



# Introduction to Vantablack® Absorber Coatings Used In Automotive Stray Light Suppression

# VANTABLACK

Where Vision Makes the Difference



ENHANCING: SPACE INSTRUMENTS - AUTOMOTIVE SAFETY - DSLR LENSES - UXHD DISPLAY TECHNOLOGY

# Surrey NanoSystems Background

- Established 2007, East Sussex, UK
- Venture Capital backed, with access to strong financial resources
- Patented technology in sprayed super-black coatings
- Launched Vantablack® branded range of spray super-black coatings 2016, first HUD and LiDAR integration in 2018
- Rapid expansion, with new Production facilities providing Coating-as-a-Service (CaaS) to Automotive sector
- R&D Facility for training and product development
- Strong scientific team: PhDs, MChem and MPhys qualified research scientists to help address customer challenges



**US Representative:**

Santa Barbara Infrared, Inc.  
Suit D  
30 S. Calle Cesar Chavez,  
Santa Barbara, CA. 93103

**UK R&D centre:**

Building 24,  
Euro Business Park  
Newhaven, East Sussex  
BN9 0DQ

**UK Production:**

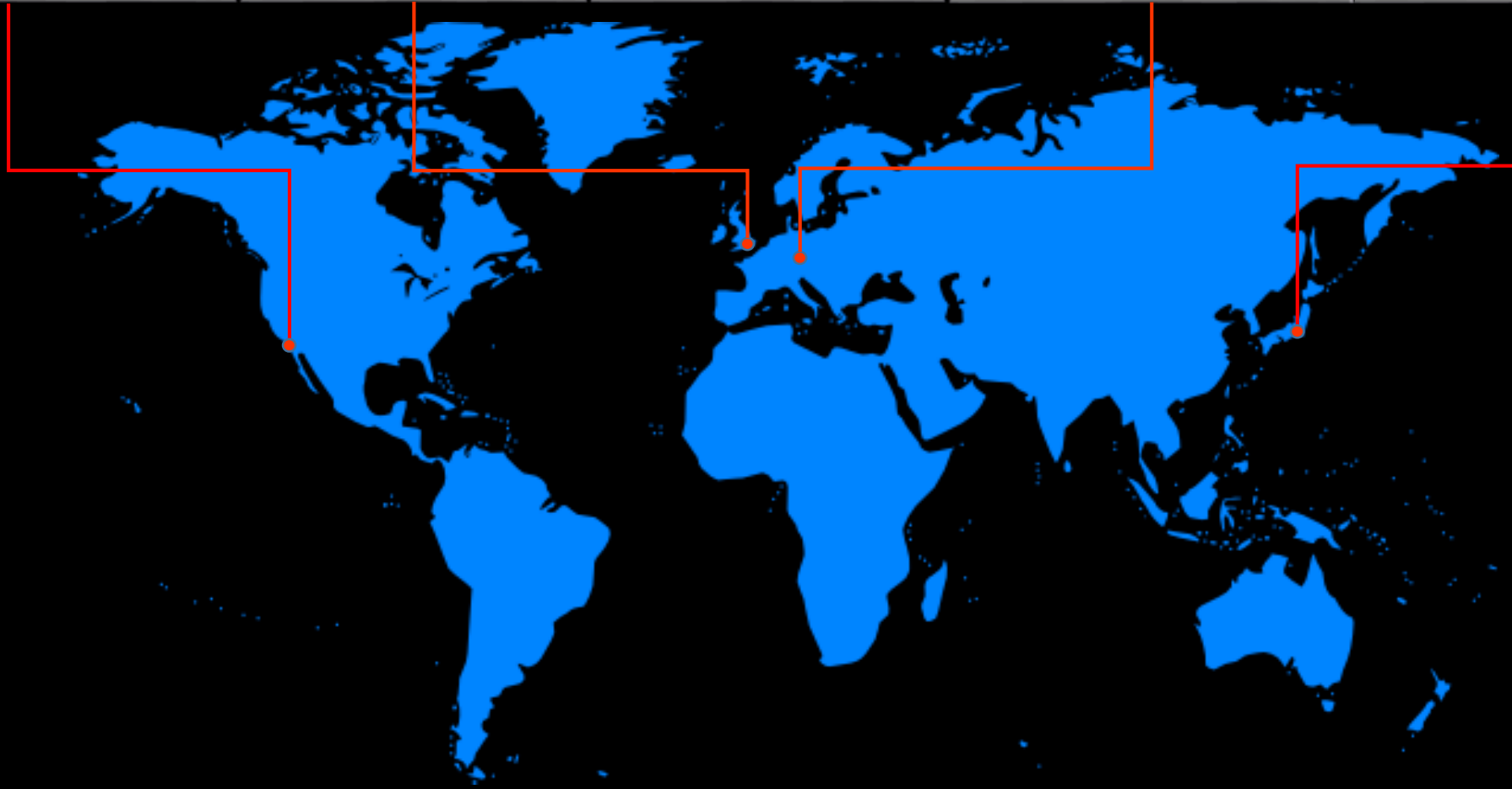
East Side Business Park  
Beach Road, Newhaven  
East Sussex  
BN9 0FB

