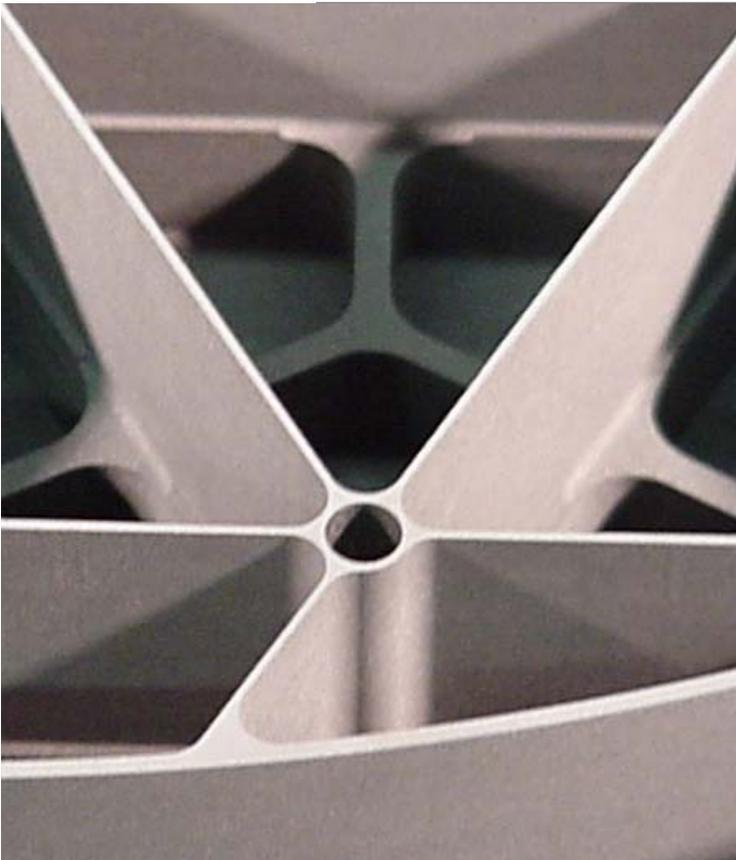


# **POCO SuperSiC SiC Mirror for Cryo-Characterization**



**John M. Casstevens  
Dallas Optical Systems, Inc.,  
Rockwall, Texas**

**Abuagela Rashed, Ronald Plummer,  
Rob Gates, Donald J. Bray  
POCO Graphite, Decatur, Texas**

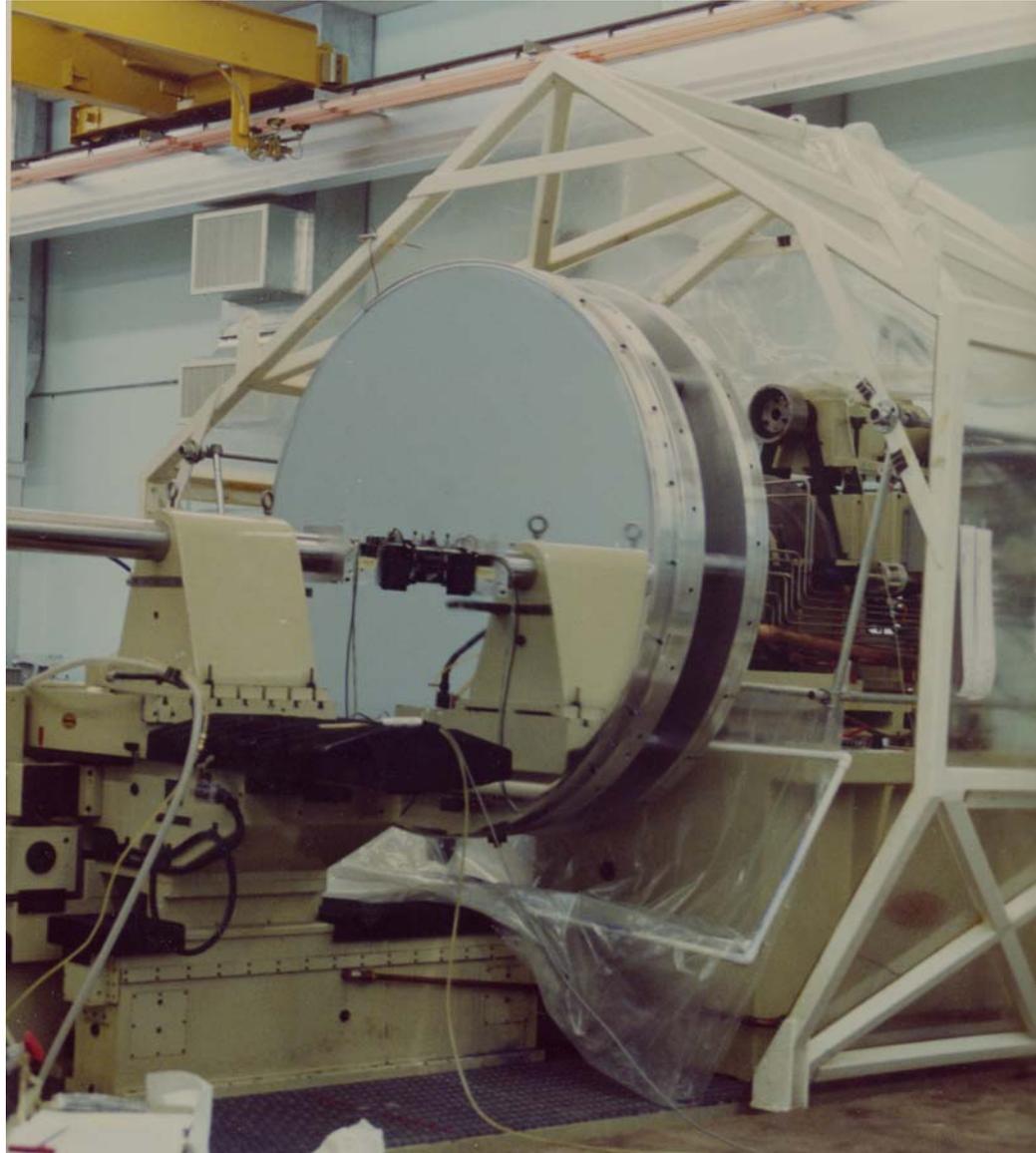
# Outline

- **Introduction**
