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Applied Optoelectronics, Inc. Ranked Number 374 Among the Fastest Growing Companies in North America on Deloitte's 2014 Technology Fast 500(TM)

Attributes 214 Percent Revenue Growth to Technology Leadership in Fiber-Optic Equipment

SUGAR LAND, Texas, Nov. 13, 2014 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Applied Optoelectronics, Inc. (Nasdaq:AAOI) today announced it ranked No. 374 on Deloitte's Technology Fast 500™, a ranking of the 500 fastest growing technology, media, telecommunications, life sciences and clean technology companies in North America. The ranking was based on Applied Optoelectronics' 214% revenue growth from 2009 to 2013.

AOI's chief executive officer, Dr. Thompson Lin, credits AOI's strong growth to its vertically-integrated manufacturing model and legacy of optical design and production of optical devices, modules and subsystems for the optical access market with the company's 214% revenue growth.

"We are extremely proud to be recognized as one of the fastest growing companies in North America. This award is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our employees that made our outstanding growth possible," said Lin.

"The companies ranked on the 2014 Deloitte Technology Fast 500 continue to set the bar for their industry higher each year," said Eric Openshaw, vice chairman, Deloitte LLP and U.S. technology, media and telecommunications leader. "There are so many exciting products and smart thought leaders driving this list. We congratulate the Fast 500 companies and look forward to seeing them continue their momentum into 2015."

"For 20 years, the Deloitte Fast 500 rankings have honored the innovation that is part of these companies' DNA," added Jim Atwell, national managing partner of the emerging growth company practice, Deloitte & Touche LLP. "We're glad to be serving these high-growth companies, and helping the technology sector recognize the great strides and transformation these companies are making in their respective areas."

About Deloitte's 2014 Technology Fast 500™

Technology Fast 500, conducted by Deloitte LLP, provides a ranking of the fastest growing technology, media, telecommunications, life sciences and clean technology companies - both public and private - in North America. Technology Fast 500 award winners are selected based on percentage fiscal year revenue growth from 2009 to 2013.

In order to be eligible for Technology Fast 500 recognition, companies must own proprietary intellectual property or technology that is sold to customers in products that contribute to a majority of the company's operating revenues. Companies must have base-year operating revenues of at least \$50,000 USD or CD, and current-year operating revenues of at least \$5 million USD or CD. Additionally, companies must be in business for a minimum of five years and be headquartered within North America.

About Applied Optoelectronics

Applied Optoelectronics Inc. (AOI) is a leading developer and manufacturer of advanced optical products, including components, modules, and equipment. AOI's products are the building blocks for broadband fiber access networks around the world, where they are used in the CATV broadband, internet datacenter, and fiber-to-the-home markets. AOI supplies optical networking lasers, components and equipment to tier-1 customers in all three of these markets. In addition to its corporate headquarters, wafer fab and advanced engineering and production facilities in Sugar Land, TX, AOI has engineering and manufacturing facilities in Taipei, Taiwan and Ningbo, China. For additional information, visit www.ao-inc.com.

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