**Germany Sales Office:**

Automotive Coatings  
Frankfurt am Main  
Germany  
+49 151 22919105

**Japan Representative:**

Ocean Photonics, Inc.  
Nishi Waseda 3-30-16,  
Shinjuku-ku,  
Tokyo 169-0051



# Surrey NanoSystems Automotive Coatings Business Model

## Coating as a Service

- Customer parts are shipped to our UK production facility, coated to customer specification and then returned for integration.
- Some integration is possible in our UK facilities.
- Bulk shipping costs, import costs and tariffs need to be taken into account when temporarily importing parts for coating

## Technology Transfer

- Applies to Vantablack S-VIS
- Where volumes are high then it is possible to licence the technology for use in your production facility

## VBx2 Bulk Supply

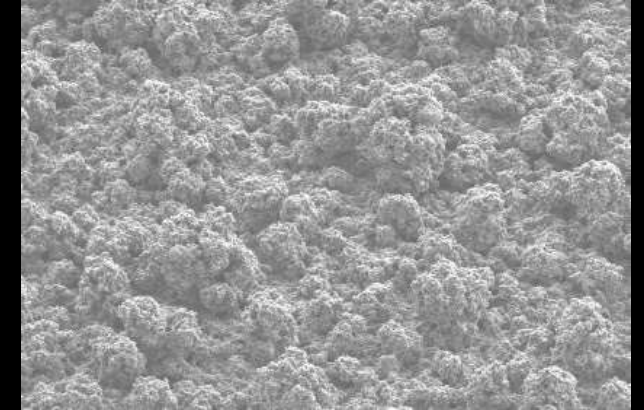
- VBx2 is a paint like coating that that customers are able to purchase in bulk for application in their facilities.
- The coating uses conventional spray gun technology so capital investment is low.
- Technical training is required to enable customers to successfully set up coating lines as the spraying techniques are different to conventional paints

# Automotive Coating Range

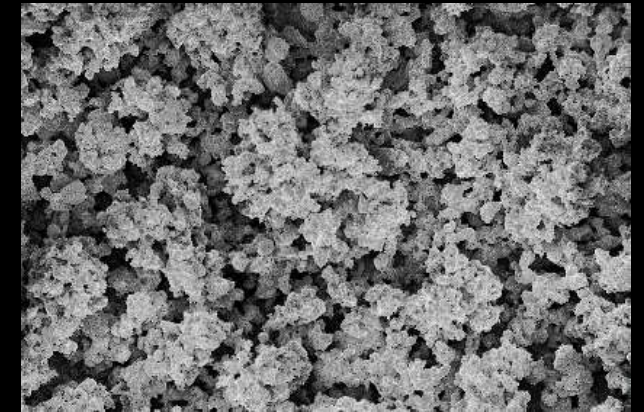
- S-VIS: HUD Systems, Exterior Lighting and LiDAR
- VBx2: Camera Shields, Exterior Lighting and HUD systems

# A unique, complementary super-black automotive product portfolio

- **Vantablack S-VIS** – spray-applied wide area coating, exceptional performance across the spectrum from UV-FIR – used for critical stray light control (coated parts require vacuum post spray processing so maximum part size is 650mm x 450mm x 150mm)
  - Head Up Displays
  - LiDAR
  - Exterior Lighting
  - **THR (Total hemispherical Reflectance) – 0.2%**
- **Vantablack VBx2** – Conventional spray application, no scale limitations, used for stray light control in automotive camera shielding, exterior lighting systems, architecture and aesthetic applications
  - Camera Shields
  - Head Up Displays
  - Exterior Lighting
  - **THR (Total hemispherical Reflectance) – 1%**