- **Silicon Carbide Characteristics**
- **Poco SuperSiC Manufacturing Process**
- **SuperSiC Mirror Design**

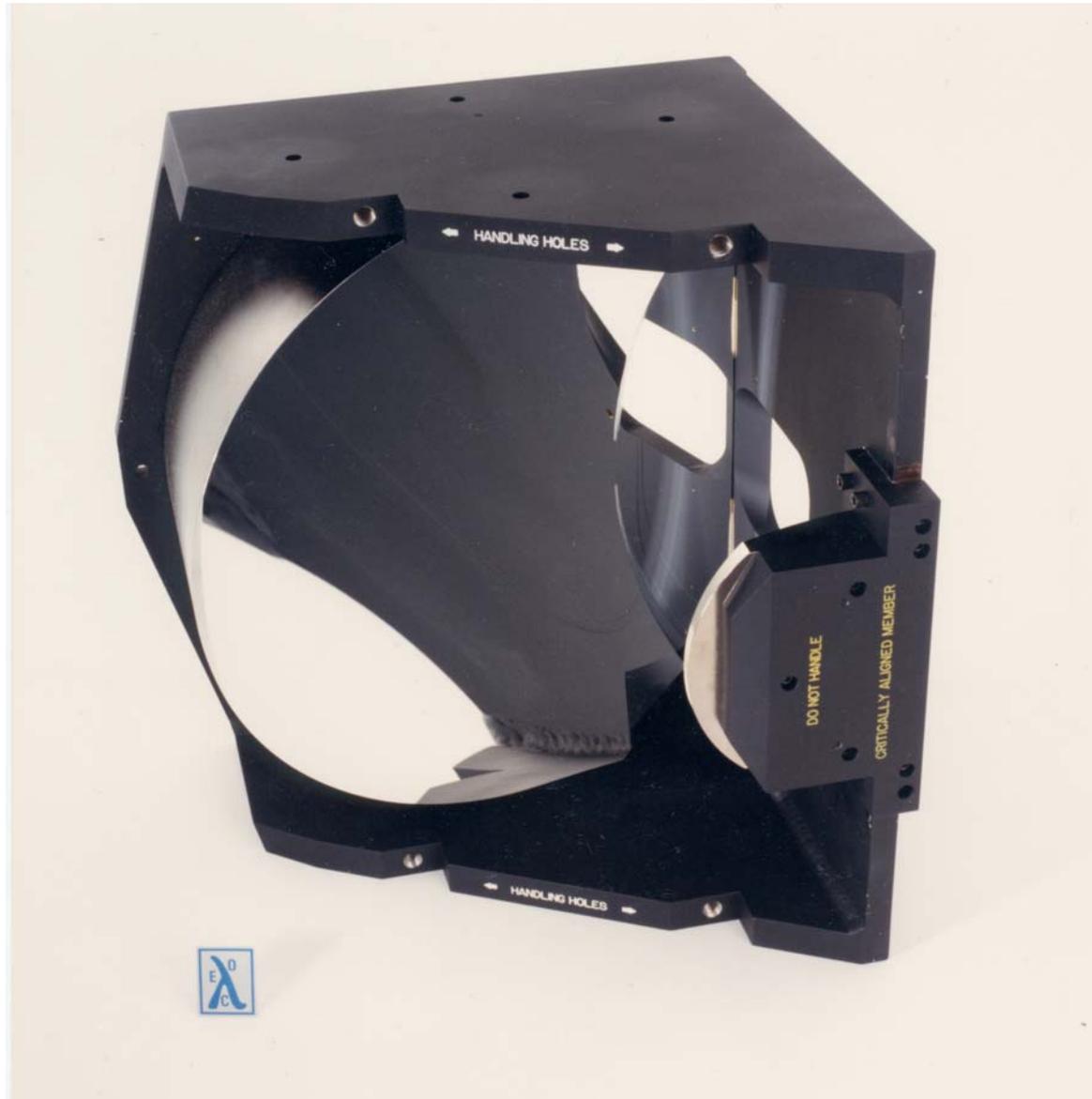
# **Dallas Optical Systems, Inc.**

- **Established 1991**
- **Rockwall, Texas**
- **Diamond turning, optical polishing, electroforming of optical molds.**
- **Precision engineering consultants**

