



## AEgis Technologies Looking to Protect More Pilots from Lasers

WAAY TV News

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Huntsville-based AEgis Technologies is looking to improve its laser eye protection technology to better protect pilots. This visor protection, used by United States Air Force pilots, was purchased not only for its effectiveness, but also its cost.

“It provides laser eye protection that protects against infrared laser systems at a price and performance point they can’t get with current technologies,” says AEgis Chief Scientist Milan Buncick, who is the project lead for this product.



AEgis Chief Scientist Dr. Milan Buncick demonstrates a laser.

Infrared is normally invisible, but if it hits your eyes, it can damage them because your eyes will not react, because it is outside the visible spectrum. How does this eyewear work? You can’t see it, but research physicist Neset Akozbek says there is a certain metal which helps block the harmful laser threats.

“This coating has this much silver, but we can make it transparent, but at the same time we preserve the properties of silver,” says Akozbek, who says the silver helps shield electromagnetic radiation.

AEgis scientists have yet to figure out how to effectively make this eyewear resistant to the more powerful green laser. Buncick hopes to develop this protection soon because the next flying disaster could be caused by one person looking to cause mischief with these easily obtainable objects.



WAAY 31 News Reporter Travis Leder with AEgis Research Physicist Dr. Neset Akozbek and Dr. Buncick.

“When people are trying to land, there are people who shine green lasers at the airplane,” says Buncick, who hopes to market this product to commercial airliners, “that can blind the pilots temporarily so it’s really important that we can figure out some technology that protects the pilots.”

This protection can work for more than just eyes. Scientists say this protection can also be applied to solar panels to reduce temperature and increase efficiency.