Vantablack S-VIS

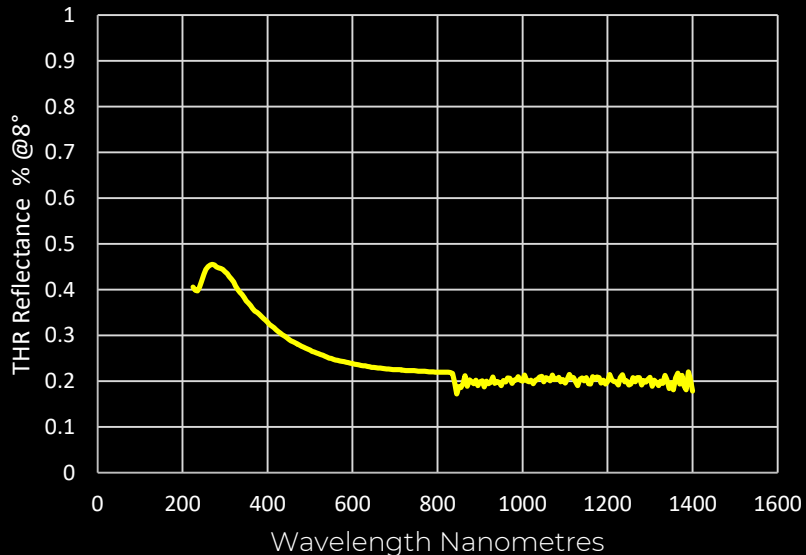


Vantablack VBx2

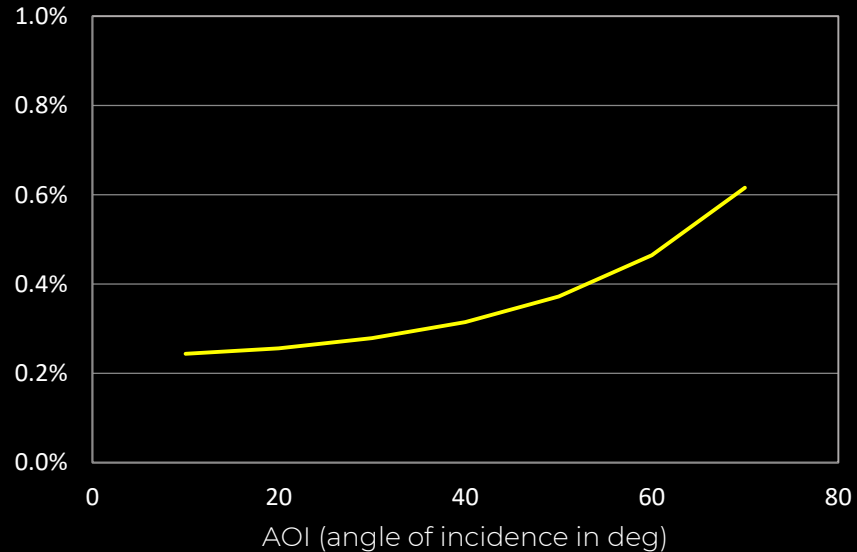
# Not Just Another Black Coating

- Vantablack S-VIS provides exceptional performance in ADAS applications because of its very high level of absorption. Uniquely and unlike other paints and flocks, it retains this performance from almost all viewing angles
- This means light hitting the absorber surface from any angle is efficiently captured and unable to interfere with critical elements within the electro optical assembly
- This is not the case with conventional paints and flocks where sunlight frequently blinds the sensor or produces significant artefacts

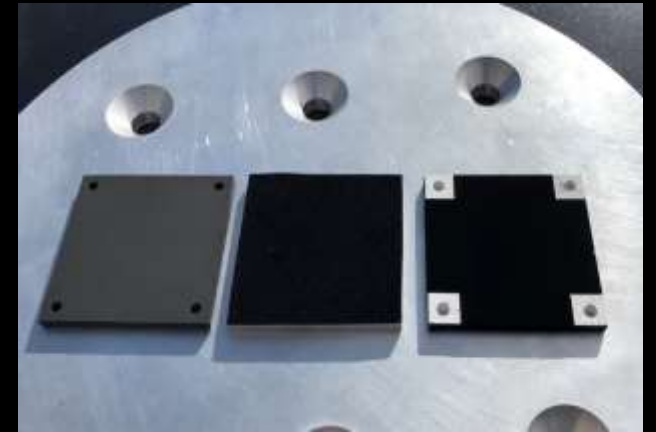
Vantablack S-VIS: Absorption



Change in absorption vs AOI - 400nm – 800nm



Video Clip demonstrating sunlight grazing angle performance



Nextel 81121 – Flocking – Vantablack S-VIS

# Improving Driver Safety In Automotive Applications

- Head Up Displays
- Camera Glare Shields
- Headlamps
- Tail Lights
- LiDAR Sensors

