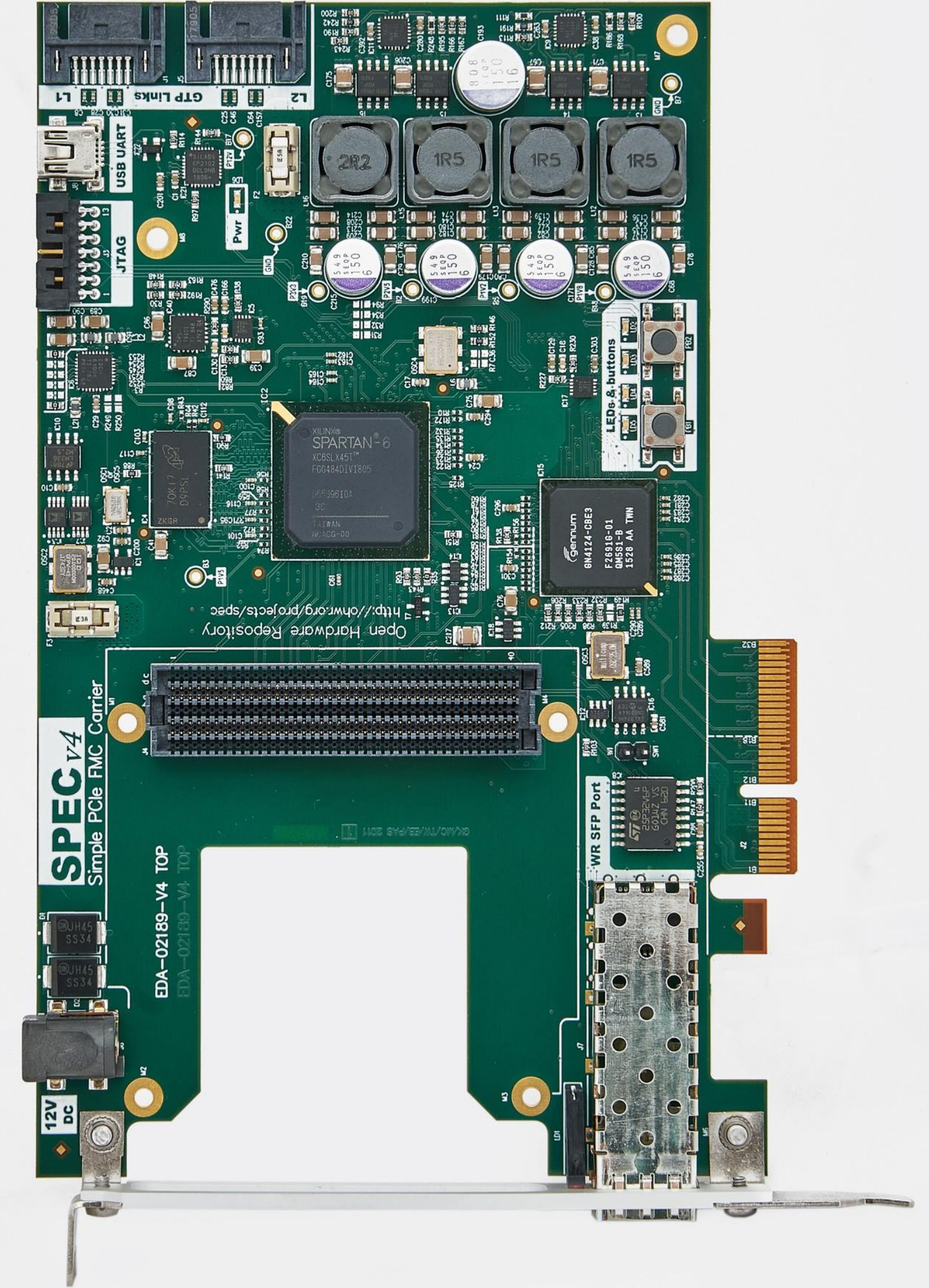


A new White Rabbit Switch tailored to the needs of telecommunication applications is under development.