# M-40 Diamond Turning Machine



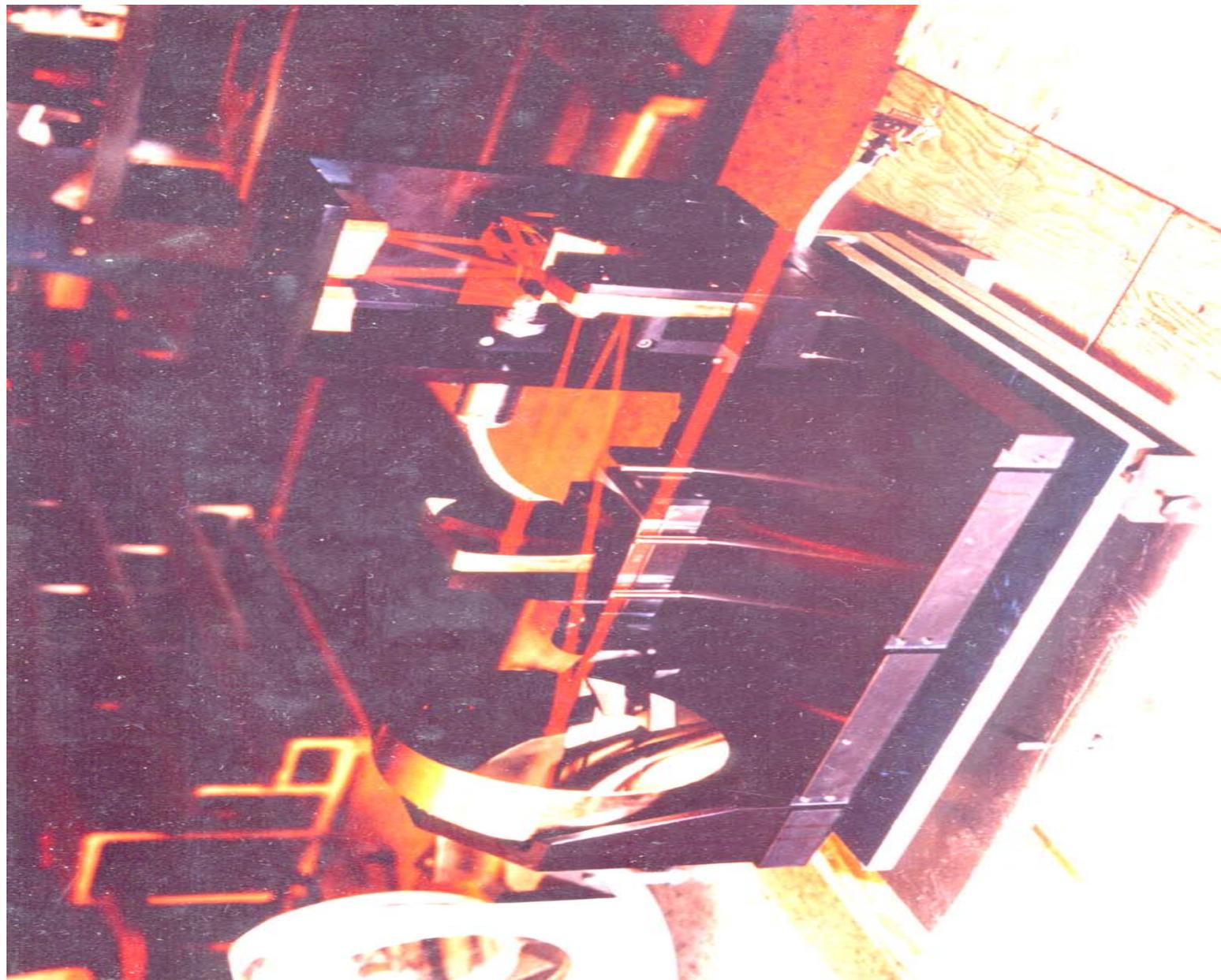
# Diamond Turned Northrup CASS Collimator