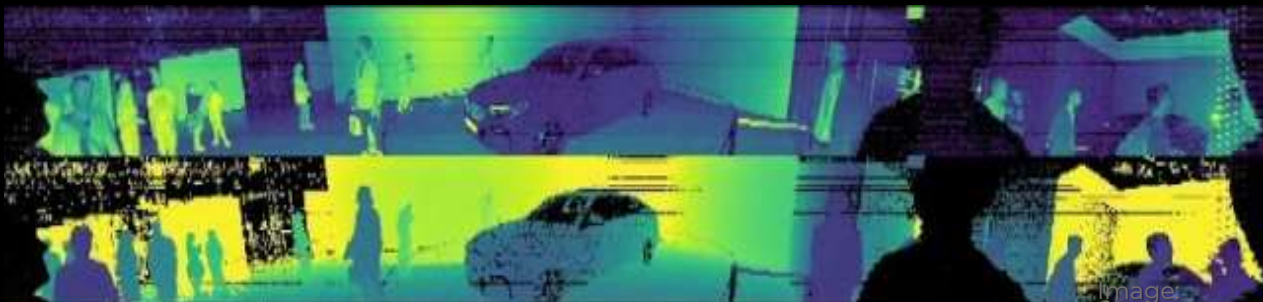


Image:  
ouster.io





# Head Up Displays

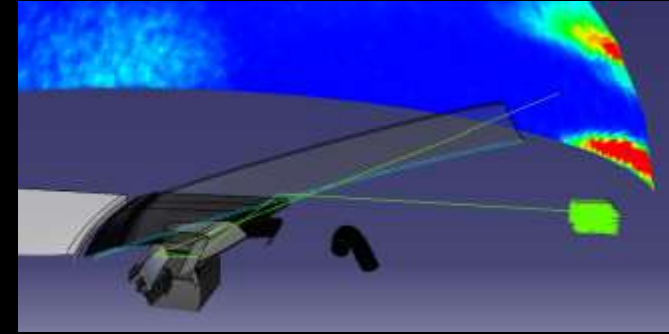
- Significant improvement in window ghosting artefacts
- Improved contrast ratio for next generation optics
- Removal of complex baffle foam and flocking processes
- Solves adhesion issues found with conventional paints on certain substrate types



Existing coatings allow distracting sunlight artefacts in the drivers line of sight



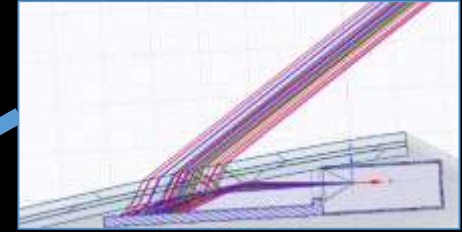
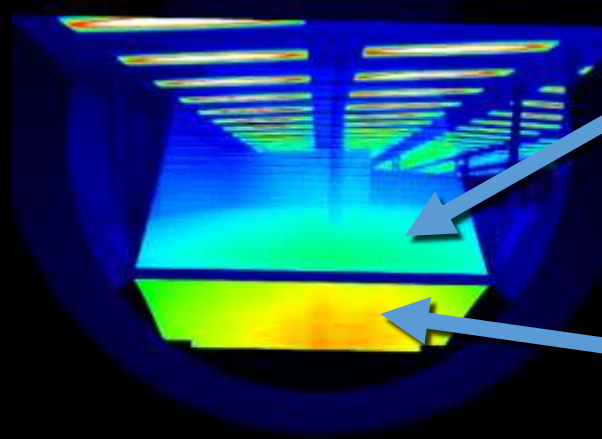
First Vantablack HUD – artefact free