# Simple PCIe FMC Carrier – SPEC

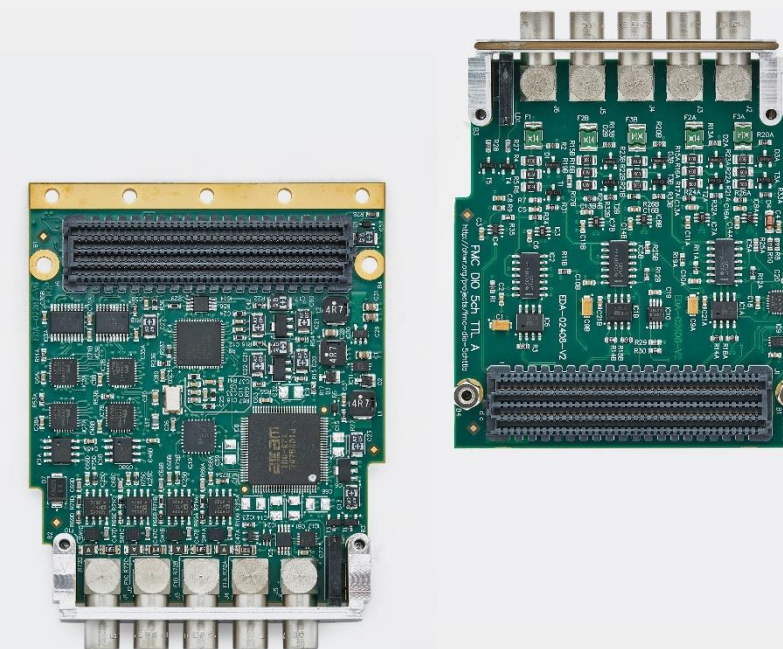
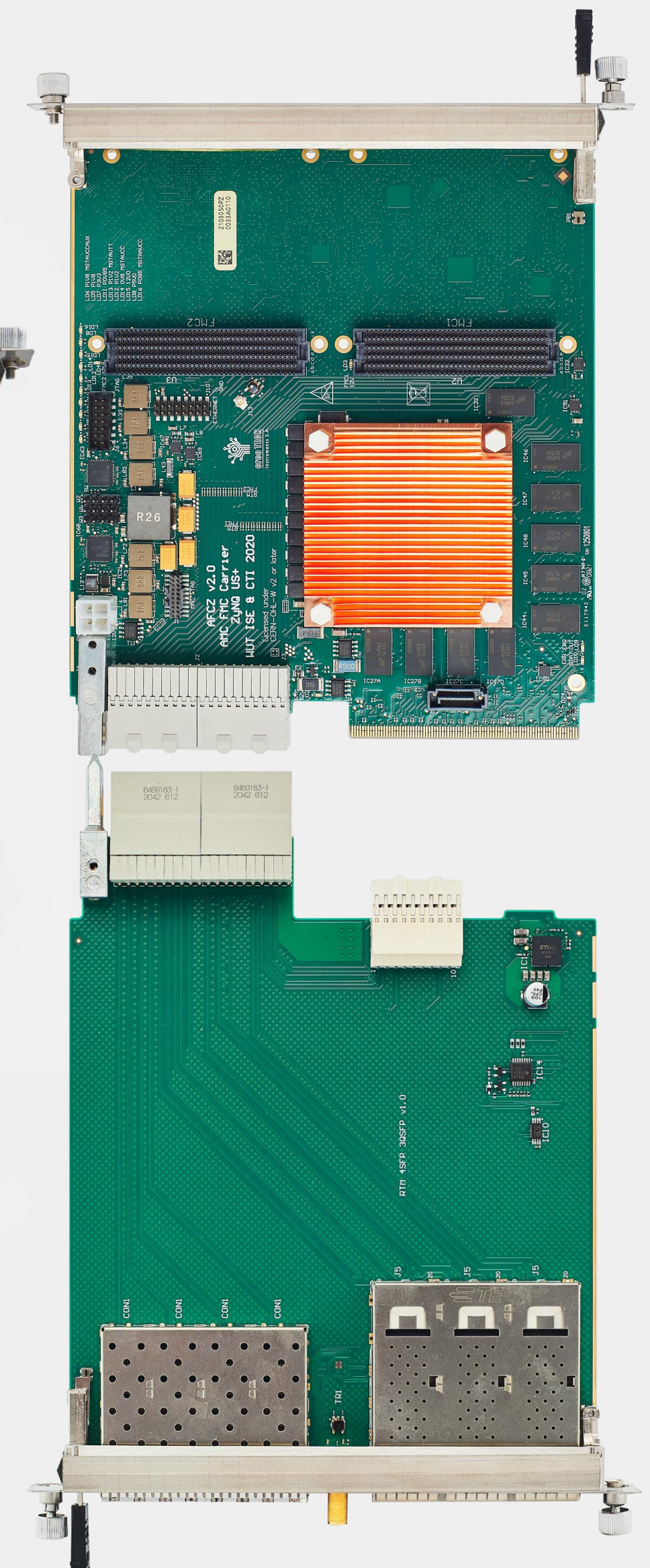
- ▶ The FMC PCIe Carrier is an FMC carrier that can hold one FMC card and an SFP connector. This board is optimised for cost and is usable with most of the FMC cards. It can be used as a cost-effective node in a White Rabbit network.



# The AFC Family of AMC FMC Carrier Cards



- ▶ **AMC FMC CARRIER Zynq – AFCZ**  
Xilinx Zynq UltraScale+ ZU7EV SoC FPGA
- ▶ **AMC FMC CARRIER Kintex Ultrascale – AFCKU**  
Xilinx Kintex UltraScale KU035 FFVA1156 FPGA
- ▶ **AMC FMC CARRIER Kintex – AFCK**  
Xilinx Kintex-7 325T FFG900 FPGA
- ▶ **AMC FMC CARRIER – AFC**  
Xilinx Artix-7 200T FFG1156 FPGA



All modules offer a very flexible clocking circuit, customizable gigabit transceiver configuration and support White Rabbit time synchronization.

