



To Photonics21 Secretariat  
via eMail: [secretariat@photonics21.org](mailto:secretariat@photonics21.org)

Dear Photonics21 Secretariat,

We herewith submit the nomination of the following Photonics21 Board of Stakeholders candidate  
Technology Scotland / Alison McLeod.

**- Letter of Nomination -  
Photonics21 Board of Stakeholders  
Election 2025**

## Photonics21 Board of Stakeholders - Letter of Nomination

**1. Full legal name of the affiliation nominated as BoS Member (candidate's organisation):**

Technology Scotland Limited

**2. Full contact details of the affiliation (street, postal code, country) nominated as BoS Member and invoice address** *(In accordance with the Terms of Reference §5, which the Affiliation acknowledges having received, an Annual Service fee will be invoiced every year during the first quarter to the BoS Member. By signing the present letter, the BoS candidate agrees to pay this Membership Fee. The Fee will be considered an asset of the Photonics 21 AISBL in accordance with its statutes (article 12b).)*

Technology Scotland Limited  
Technology & Innovation Centre  
99 George Street  
Glasgow  
G1 1RD

**3. Name of the suggested BoS Representative (the personal candidate)**

Dr. Alison McLeod

**4. Information about the BoS candidate and the BoS representative**

**a) Description of the activities and information about the expected contribution and value added the nominated BoS member (candidate's organisation) will bring to the BoS<sup>1</sup>**

Technology Scotland is the representative body for the enabling technology sector in Scotland, representing over 130 member organisations from the public, private and academic sectors working in the critical technologies areas including photonics, quantum technologies, semi-conductors, and connectivity and sensing. Through our networks we support a vibrant community of industrial and academic organisations who are developing technologies to deliver product advancements in markets from healthcare and communications to manufacturing and mobility.

Technology Scotland delivers clear business value to members, providing a catalyst for growth and supporting the community through networking, collaboration, lobbying and thought leadership.

Technology Scotland is responsible for the management of Photonics Scotland, a network for all photonics and photonics-enabled organisations in Scotland. Scotland's photonics sector is a world-renowned €1.75 billion industry supported by more than 60 companies and over 7,000 employees.

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<sup>1</sup> The candidate is aware and accepts that according to the Photonics21 Terms of Reference (§ 5 (10) a member ship fee - as determined by the General Assembly of the Association - needs to be paid to the Photonics21 association.

## Photonics21 Board of Stakeholders - Letter of Nomination

Photonics Scotland is the focal point for the sector and a trusted partner to our members allowing us to represent their views to a number of key stakeholders. We also facilitate a cohesive sector, providing a range of events, working groups and networking opportunities that help to drive collaboration between industrial and academic partners. Ultimately, our goals are simple: to raise the profile of the sector, help grow this thriving cluster, and drive innovation in photonics in Scotland.

Founded as the Scottish Optoelectronics Association (SOA) in 1994, Photonics Scotland is one of the oldest national photonics organisations in the world and remains one of the largest technology communities in Scotland.

Our activities include:

- Representing industry interests to government
- Promoting Scottish photonics capabilities within the UK and internationally
- Influencing policy at both Scottish and UK government level
- Supporting the community through events, workshops and forums
- Interfacing to key national and international stakeholders

Photonics Scotland have a duty to link our members to similar international networks, and we have great working relationships with many of these: OptoNet e.V., OpTec BB, HPhoS, Photonics Austria and Photonics Bretagne, to name only a few. Photonics Scotland (as the SOA) were one of the founding members of the International Optoelectronics Association and are a member of the Global Photonics Alliance and EPIC.

As a member of the Photonics21 Board of Stakeholders, Technology Scotland via the Photonics Scotland network would represent the whole Scottish photonics community, providing a cohesive and neutral voice for the sector.

- b)** Description of the activities and information about expected contribution and value added the BoS Representative (candidate / person) will bring to the BoS.

Dr. Alison McLeod, Director – Photonics Scotland, has more than 20 years of experience working in academic, industrial and consultancy roles, arming her with a broad wealth of experience across many aspects of the photonics sector.

After achieving her PhD in photonics at University of St. Andrews she worked as a Research Associate before leaving academia and joining industry in the role of technical sales/account manager in the health physics and photonics sectors. Alison then moved to a role dedicated to project management and proposal writing for EU funded projects, gaining extensive experience across a wide variety of research topics, and also creating a good network across organisations throughout Europe and further afield.

In her current role Alison is responsible for managing Photonics Scotland, the formal network supporting Scotland's photonics sector. She is passionate about raising awareness of photonics, helping to grow the sector through a programme of activities that include:

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- Running special interest groups on Photonics for Space, Quantum Technologies, and Biophotonics and Medical Imaging.
- Liaising with government to provide sectoral input to policy development and implementation.
- Collaborating with photonics clusters across Europe and the world to develop international partnerships.
- Promoting equality, diversity and inclusion principles via the Opening up Photonics initiative, a partnership between Photonics Scotland, academia and industry.
- Working with industrial and academic partners to develop new skills training to support the development of a growing talent pool for the sector.