# Diamond Turned Boeing Collimator



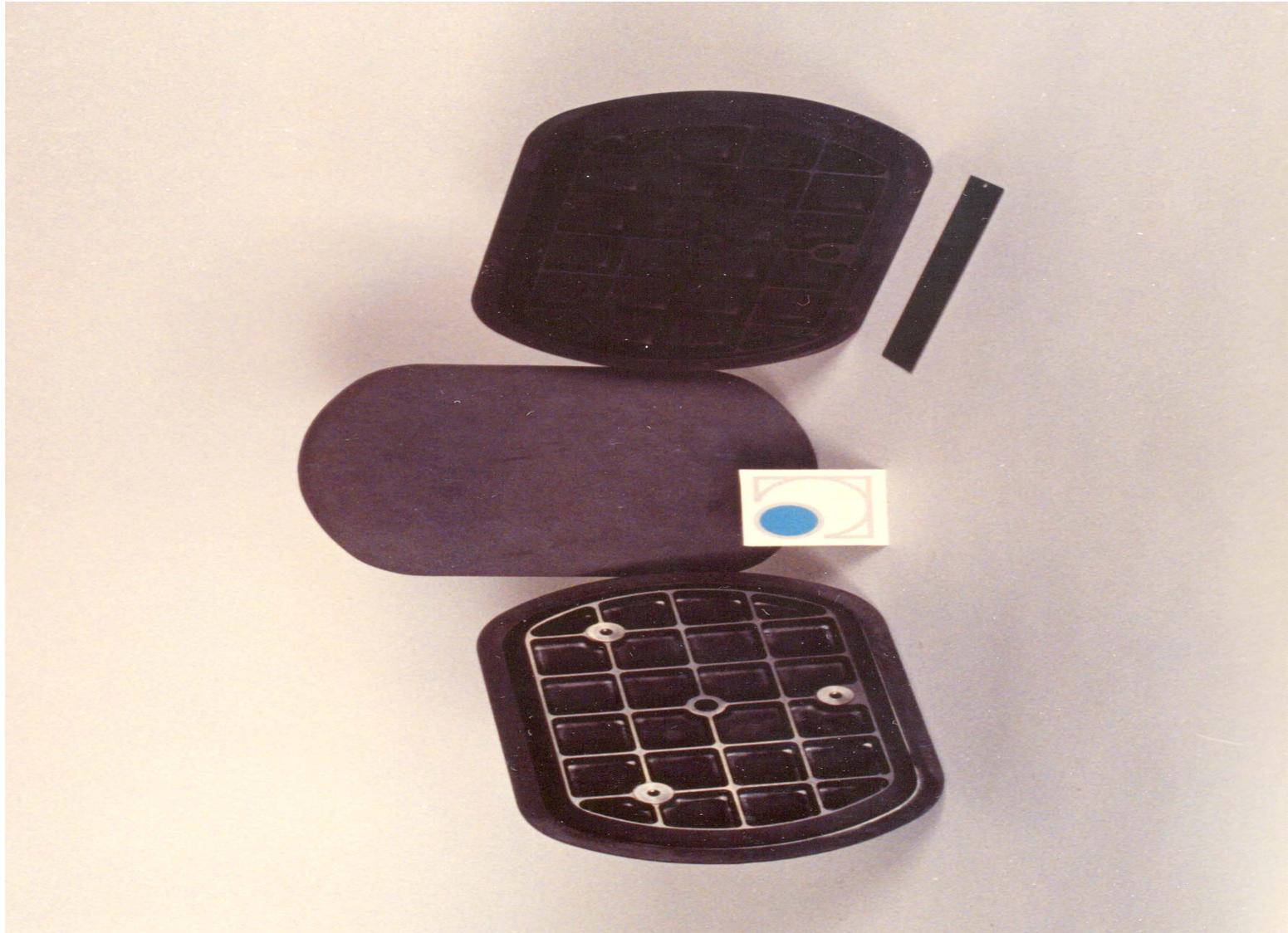
# Photo of Diamond Turned LTV Collimator



# Slip Cast SiC Scan Mirrors for Northrup CASS



# Slip Cast SiC Convex Ellipsoid Mirror for SDC, Wide Field of View (WFOV) Sensor



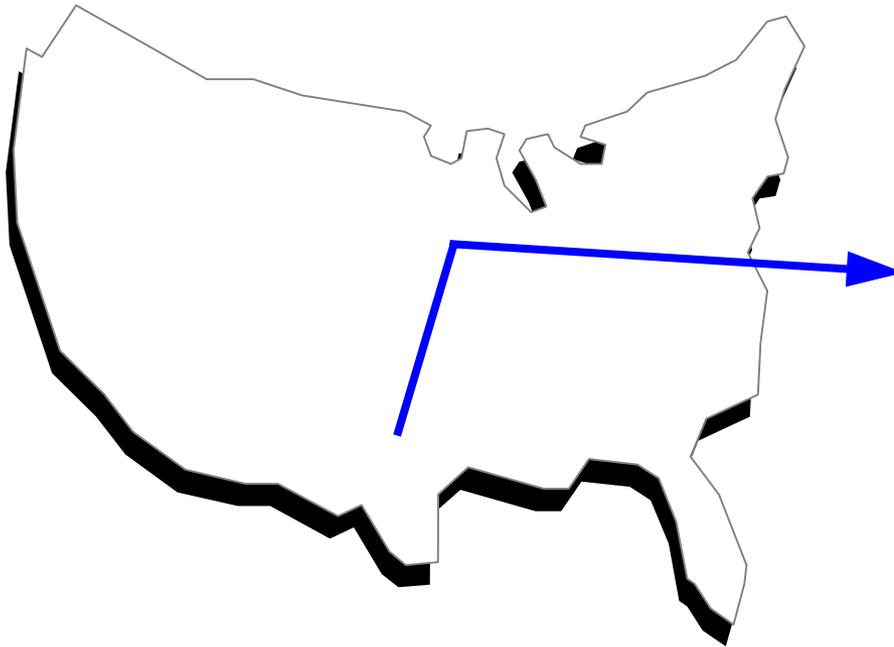
# History of POCO

---

- 1962** Fine particle size graphite developed; POCO is spun-off from LTV Corporation
- 1964** Acquired by Pure Oil Co.
- 1965** Pure merged with Union Oil Co. of California
- 1985** Union Oil Co became UNOCAL.  
POCO develops new materials
- 2000** Leverage Buyout by SC Capital and Whitney -  
POCO becomes private, independent company  
with strong management team