# White Rabbit – Low Jitter version

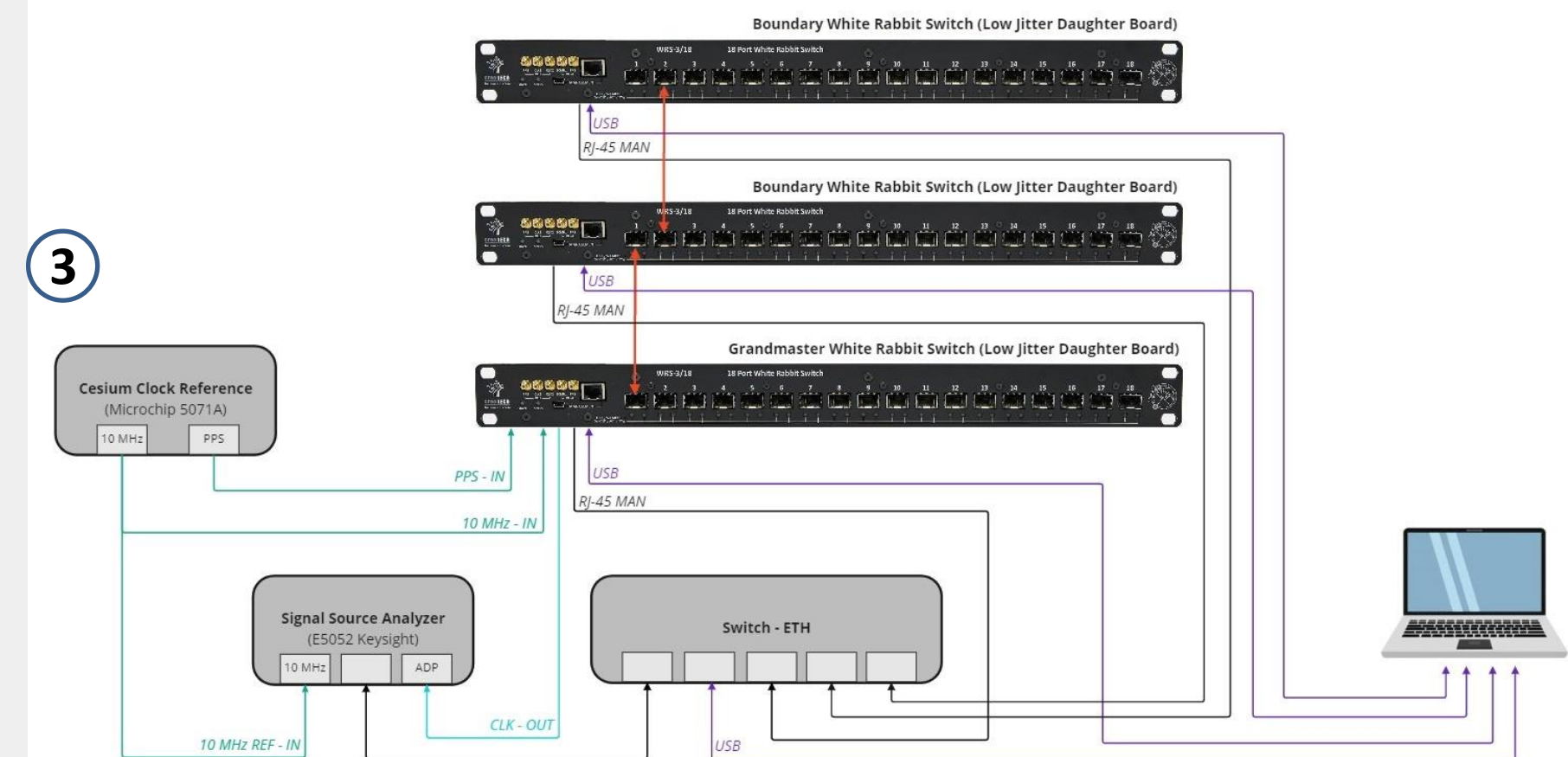
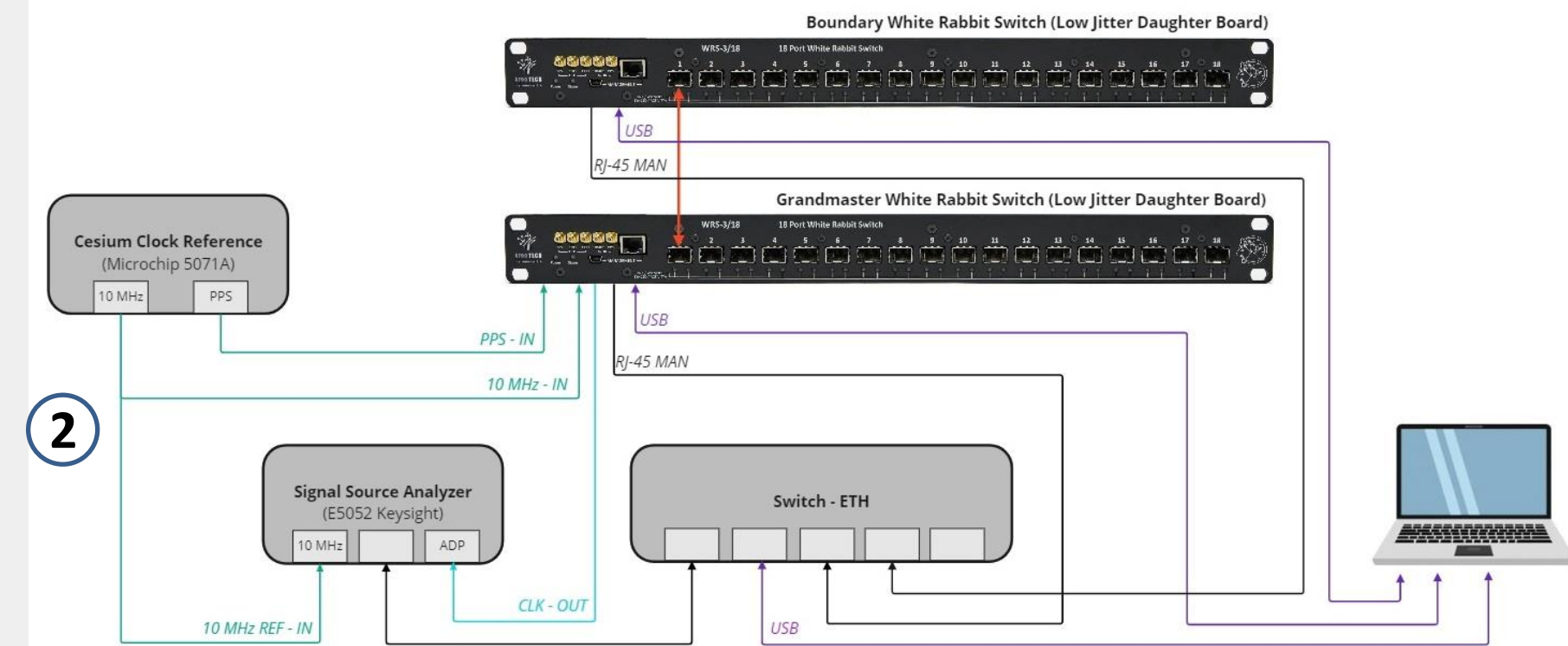
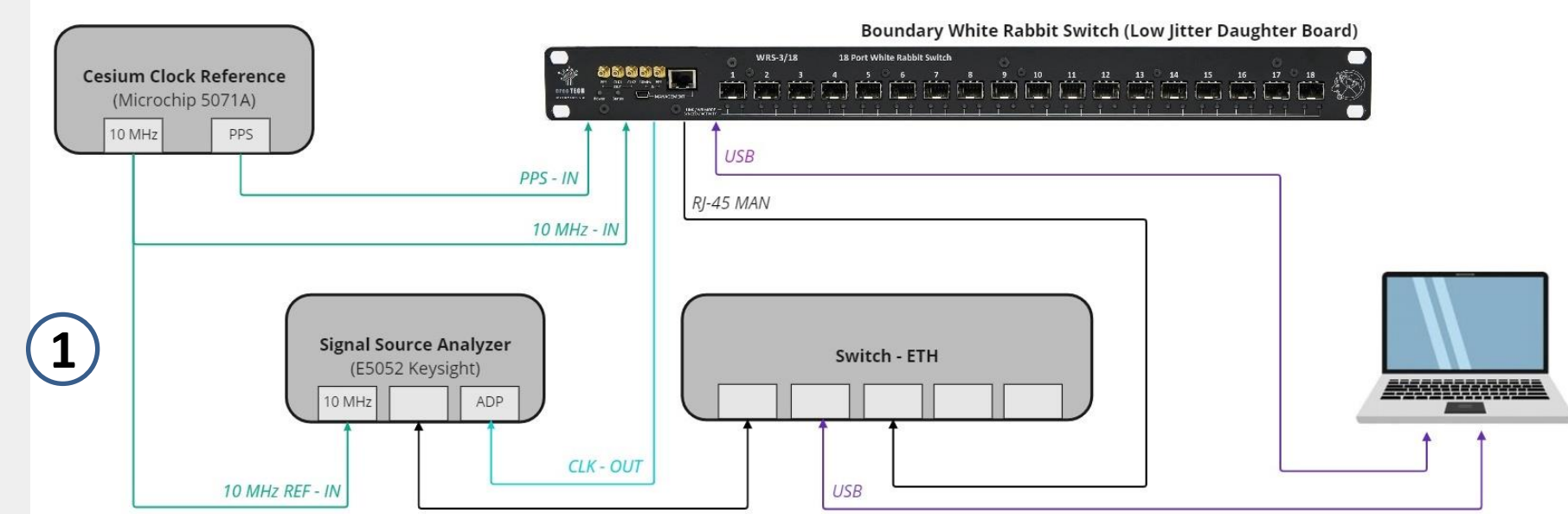
## Laboratory tests using Microchip 5071A reference