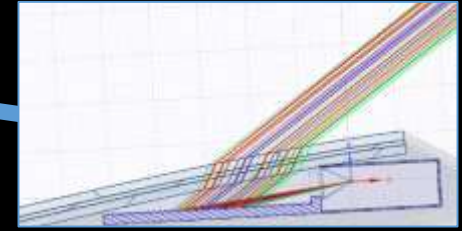
Elimination of stray light using Vantablack S-VIS © ANSYS OPTIS

# ADAS Camera Glare Shields

- Ghosting and overexposure can be virtually removed
- Veiling glare drastically reduced
- Baffle structures can be eliminated, simplifying manufacturing processes
- High contrast sunlight or night driving glare reduction



Reflection on the windshield



Direct sun reflection on prisms



Standard Automotive black paint

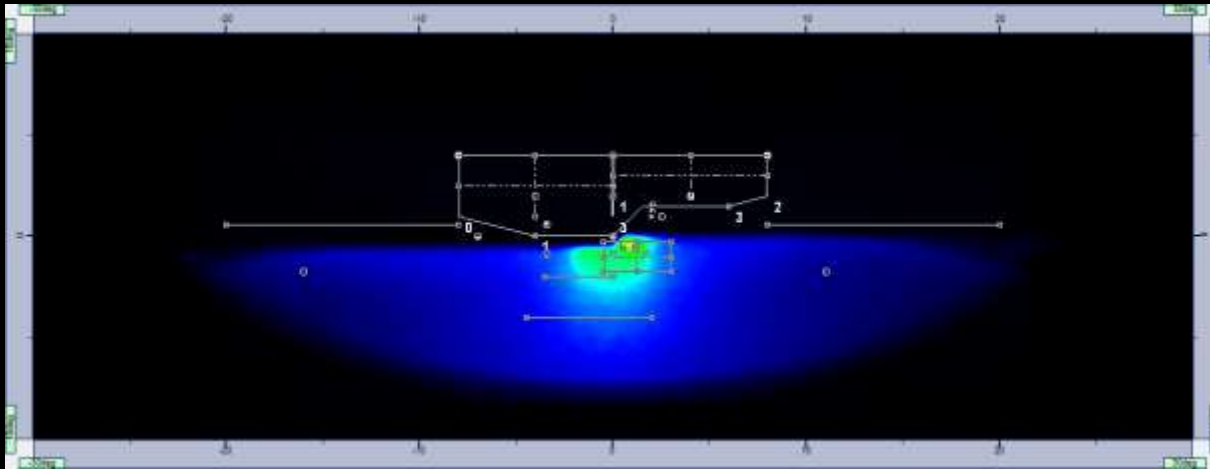


Vantablack S-VIS coated glare shield

# Headlamps and Tail Lights

- Clean light cut-off line, minimal residual reflection
- Headlight glare reduction
- Precise Adaptive Driving Beam
- High definition road projection
- Meeting standards and regulatory requirements
- Innovative designs and unique visual effects possible

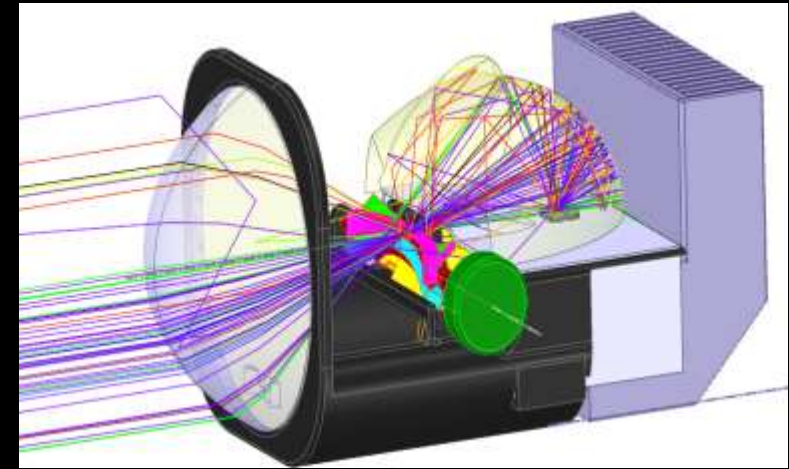
ECE R123 AFS LB C Regulation Light Intensity Template



Vantablack S-VIS brings the non conforming beam pattern back to EU legal limits without a major redesign of the beam optics