# Poco Graphite

**Decatur, TX**



- **Offices in Chicago, San Jose, Lyons, Frankfurt, Singapore, Shanghai**
- **320 employees**
- **\$60 million+ sales**

**Decatur is located near the Dallas/Ft. Worth Metroplex**

# POCO-COI Partnership

- **POCO and COI have signed a Joint Technology Development Agreement for SiC technology for aerospace applications.**
- **POCO**
  - **Unique SiC Conversion Technology**
  - **Manufacturing SiC Components**
  - **SiC Coatings**
- **COI**
  - **Engineering Capability**
  - **Program Applications**
  - **Existing COI-Ceramics Business (Approx. \$8M/yr revenue)**
  - **Experience with C-SiC materials development (IABG)**

# Silicon Carbide for Optics and Precision Components

- **Best overall for precision applications.**
- **Extraordinary dimensional stability.**
- **Strong material in the range of steels.**
- **Very stiff, Young's Modulus  $\geq$  Beryllium.**
- **High thermal conductivity, k approaches aluminum.**
- **Low thermal expansion,  $2.2 \times 10^{-6}/K$ .**
- **Low density, Approximately the same as aluminum.**

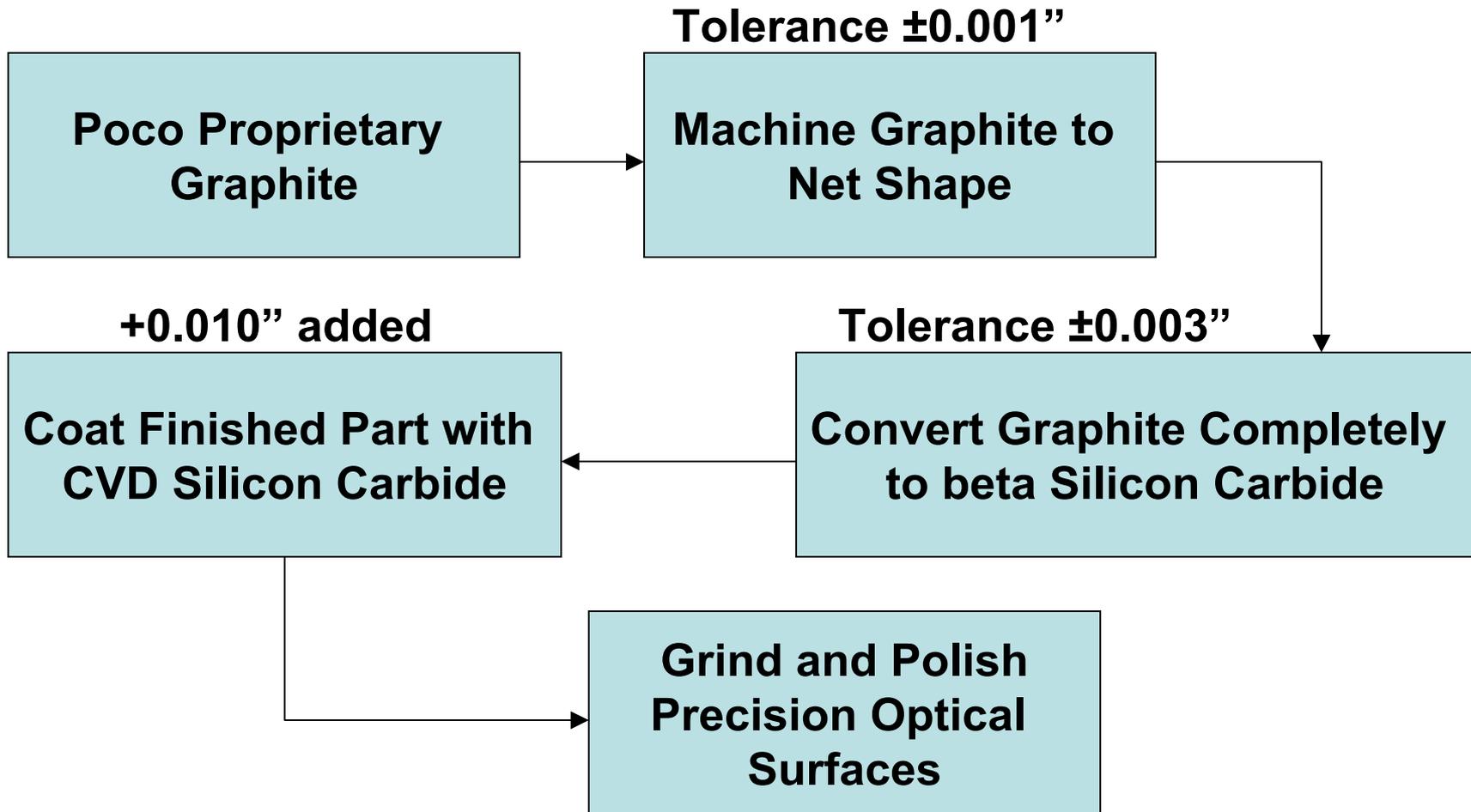
# SuperSiC Compared to Other Optical Materials