For testing purposes, **cesium clock** reference and **WR Switches** interconnected with **10km standard fibre optics** were used. The quality of the time synchronization is assessed by Signal Source Analyzer.

**Type 1** - single White Rabbit Switch (WRS). Ideally, it should be equipped with Low Jitter Daughter Board (LJ).

**Type 2** - a cascade of **two White Rabbit switches**: the **Grandmaster** and the **Boundary** White Rabbit Switch. To maintain ultra-precise time synchronization, both devices should be equipped with Low Jitter Daughter Boards.

**Type 3** – expanded WR network, **three WR switches** connected using fiber optic link: **1x Grandmaster** White Rabbit Switch and **2x Boundary** White Rabbit Switches. To maintain ultra-precise time synchronization all White Rabbit Switches should be equipped with Low Jitter Daughter Boards.



No.	Configuration type	Clock Reference type	Grand Master	First stage slave	Second stage slave	Number of averages	Jitter RMS [ps]	
							from 10Hz	from 1Hz
1	1	Cs	WRS	-	-	16	6.37	9.29
2	1	Cs	WRS-LJ	-	-	16	1.23	1.80
3	2	Cs	WRS	WRS-LJ	-	16	5.36	8.73
4	2	Cs	WRS-LJ	WRS	-	16	3.49	5.29
5	2	Cs	WRS-LJ	WRS-LJ	-	16	1.40	2.03
6	3	Cs	WRS-LJ	WRS-LJ	WRS-LJ	16	1.63	2.12



