

# What is a LASS and what are its characteristics?

- Thyristor based device activated by light from a semiconductor laser diode
- Activation occurs over a large area and deep into the semiconductor junctions
- Able to achieve high  $di/dt$  *and* high power concurrently
- Full current conduction does not require substantial current spreading
- Single switch capable of blocking in excess of **16 kV** with peak currents of **30 – 70 kA** depending on pulse width
- Isolation of trigger signal (optical)
- Low jitter
- Uses mature silicon technology
- Long life and low cost of ownership
- Suitable for applications requiring a fast rising, high current pulse

