ESPROS Photonics AG St. Gallerstrasse 135 CH-7320 Sargans Switzerland www.espros.com

ESPROS AND BENEWAKE wake robot up!

Sargans, Switzerland and Beijing, China - September 28th, 2017

ESPROS Photonics AG and Chinese Benewake Incorporation have signed a frame agreement on the supply of a 6 digit number 3D TOF of sensor chips within the next 12 months for robotics and autopilot vehicles. This frame order concludes an engineering cooperation between both companies, in which ESPROS has matured the sensitivity of the epc600/epc610 product family and BENEWAKE has developed the DE LiDAR which is applied to obstacle avoidance, SLAM and AI applications. Moreover, BENEWAKE has developed a whole line of sensor products based on the ESPROS TOF chip family. The motto of BENEWAKE is to "wake robot up".

«I am working since 30 years on making Time-of-Flight chip sensors a reality», says Beat De Coi, CEO and founder of ESPROS Photonics. «Yuan Li and his motivated team from BENEWAKE have impressed me from the beginning. Their spirit and hard work have earned them the recognition of the Chinese venture capital scene and the robotics industry. BENEWAKE has won several startup awards in the most competitive Chinese environment. Their development speed is breath taking. I am extremely proud that BENEWAKE chose our sensor chips for their LiDAR. Their LiDARs show excellent performance in perception and SLAM.»

Launch of first generation Lidar System

«Among our main shareholders are Chinese vacuum cleaner manufacturers» explains Yuan Li, CEO and founder of Beijing based BENEWAKE. Robots and Automated Guided Vehicles (AGV) are the pioneers in the field of autonomous driving. Therefore, car makers are carefully watching our development steps. I became aware of ESPROS sensor chips by introduction of their distributor Suffice, that they provide the functionality that we need for our LiDAR, ES-PROS helped us to deeply know their various chip operation modes, and bring very valuable TOF application experience into our design, which further contribute to integrate EPSPROS chips into BENEWAKE LiDAR system.

With this first frame contract we supply the launch of our first generation Lidar system. Several other projects are under development and we see this only as a start for a long and fruitful cooperation».

About ESPROS Photonics

ESPROS Photonics develops and produces photosensitive semiconductors for challenging industrial and scientific applications. For this purpose, ESPROS has developed and industrialized a dedicated CMOS process technology. The ESPROS Photonic CMOS[™] process is a unique offering in todays semiconductor markets.

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ESPROS was founded in 2006 and is financed by private investors. Today, the company employs over 60 people and realizes projects for well renowned customers from automotive, industry, aerospace, automation and science. The product portfolio reaches from standard TOF imagers, classic foundry services on ESPROS' unique OHC15LTM process to providing the complete development and supply chain for demanding imager solutions.

About Benewake

Benewake CO., LTD is a solid-state LIDAR company that focuses on "Robots eyes". The company received series A+ round investment by IDG capital, Shunwei Capital, and Ecovacs. In 2016 Benewake won Audi Innovation Award. Benewake's LiDAR is mainly used for drones, Robotics, and Autopilot vehicles to meet the requirements of auto-avoidance, simultaneous localization and mapping (SLAM), terrain following, and RGBD object recognition.





Caption picture left: Beat De Coi, CEO and founder ESPROS Photonics and Yuan Li, CEO and founder BENEWAKE, in agreement for long term partnership for "waking robots up".

Caption picture right: A team of Benewake engineers visiting ESPROS Headquarters in Sargans, Switzerland.

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