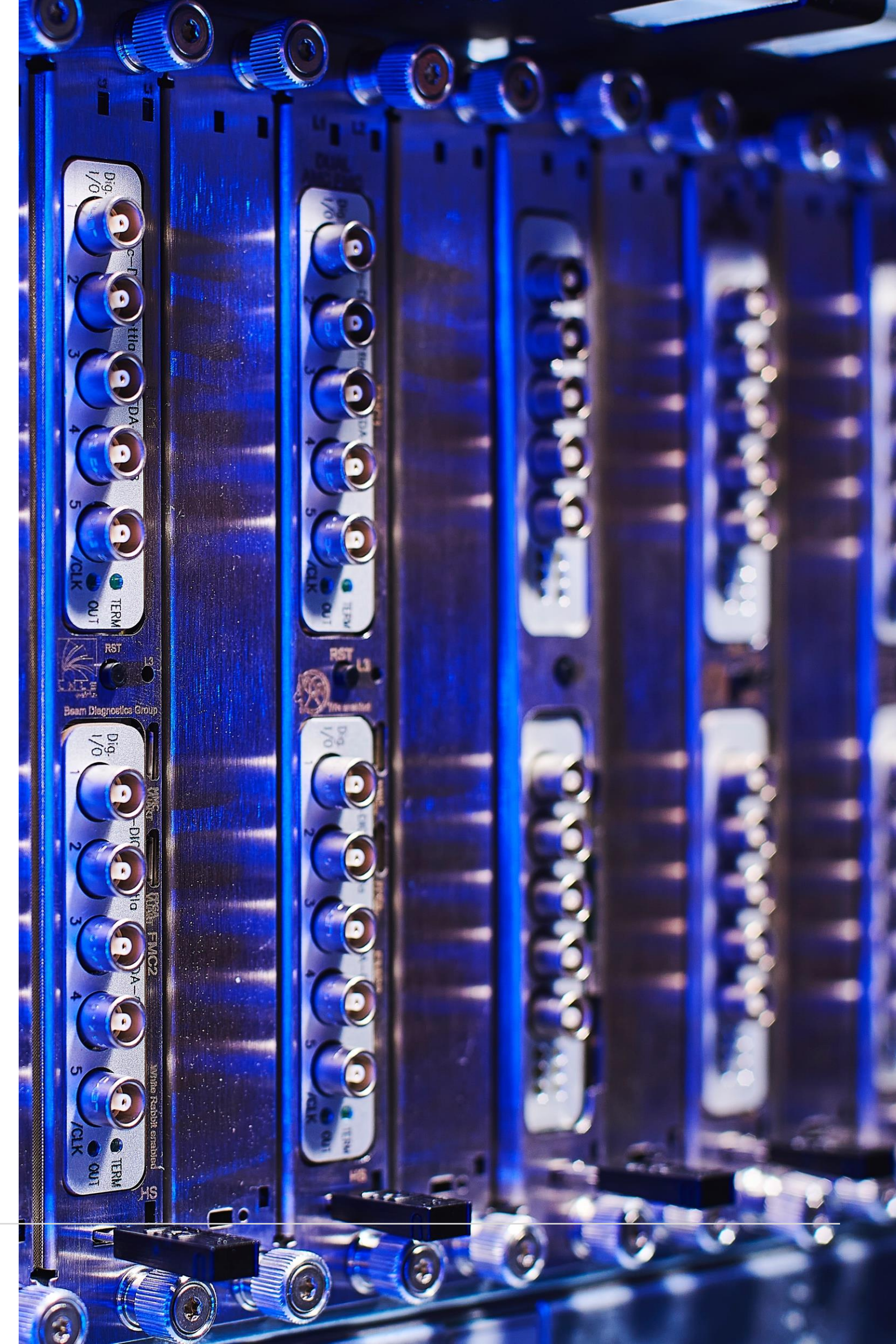
# White Rabbit - summary

## Applications:

- ▶ 5G, 6G telecom (at least 100x better accuracy than PTPv2) and quantum communication (QKD)
- ▶ Synchronization and syntonization of control of multiple control and measurement subsystems or even full systems (already implemented at CERN, GSI and other big science labs)
- ▶ Synchronization of GPS signals and clocks (supplements single time source or satellite weaknesses)

## Features:

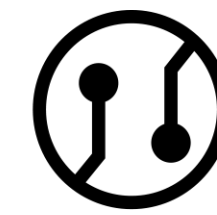
- ▶ Sub-nanosecond accuracy synchronization with picosecond precision for large distributed systems
- ▶ Expandability to thousands of nodes at typical distances of 10km between nodes (works up to 400km)
- ▶ Reliable Ethernet (local area network) data transfer at gigabit speeds (10gbps soon)
- ▶ Precise time-stamping of transmitted data measured by the system
- ▶ Easy triggering of data downloads in large installations



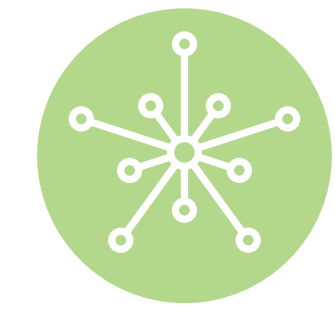
# NImSoQ project – just launched

**New Imaging and control Solutions for Quantum processors and metrology**

- ▶ **New camera with built-in cutting-edge image processing techniques and algorithms integrated into a low-cost modular control system solution**
- ▶ **Modular and real-time control system that can be scaled alongside the experiment**
- ▶ **Data processing and control solutions for Quantum Technologies that can improve the experiments outcome and thus drive further technological development**



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**MAX-PLANCK-INSTITUT  
FÜR QUANTENOPTIK**