Material	Density (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	Elastic Modulus (GPa)	Thermal Expansion (ppm/K)	Thermal Conductivity (Wm·K)	Thermal Distortion a/k	Thermal Distortion a/D
					Steady	Transient
Beryllium	1.9	287	11.4	190	0.060	N/A
Aluminum	2.7	68	23.6	170	0.134	0.483
Zerodur	2.5	92	0.0	1.6	0.0	0.0
Fused Silica	2.1	72	0.5	1.5	0.333	52.176
Silicon	2.3	110	3.8	125	0.030	0.064
<b>POCO's SiC</b>	<b>2.55</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>R.T: 19</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>0.011</b>	<b>0.019</b>
<b>POCO's Si/SC</b>	<b>2.93</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>R.T: 19</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>0.009</b>	<b>0.014</b>

# Obstacles to Wide Spread Use of Silicon Carbide

- **Silicon Carbide is harder and stronger than most other optical materials. Diamond grinding is the only effective machining method for producing precision surfaces.**
- **Cost and time required for diamond grinding to remove large amounts of material is a major obstacle to wide use of SiC**
- **Previous methods of manufacturing SiC are not cost effective for small - lot production of precision components.**
- **- Slip cast reaction bonded SiC parts require extensive grinding because of dimensional changes in siliconizing and multiple drying and firing steps.**
- **Green machining hot pressed components before siliconizing/reaction bonding requires extensive grinding because of dimensional changes.**

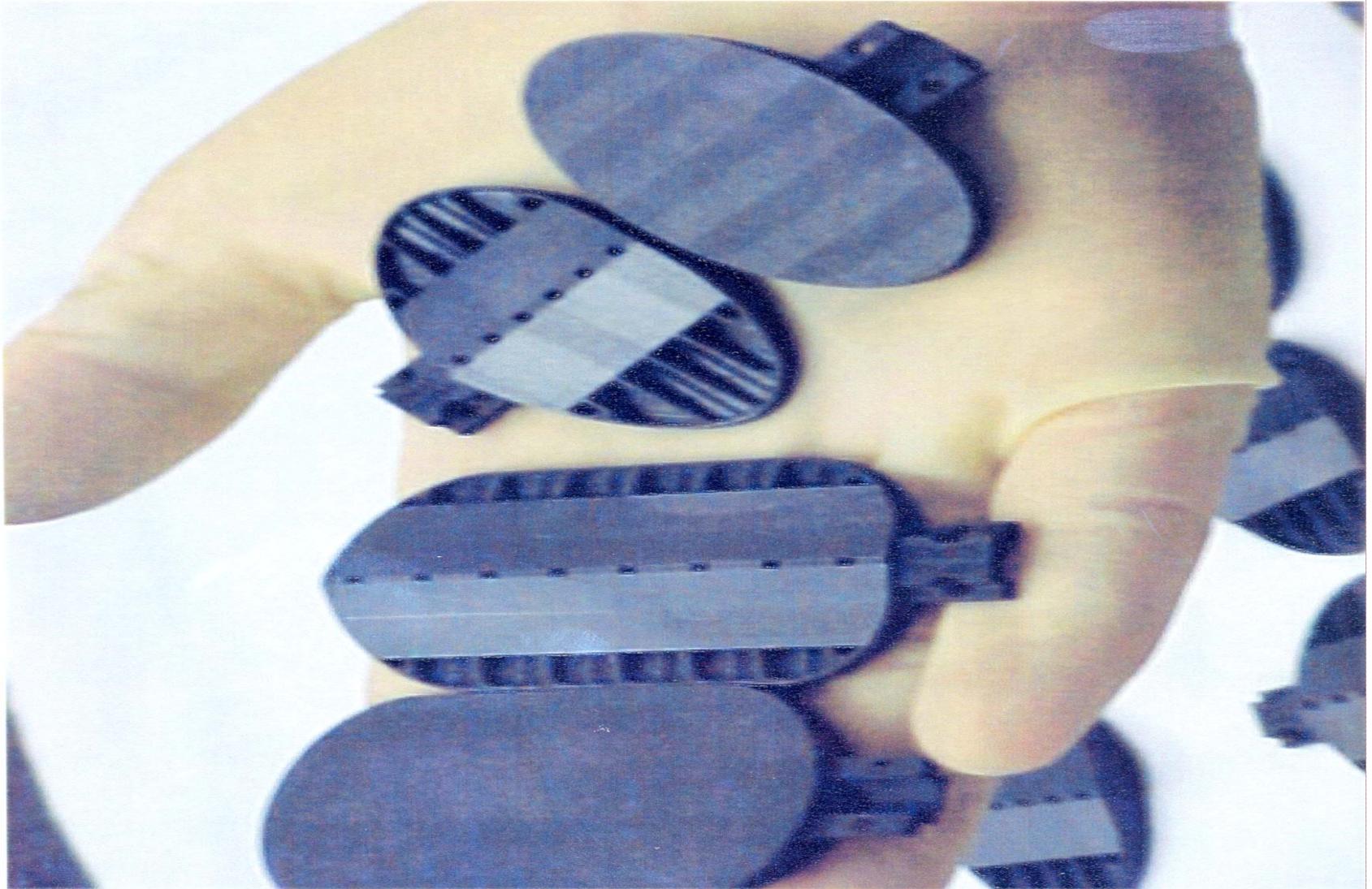
# Poco SuperSiC Process



# Direct Machining and Conversion

- **Very small and predictable growth means most tolerances can be met with no grinding required.**
- **High precision surfaces require only 0.002- 0.003” (50-75 $\mu$ m) of material removal.**
- **Direct machining of components means no molds or patterns are required.**
- **Direct machining and conversion means maximum flexibility and low cost for changes and small-lot production.**

