



My life in Okazaki

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It was my dream to work and live in Japan. Just after I finished my Master Degree at Vilnius University in Lasers, I had possibility to join one-year “Vulcanus in Japan” program, organized by EU-Japan center for Industrial cooperation. My first time visit to Japan was in 2009. I was studying Japanese language for 4 months in a language school in Tokyo and then had an internship in AIST in Tsukuba under the supervision of Dr. Sadao Uemura, where we were working on Yb:YAG mode-locked laser. After this internship, I decided to pursue my PhD in Japan, and with the help of Prof. Takunori Taira, I joined his group at IMS in 2012. Here, my task is to develop high power laser for various application. Since I was working in a couple of laser companies in Lithuania prior coming to Japan, I could



apply my knowledge in this field. I have published several papers on various laser systems. Also, in IMS I started to work on a new field for me, which is crystal bonding. This surface activated bonding tech-



nique for optical crystals is recent topic in the field of laser development and I am proud that I can work on it in IMS. We have developed multistack-crystals bonded together and are going to continue pushing application of bonding for tiny integrated laser systems (TILA).

The life of Okazaki is still and quiet, but with the help of foreign community it is possible to bring some joy during weekend activities. People here always organize some gatherings or trips, so everyone could have relaxed time together. Since I came here, I visited most of the places around Aichi prefecture and nearby places. During warm times and longer daytime I prefer running around Otogawa river. During spring we can enjoy sakura tree blossoming and various festivals, one of which is Ieyasu parade with many people participating in it. I am glad to join IMS and working in a good and competitive research environment.