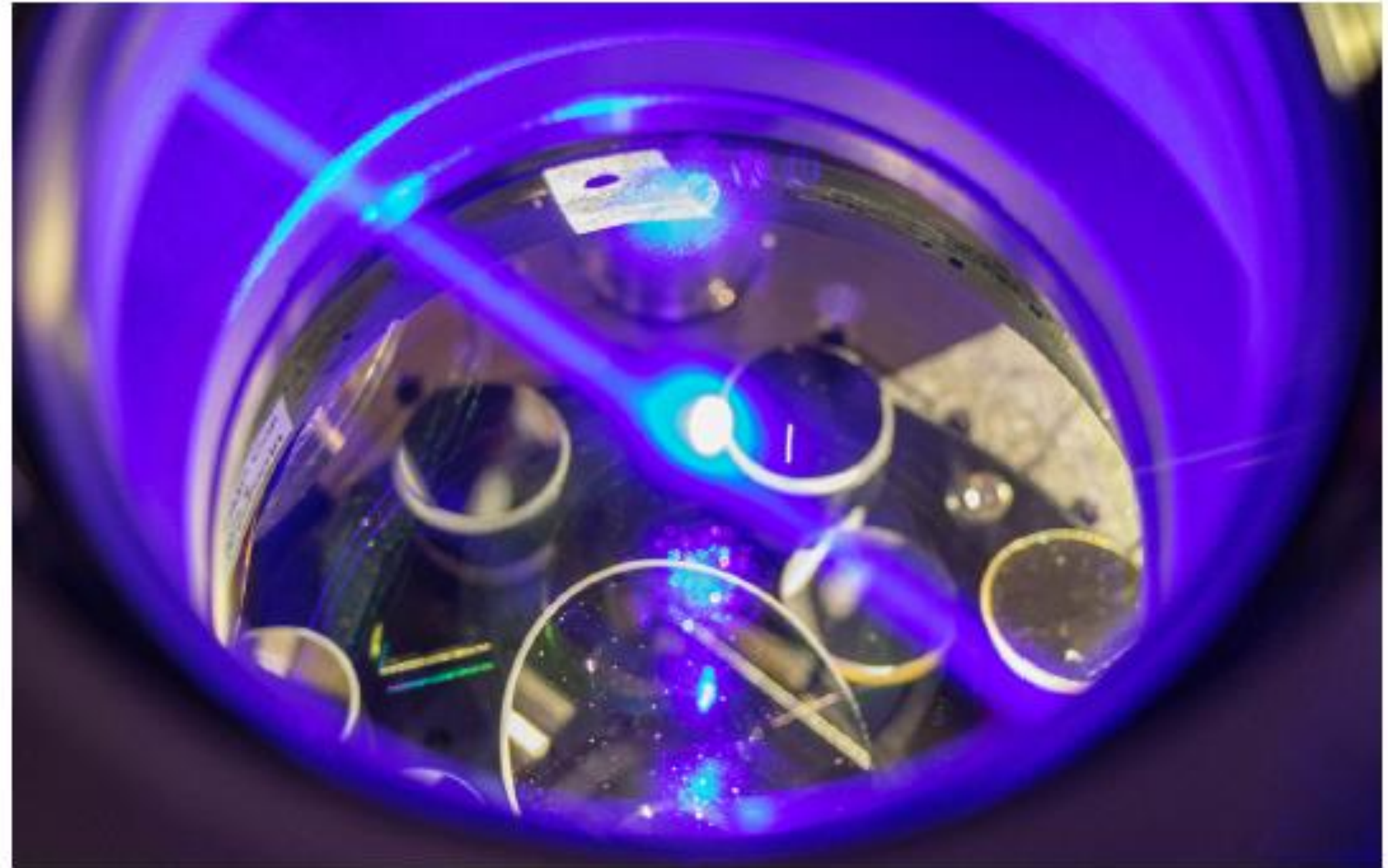


# Novel strontium state readout techniques – MPQ



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FÜR QUANTENOPTIK

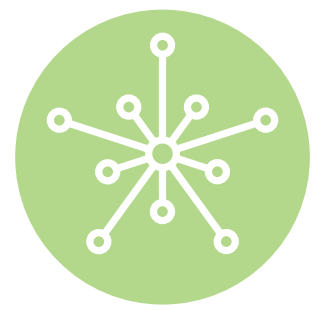
- ▶ **Novel strontium state readout techniques (of both 3P0 and 3P2 state populations) relevant for higher fidelity of readout and future implementation of error correction protocols in quantum computing, developed at MPQ**
- ▶ Strong reduction in the latency time between the measurement and the image analysis so that quantum information can be read out quickly and can then be used within a quantum algorithm



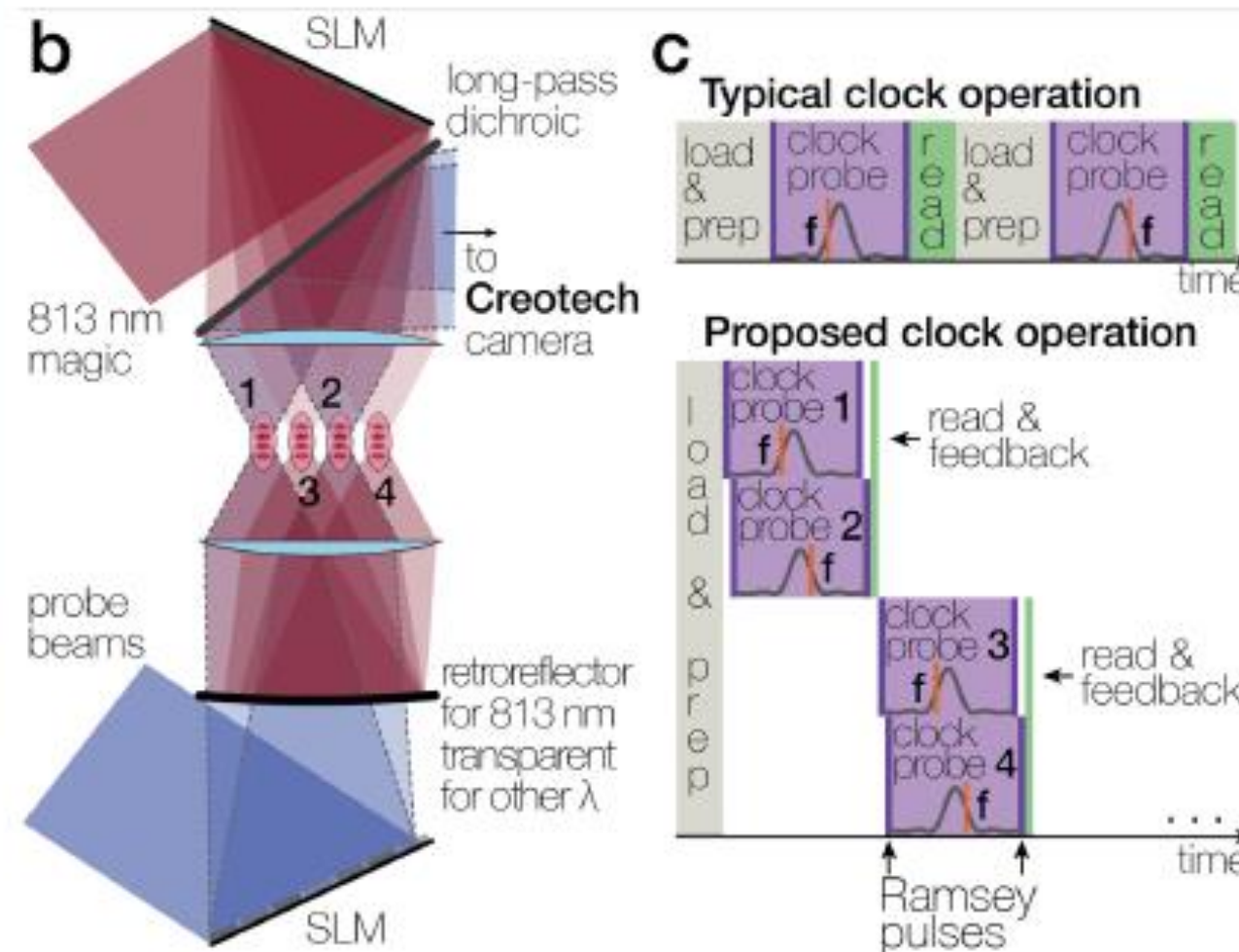
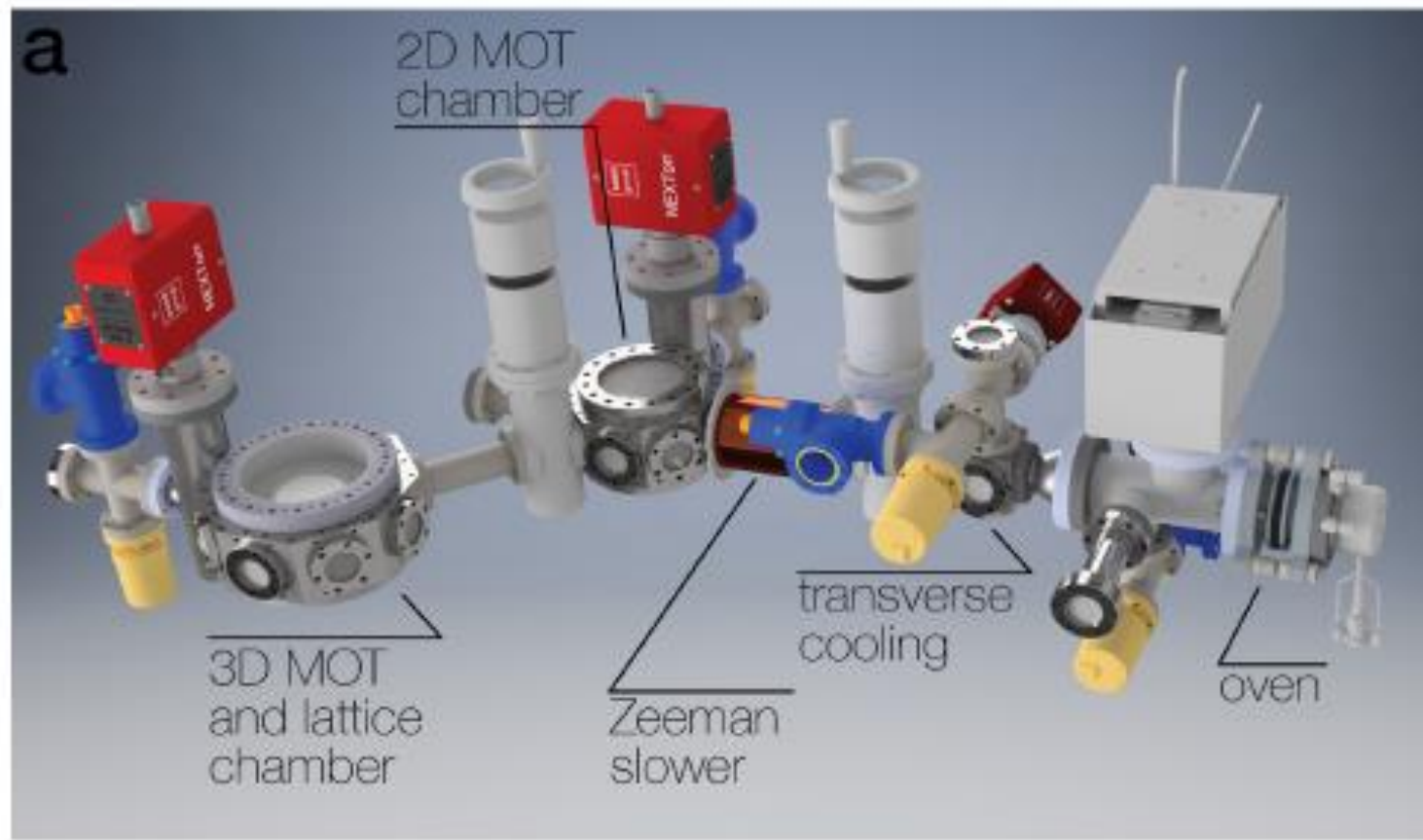
*Image: magneto-optical trap for strontium atoms*