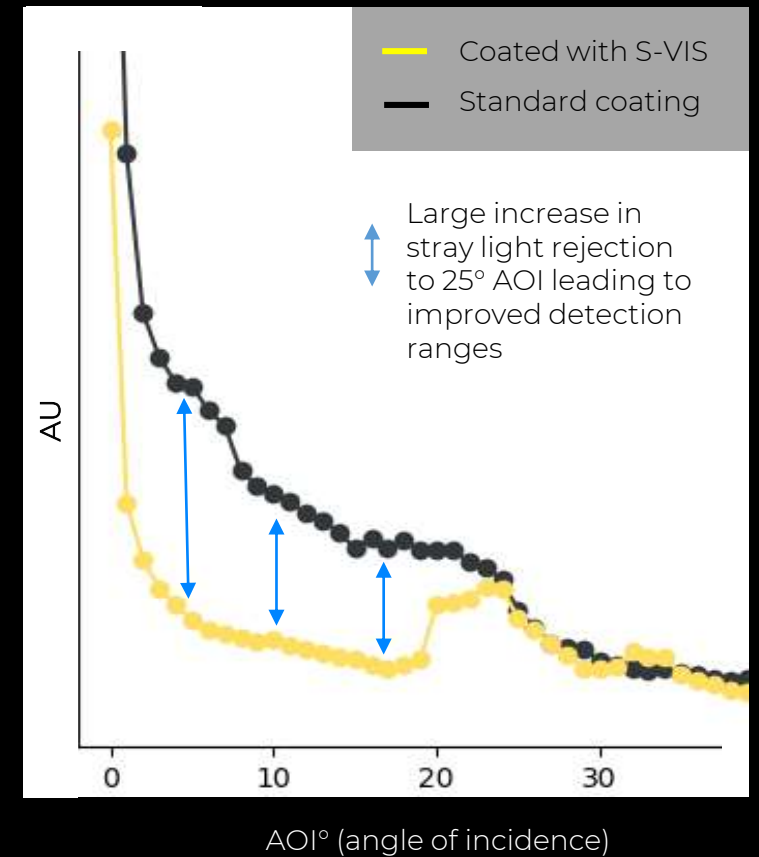
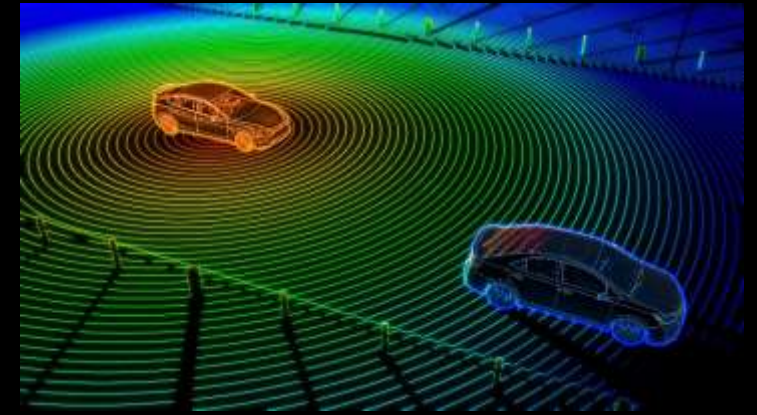
2020 Koenigsegg Jesko Absolute with Vantablack Headlights



Ansys beam path simulation confirming expected performance benefit

# LiDAR

- Improved straylight suppression over a wide field of view with the Vantablack coated detector housing
- This results in improved LiDAR performance under difficult, high contrast daylight and night driving conditions
- Higher S/N ratio leads to increased detection range and better recognition of low reflective objects



# Conclusion

- Vantablack® coatings improve driver safety by resolving stray light issues in automotive electro-optical sensors and systems
- Are scalable and well-suited to commonly-used automotive substrates
- They exceed thermal and mechanical requirements in-service
- They do not generate fogging residues
- They are not prone to UV degradation
- Performance demonstrated in real applications
- All coatings are ROHS and Halogen compliant





surrey nanosystems

To discuss your application in more detail or  
for more specific technical information  
please contact:

## Michael Stellmacher

Global Market Development Director  
(Automotive)

Phone +49 151 22919105  
m.stellmacher@surreynanosystems.com

[www.surreynanosystems.com](http://www.surreynanosystems.com)



# VANTABLACK

Where Vision Makes the Difference