



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
Office of the Governor

Mark R. Warner
Governor

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OPTICAL AIR DATA SYSTEMS TO EXPAND IN MANASSAS

~Governor Warner announces company to create 50 new jobs; invest \$8 million~

RICHMOND – Governor Mark R. Warner today announced that Optical Air Data Systems, a manufacturer of fiber-optic sensor development for use in Department of Defense and homeland security settings, will expand its research and development operations in the City of Manassas. Through an \$8 million investment, the company will add 50 new specialized jobs to its existing 12 employee company facility. Virginia successfully competed with Texas for the project.

“It’s always positive to have a company like Optical Air Data Systems call Virginia home,” said Governor Warner. “This project aligns well with Virginia’s aggressive targeting of the homeland security industry.”

Originally founded in Los Angeles, California in 1990, Optical Air Data Systems (OADS) is a small business based at Manassas Regional Airport, Virginia. OADS is heavily involved in the development of fiber-optic laser sensors and laser Doppler velocimetry for wind measurement, rangefinding, target designation, air data, and multi-function sensors principally for military applications.

“Northern Virginia offers us all of the opportunities needed for technology development and growth, including a skilled workforce, proximity of many of our primary customers and suppliers, and a political commitment to the technology industry,” said Phil Rogers, President of OADS. “The city of Manassas is very business friendly and has all of the infrastructure necessary to support our business. In addition, as much of our work is aviation related, the Manassas Regional Airport is the ideal location to develop and test our technology and maintain our aircraft fleet. We anticipate continued growth in Manassas and can foresee additional expansion in the not too distant future.”

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The Virginia Economic Development Partnership coordinated alongside the City of Manassas to facilitate Optical Air Data Systems' decision to expand in Manassas. The company will benefit from the Virginia Department of Business Assistance's Workforce Services.

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