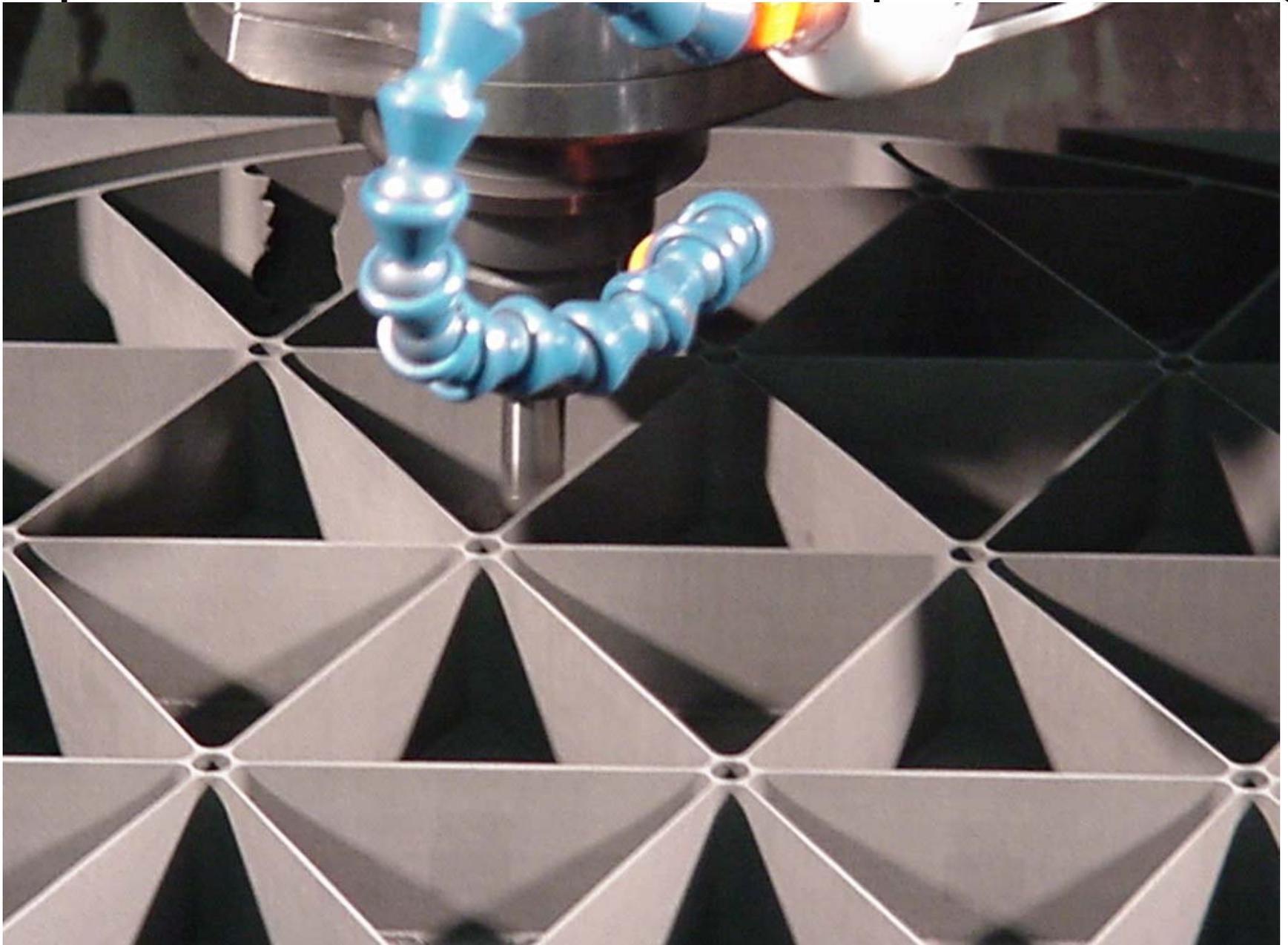
# Small POCO SuperSiC Scan Mirrors with Closed Back Structure



