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Q Switching


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**Gain Switching**


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Mode Locking


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**Pulse Characterization**


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See also R. Paschotta, *Encyclopedia of Laser Physics and Technology*, which covers many topics of this Field Guide. The online version is freely usable by the public at http://www.rp-photonics.com/encyclopedia.html. The print version is available via Wiley-VCH, Germany.
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Rüdiger Paschotta is an expert in lasers and amplifiers, nonlinear optics, fiber technology, laser pulses, and noise in optics. He started his scientific career in 1994 with a PhD thesis in the field of quantum optics, and thereafter focused on applied research, covering a wide range of laser-related topics. He is the author or coauthor of over 100 scientific journal articles, over 120 international conference presentations, and several book chapters. He is also the author of the well-known Encyclopedia of Laser Physics and Technology (p. 116). His successful academic career includes his habilitation at ETH Zürich and his attainment of the Fresnel Prize of the European Physical Society in 2002.

In 2004, Dr. Paschotta started RP Photonics Consulting GmbH, a technical consulting company based in Zürich, Switzerland (http://www.rp-photonics.com). He now serves companies in the photonics industry worldwide, working out feasibility studies and designs for lasers and other photonic devices, identifying and solving technical problems, finding suitable laser sources for specific applications, and performing staff training courses on specialized subjects. His work combines his extensive physics knowledge, his experience with an inventory of numerical modeling tools, a practically oriented mind, and a passion for constructive, interactive teamwork.