November’s Photonics Forum will feature SPR Advanced Technologies, Inc., one of the tenants in the Photonics Business Innovation Center. The presentation will consist of a PowerPoint review of SPR’s business and technology, and a discussion of the challenges in starting and growing a business. Questions are encouraged at the presentation.

SPR was the first private company to enter into a commercial agreement with Boston University’s National Emerging Infectious Diseases Laboratories (NEIDL) to conduct experiments on SPR's technology in a BSL setting. SPR is in the process of raising capital to expand its staff and to accelerate its business development efforts. The company is interested in supporting BU through the hiring of interns and permanent employees, and by working with its faculty on advancements in their technology.

SPR has developed a durable “invisible technology” that enables treated materials to repel damaging liquids, dirt and other particles. SPR has patented a new polymer science that uses applied physics to generate performance-enhancing attributes for treated materials, that will last for years under harsh conditions without the need for reapplication.

The Company was incorporated in November 2014 to commercialize a patented technology platform developed with two grants provided by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Earlier this year, SPR won a $655,000 grant award from USAID, in partnership with the CDC, Department of Defense and White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. SPR's technology is in various stages of testing with the U.S. Army, Texas Biomedical Institute’s BSL-4 laboratories, Intertek and several corporations.

The presentation will be led by SPR’s co-founder and CEO, Jeffrey Horine, who is the former CFO and interim CEO of another start-up business that raised $40 million in venture capital as a “pre-revenue” company, and was sold three years later to one of its industry’s largest companies.