# POCO SuperSiC 200x300 mm Scan Mirror



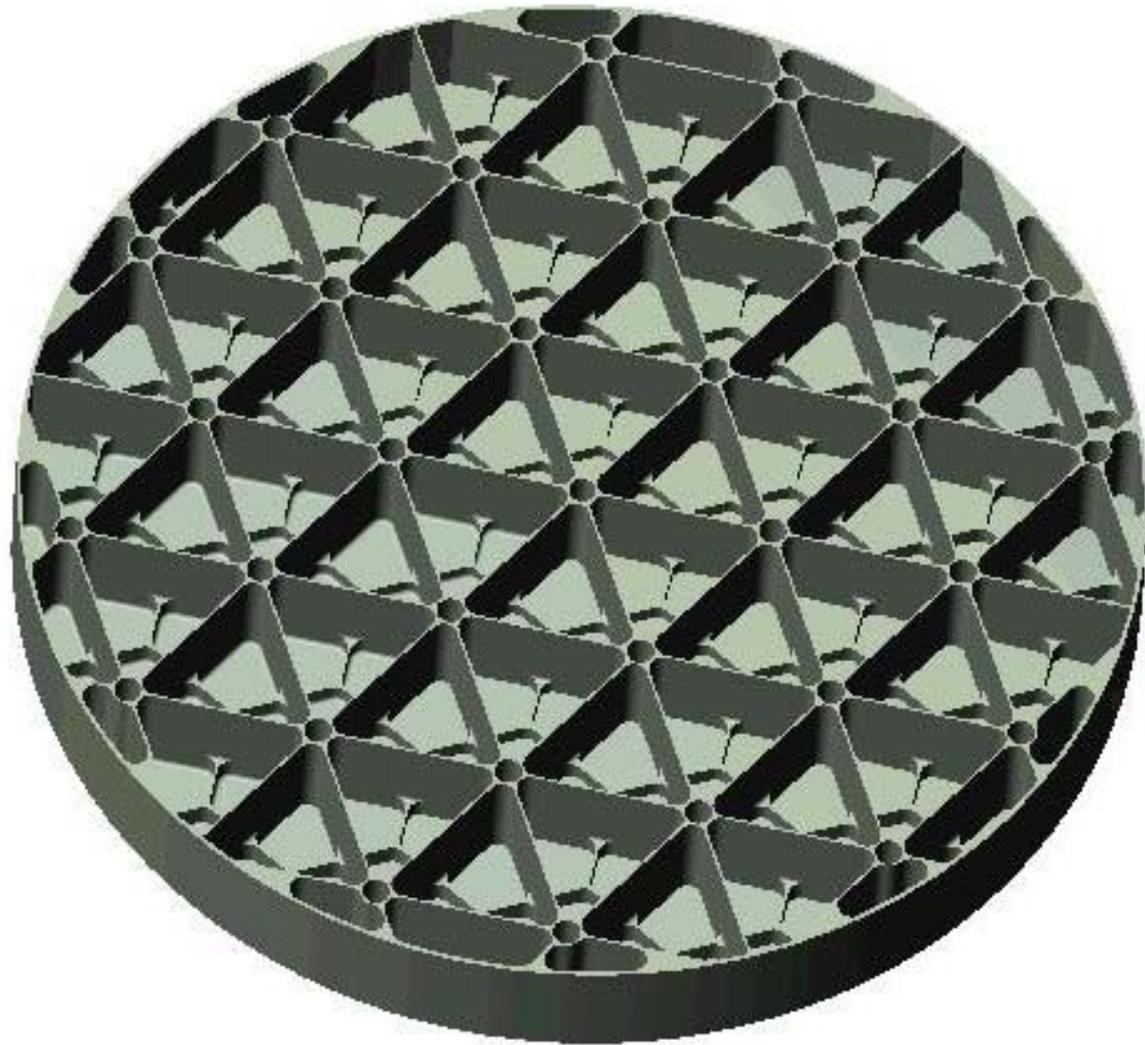
# SuperSiC Half Meter Mirror Graphite Machining



# **Specifications of Half Meter SuperSiC Flat Mirror**

- **Mirror weight: 2.6 Kg.(5.8 lbs.)**
- **Mirror Area: 0.201 Sq. meter**
- **Mirror Areal Density:13.06 Kg./ Sq.M.**
- **Thickness Dimension: 70 mm (2.75")**
- **Faceplate Thickness: 1.5 mm (0.060")**
- **Rib thickness: 1.0 mm (0.04")**

# CAD Isometric of 1/4 Meter Spherical Mirror



# Specifications of 1/4 Meter Spherical Mirror

- **Mirror weight: 1.03 Kg.(2.28 lbs.)**
- **Mirror Area: 0.051Sq. meter**
- **Mirror Areal Density: 20.2 Kg./ Sq.M.**
- **Thickness Dimension: 50.8 mm (2.0")**
- **Faceplate Thickness: 1.5 mm (0.060")**
- **Rib thickness: 1.0 mm (0.040")**
- **Mirror Radius of Curvature: 3 meters (118")**

**GRAIN GROWTH DURING CONVERSION  
ALLOWS FEATURES SUCH AS CLOSED  
BACKS, RIBS AND APPENDAGES TO  
BE INCORPORATED INTO PRECISION  
PARTS.**

# **Current POCO SuperSiC Size Capacity**

- **Size of Graphite Billet: 60" x 24" x 6"**
- **Size of Conversion Chamber: 24" x 36"**
- **Size of SiC CVD Chamber: 40" x 60"**
- **Conversion Bonding allows any size to be built from available graphite billets.**
- **Current limit on size is the Conversion Chamber 24" diameter.**

# Conclusions

- **POCO Graphite will deliver a 1/4 meter diameter spherical SuperSiC mirror for Cryo-Characterization in 16 weeks ARO.**
- **Radius of Curvature 3 meters.**
- **Optical figure error to be less than 1/2 Wave P-V at 0.63nm.**
- **Surface roughness less than 10 Angstroms rms.**