Copyright: Sebastian Blatt, Max-Planck-Institute of Quantum Optics

# Novel interrogation scheme of a hybrid atomic clock – IFS



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## Sr level scheme

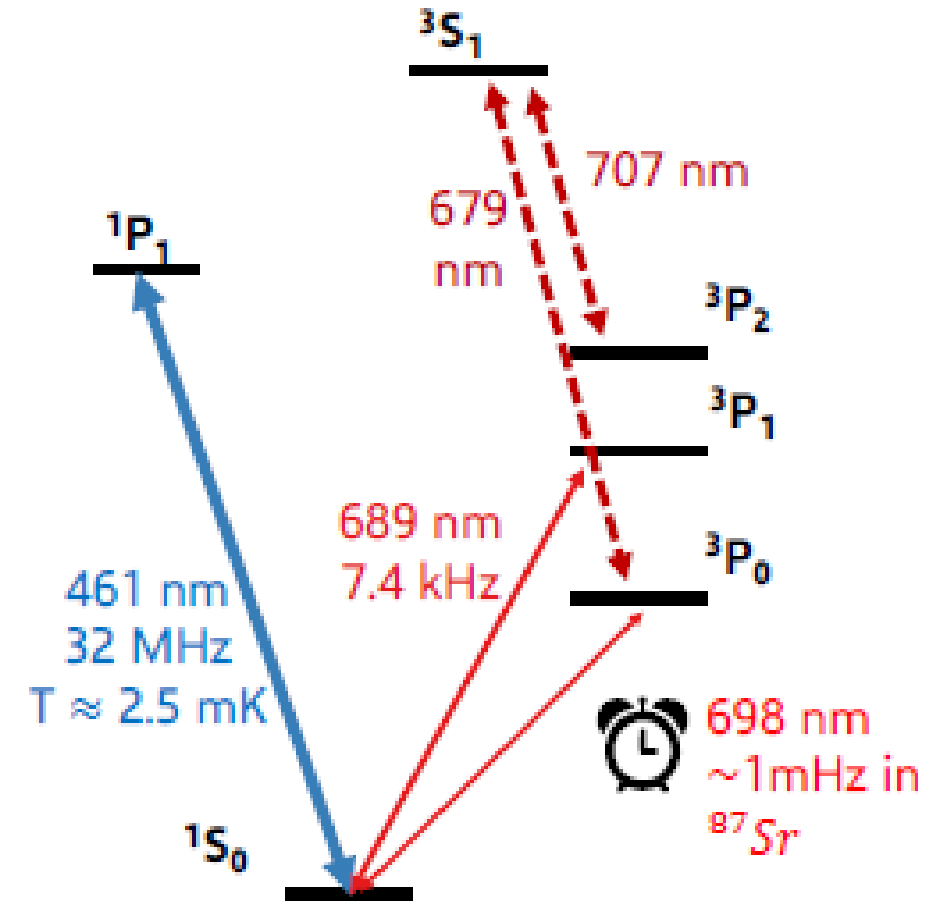


Image: a) the planned vacuum system

b) schematic of the future multiplexed strontium optical atomic clock

c) comparison of the timelines in a typical current optical clock and the proposed clock showing a dramatically reduced readout and feedback enabled by the Creotech camera

