

PRESS RELEASE

FN BROWNING GROUP INVESTMENT FUND INVESTS IN SENTINEL PHOTONICS, A UK MOD SPIN-OUT

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FNX Ventures, the investment fund of FN Browning Group and Wallonie Entrepreneurs, announces an equity investment and the acquisition of a minority stake in Sentinel Photonics, a spin-out from the UK Ministry of Defence specialising in laser protection and detection systems. The investment is made in partnership with Galvion, a leading Canadian defence company.

The investment agreement was officially signed on 13 March 2026, during the BEDEX defence exhibition, in the presence of Julien Compère, CEO of FN Browning Group, and Theo Francken, Belgian Minister of Defence, underlining the strategic importance of this transaction for the European and transatlantic defence ecosystem.

SENTINEL PHOTONICS: A STRATEGIC DEFENCE TECHNOLOGY

Based in Porton Down, Sentinel Photonics develops advanced systems for the detection of, and protection against, laser threats. Its solutions enable real-time detection, analysis and recording of laser signals used in complex operational environments. These capabilities are designed to

protect armed forces against hostile laser designators and rangefinders, thereby enhancing both personnel safety and the effectiveness of military operations. Sentinel Photonics works in close cooperation with the UK Armed Forces and allied nations to secure land, maritime and airborne platforms.

A STRONG LINK WITH THE UNITED KINGDOM AND ITS ARMED FORCES

This investment further strengthens FN Browning Group's long-standing and strategic ties with the UK defence ecosystem. Through its subsidiary FN UK, located in the South East of London, the Group is the only manufacturer of machine guns and assault rifles on British soil and a trusted, long-term partner of the British Armed Forces.

INDUSTRIAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL SYNERGIES

Beyond financial backing, FNX Ventures provides the companies it supports with privileged access to FN Browning Group's industrial, technological and commercial ecosystem.

Concrete synergies have already been identified between Sentinel Photonics and Noptel, FN Browning Group's Finnish subsidiary and a world leader in laser rangefinding technologies, paving the way for future technological cooperation and joint developments.