

## OneChip gains US\$18M in financing, targets first product



[Elizabeth Howell](#)

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**After five years developing its first optical product, OneChip Photonics Corp. says a recently announced US\$18 million in financing will give it the last push it needs to finish the development.**

Topics : **Nortel Networks, Metro Photonics**

The company, founded by optical veterans in 2006 and featuring expertise from an alumni of firms like Nortel Networks Corp. and Metro Photonics, is currently shipping out test units of its transceiver to potential customers ahead of the release, expected to be in the third quarter of this year.

"We really have the ability to change the game in optical access networks, and there's really no one else that does what we do," said Steve Bauer, OneChip's vice-president of marketing and communications, in an *OBJ* interview.

OneChip manufactures photonic integrated circuit-based optical transceivers for passive optical networks, which transport voice and data over fibre.

"We've taken what other people do in 20 parts and put it all the way down to integrating it into a single chip," Mr. Bauer said.

"As you might expect, the cost advantage over existing transceivers is very significant, absolutely key."

A number of potential "Tier-1" customers are interested in the products, Mr. Bauer said, but declined to mention their names.

OneChip has raised US\$50 million in financing to date, but only two rounds have been disclosed: Series B financing of US\$19.5 million, and the recent Series C announcement of US\$18 million.

The company now has 84 employees, Mr. Bauer said, with all but eight of them working at the headquarters in Ottawa.

Participating parties in the Series-C round included four existing investors: the Business Development Bank of Canada, Growthworks, Morgenthaler Ventures and DCM. A new investor, Northwater Capital Management Inc., also came on board.

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