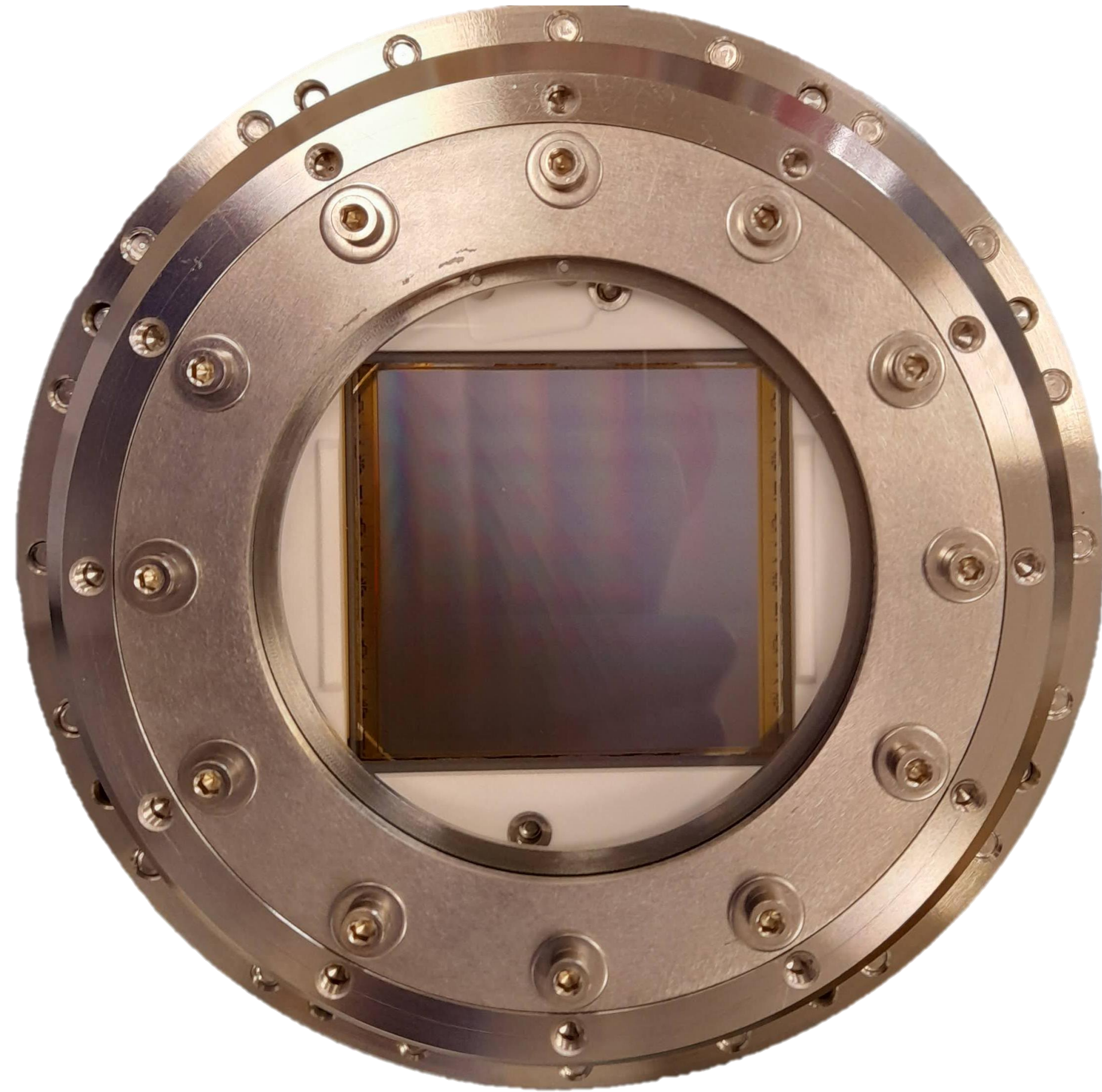
Copyright: Neven Šantić, The Institute of Physics, Zagreb

- This experiment will demonstrate and benefit from the low-latency optical qubit readout enabled by the camera developed by CTI. This newly developed optical clock aims to significantly improve the short-term stability compared to current limits set by the optical resonator used.



# NImSoQ camera parameters

- ▶ Sensor capable of reading selected areas at a rate of at least 5,000 times per second
- ▶ QE for the 450-500nm range maximum (80%+), allowing to capture a photon flux of about 10 photons per 10us
- ▶ Photon counting capability
- ▶ Sensor control implemented in FPGA
- ▶ Implementation of real-time algorithms with output directly to the loop hardware controlling the experiment in an analog manner
- ▶ Ability to simultaneously download image data for further analysis
- ▶ Liquid cooling - required by the optical table environment
- ▶ Adaptable to microscope optics
- ▶ Noise lower than 2.5e (we aim to be in the 1.6e to 2e region)



# Creotech projects

- 1000 qubit quantum computer R&D project Millenion (Quantum Flagship) in a consortium led by Innsbruck U. with AQT as the commercial partner
- QuantERA NImSoQ project for qubit readout camera with MPQ Munich and Zagreb U.
- PL/DE bilateral AI-ARTIQ project for ultra-integrated laser subsystems with Quartiq, FBH Berlin and Warsaw U.
- EuroHPC JU project for QC @HPC, led by PSNC in Poznań, Poland
- Several satellite missions, electronics design for CERN, ...
- Always looking for interesting collaborations 😊

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