

Pavel Matousek obtained his MSc and PhD degrees in physics from the Czech Technical University (Prague), the latter carried out at the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory (RAL, Oxford). Since 1991 he has worked at RAL where he proposed the use of Optical Parametric Chirped-Pulse Amplification (OPCPA) for the generation of extreme, multi-PW laser peak powers, pioneered ps-Kerr gating for fluorescence rejection in Raman spectroscopy, proposed Spatially Offset Raman Spectroscopy (SORS) and introduced Transmission Raman Spectroscopy (TRS) into pharmaceutical analysis. Pavel's current research areas include non-invasive cancer and bone disease diagnosis, security screening, cultural heritage and pharmaceutical analysis.

Pavel has published over 220 peer-reviewed articles (h-index: 57/WoS) and holds 11 patent families (8 granted, 3 pending). His honours include the premier Royal Academy of Engineering's 2014 MacRobert Award (UK), the 2009 Charles Mann Award (FACSS, USA) and the 2002 & 2006 Meggers Awards from the Society for Applied Spectroscopy (USA). He was also the Conference Program Chair of SciX 2011 (Reno, NV, USA).

In 2008, Pavel co-founded Cobalt Light Systems Ltd and served as its Board Director and the Chief Scientific Officer. The company developed commercial SORS/TRS scanners deployed at over 75 airports and 30 pharmaceutical companies worldwide. In 2017, Cobalt was acquired by Agilent for £40M. The company has now formed its global centre for Raman spectroscopy in Oxford (UK).

Pavel is an Associate Editor of *Applied Spectroscopy* and serves on the advisory boards of *Analyst* and *Journal of Raman Spectroscopy*. He is a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering, the Royal Society of Chemistry, and the Society for Applied Spectroscopy, an Honorary Professor at University College London and a Senior Fellow of Science and Technology Facilities Council (main role).