



The world needs better ideas. I didn't give up on mine. Don't give up on yours.

Robert Camastro

CEO's Note

Dear Readers,

I wish you a happy and prosperous new year! Trust that all your dreams come true in 2019!

Let me share some critical political and social topics this time about Switzerland: The Swiss people believe that here is everything better: The mountains are more beautiful, the streets cleaner, the water more clear, the meadows greener, the bureaucracy smaller, the state more slim, the railway more punctual, the clockworks more accurate. But there are dark clouds on the sky and some signs of adversity are already visible: Congested roads, with pesticide contaminated water, urban sprawl, increasing bureaucracy, growing state, a stumbling railway system. Just the clocks are ticking like ever. And the people? What is their main concern: What is my next vacation destination? Which is the cheapest flight? Shall my destination be the Maldives, or Bangkok, or trekking in Nepal?

Welcome in the land of the self-satisfied! Switzerland is happy with itself. A conservatism well-fed by almost endless prosperity spreading out, in politics and in the society. The «success model» Switzerland has to be preserved. But is this enough to enjoy success, prosperity and social peace also in the future?

I'm sure, many of the the people in well developed economies have a similar thinking. Capitalism and free market economy created an

unknown prosperity for so many people. This is without any question a huge success, but with some adverse effects. Especially in Switzerland. In our success-spoiled leisure community, the significance of work is declining. Those who can reduce their workload and dedicate themselves to the beauty of life. A community arises who reveals itself green, is concerned about the climate but cannot wait to book the next flight for leisure. The necessity to accomplish more? Obsolete. If somebody wants to do more recognizes soon, that it does not pay back due to the tax progression. Thus, standing still became attractive because going forward is not needed anymore. Of course, not everyone is thinking this way in Switzerland. And my statements were by purpose quite «black-and-white». But the sweetness of the fruits is irresistible for so many Swiss. My hope is that we, as a nation, can find back to competitiveness without a big clash and a massive downswing. We, all around the world with ESPROS, do the opposite: We strive to achieve more than you expect, or in other words, being non-typical modern Swiss!

My apologies for this kind of political statement at the beginning of this year. But I'm convinced there will be serious challenges ahead and, by using the words of Albert Einstein, «we can't solve the problems the same kind of thinking we used when we created them» we will run into serious problems if we do not start thinking out of the box.

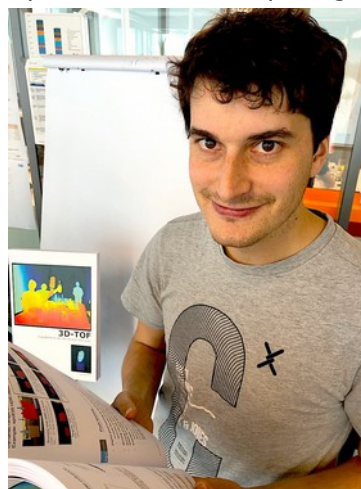
Beat De Coi

Brand New TOF Book from ESPROS

The TOF Developer Conference in San Francisco coming soon by the end of this month. This conference provides the important ingredients to make TOF systems work first-time-right. In order to support the engineers with comprehensive documentation and tools about theory, background and application information, we handover the brand new book, «3D-TOF – A guideline to 3D-TOF sensors that work» by Beat De Coi to all attendees of the TOF Developer Conference.

On 200 pages, all relevant topics about to understand the background and how to implement TOF Systems are presented in a very comprehensive way. In addition, lots of useful system design information are published like the reflectivity of more than 50 different materials, the spectral power of sunlight (day and night), optical power calculation, eye safety considerations, and so on. Please note that this book is not for sale.

TOF Developer Conference attendees and ESPROS evaluation system customers only will get a copy.



Engineer with TOF book (heavy stuff...)

TOF Developer Conference in San Francisco

With a full audience last September at Swissmem Zurich, the ESPROS application engineering team taught over two-and-a-half days the essence of TOF implementations. A successful event with very satisfied participants motivated us to provide this



Hands-on work to enforce the topics learned with useful practical examples

lecture again, but this time in the US and later in the year also in China. One of the participants commented after the past issue of the lecture: "The depth of knowledge and understanding is a convincing argument to recommend the course to others."

Another participant said: "Before the academy, I was hesitant about designing a TOF system. But during and after the course, I gained the self-confidence to deploy this technology."

Such nice compliments for our first staging of the TOF academy.

A survey after the course gave an overall satisfaction rate of more than 90 percent. Even experienced camera design engineers were able to learn a lot about the important differences between 2D and 3D camera design.

The participants of the TOF Developer Conference learn how important it is to have a deep understanding of underlying optical physics, a behavioral model of the imager used, the effects of good or bad lenses etc. and an excellent understanding of the artifacts, to do a successful design of a TOF camera. With a mix of theoretical background, guidelines to working implementations based on examples and practical work, the lecture gives a very good overview of how to improve the challenging knowledge about TOF systems.

The lecture consists of 10 lessons, supported with more than 300 slides provided in the comprehensive 3D-TOF book as presented on the other side of this CHIPS issue. A lot to talk about and a lot to learn.

There are two additional editions planned in China and maybe other places in Asia and in Europe. TOF needs to be deployed now! The basic needed for that are engineers with a deep understanding of the technical background.



January 29-31, 2019 at Mission Bay Conference Center at UCSF

Register now!

Places are limited, first come – first serve

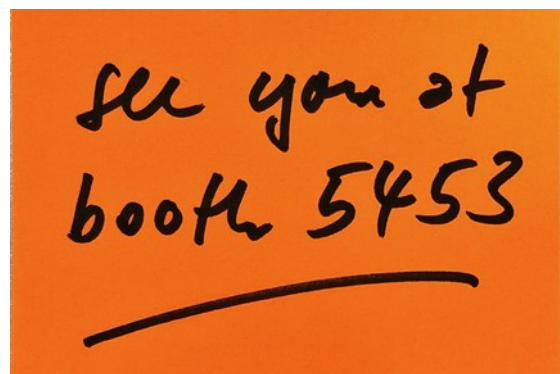
Photonics West: Save the date!

SPIE Photonics West — The world's largest photonics technologies event, consisting of three conferences and two world-class exhibitions takes place again on 5 February – 7 February 2019 in the Moscone Center San Francisco.

We are looking forward to your visit at our booth 5453! See our new products and technologies:

- LiDAR imager
- 20 Million frames per second imager
- TOF>cam 635
- Preview of the TOF>cam 660
- TOF>range 611
- TOF>frame 611

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