



J-C. Diels and L. Arissian, *Lasers: The Power and Precision of Light*, (Wiley-VCH, Weinheim, 2011).

Published 2011/12/09
©Optics Journal (2011)

ISSN: 1936-9808

Book Review

Popularized books on lasers written by journalists and commentators are numerous. Popularized books on lasers written by laser specialists are somewhat rare. *Lasers*, is one such rare book. Jean –Claude Diels is a well respected laser experimentalist who has made pioneering and seminal contributions to the field of ultrashort-pulse lasers, also known as femtosecond pulse lasers. His co-author Ladan Arissian is also a practitioner in the field. That should be reason enough to create interest in this new title. Up on examination *Lasers* is a soft cover book with 263 pages which is divided into 9 chapters. These chapters range from introductions to laser and coherence concepts to a number of applications including medicine, industry, microscopy, communications, laser cooling, laser machining, and laser induced lightning. Thus, the emphasis is rather practical reflecting the experimental inclination of the authors. The final chapter gives the authors perspective on the future. Figures are plentiful and some of them are even humorous. This reviewer enjoyed reading *Lasers* and recommends its inclusion into personal and institutional libraries.

Optics Journal