



Our visions start with our desires.

unknown

CEO's Note

Dear Reader,

The word «vision» comes from «to see». To have a vision is to be able to visualize how something will look in the future and how e.g. a company, market, technology etc. could look in five or even ten years time. Depending on how clear the view of the future is, the better for finding the most direct route to the future. You immediately ask yourself, how, for heaven's sake, can you know how something will look in many years' time? Clairvoyants are considered extinct. And guessing is neither a recommended nor reliable method. No, in order to be able to «see» the future, one has to deal with his or her specific situation, and all relevant developments such as the market, society, technology, politics among other things. Hence, you can arrive at a conclusion of what will happen in short, medium and long time period. In other words, a vision.

In order to be really successful and faster than the competition, one must have a clear vision to mould the development of the own future. Just as Bill Gates of Microsoft did. My simple understanding:

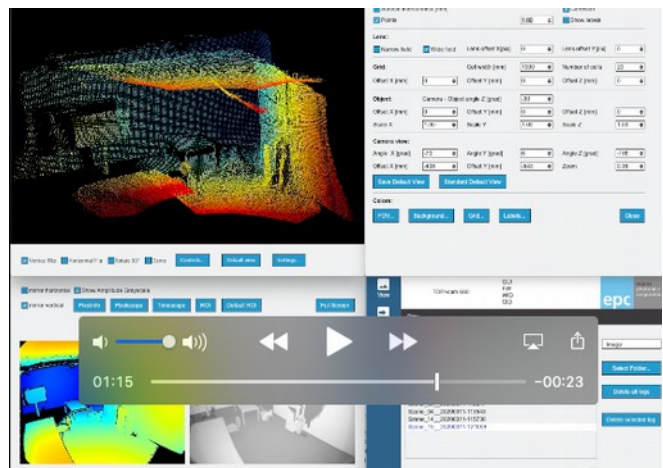
He realised that the application program is not the centerpiece to control the computer business. He recognized forty years ago that the operating system of the computer is the important thing. And so he invested into the operating system. Many computer nerds laughed at him because of the «simple» MS-DOS running on PC-1 computers. And the conglomerated «know-betters» still laughed as Microsoft Windows 1.0 speared the market place. In all fairness, at first glance, Windows 1.0 was not not really breath taking. But built around the standard MS-DOS, the triumphal procession of Windows could not be stopped anymore. Betting on the operating system forty years ago was really visionary in my eyes!

Well, the Coronavirus has the potential to change the whole society. It's possible, that the world looks different afterwards. We will see, who has the vision to be the first and strongest player dominating modern society, call it world 2.0!

Beat De Coi

New features in TOFcam-660 GUI

The new streaming feature allows recording of 3D TOF data from TOFcam-660. Depending on lens distortion and camera calibration the GUI transforms the distance data to an x-y-z point cloud. The 3D point cloud viewer allows to zoom in and out, turn the scenery around its axis or display from front, side or top. Additional nice features such as hide or show axis and grids, change point size, surface interconnect, perspective or parallel-projection view etc. allow to analyze and visualize the point cloud data on your computer with or without a camera connected. Of course the original TOF frames as distance and amplitude are still available with the recorded data set. This extended functionality allows a user to get his application started much faster. A very helpful feature for object recognition, classification or tracking.



Check out this video!

Interview with Tobias Blättler; Senior Engineer Digital IC Design

What are your responsibilities at ESPROS?
I specify, implement and test new blocks and optimize the global chip layout. I'm the interface for analog, digital and pixel design and have an eye on power. Tests for tapeout, finalizing the reticle design for the mask shop and being the interface to the fab are my final tasks on our design schedule.

How long are you with ESPROS?
I have just completed my third year.

Where are you coming from?
I was born in Hergiswil, which is close to Lucerne, but grew up in a town close to Zurich. After completing my studies at the University of Applied Science FHNW, I got my first microelectronics job in Brügg/Biel.

What do you like about Switzerland?

Being born in Switzerland is very fortunate. In terms of birth places, I think I won the lottery! From our history, I believe we enjoy the greatest freedom of any country in the world covering all aspects of life. We have benefited from this and defended it in the past. I hope we can keep that.

What do you like in your job most?

In terms of my daily schedule, there are always plenty of new things to learn. I like being able to react promptly to whatever arises and the challenge of constantly striving for improvements in how we tackle our tasks. Our value chain is exceptional, as almost everyone in the company is a key-player in his/her field. Therefore, we all have tremendous trust in each member of our team.

Can you tell us about your hobbies?

I would call myself a thoroughbred engineer, as I am interested in all forms of technical development. But I am also interested in the phenomena of life that cannot be explained by today's science. In my spare time I perform magic and I enjoy skating.

With your extensive studies and experience in a very complex area, what would you say is the most important thing you have learned?

Ironically, of all the things I have learned, perhaps the most important centers on what we don't know! I firmly believe we should recognize that we are part of something that we can never fully understand with our very limited consciousness. It does



Magic performance of Tobias

not matter what you call it, but we can observe nature and recognize what is right. We need to learn to act more responsible in how we use our time on Earth. The universe has enough time to wait - even for another humanity.

Coronavirus and ESPROS: Interview with Beat De Coi

Beat, what company measures have you taken to deal with the threat of the Coronavirus?

You immediately have several key concerns: How can we keep going? Will there be a shut down? How to reduce the risk of infection? What will happen with our customers? What is the impact on the supply chain? These, among other questions, have to be answered. Not once, but every day if the situation changes. In order to reduce the infection risk, we separated access to our production area from the rest of the facility. Also the cafeteria looks a bit weird. We separated all tables and are allowing just two people to sit on one table so the required safety distance is maintained. Employees from different departments use different stairs to minimize interaction. Needless to say, we have hand sanitizer points virtually everywhere. Every morning, senior management meets for a status update and review of the planning for the day. Just to name a few measures.

Do you expect any interruption to supplies of ESPROS products?

Currently not. I can confirm that the production lines operate virtually normal. Currently, we do not anticipate any disruption to deliveries or development. Indeed, I am pleased to add: we are continuously getting a growing number of orders in, which I'm confident, we will be able to fulfill them. Even in this difficult time, our outlook is positive!



Open doors, posts and meeting rooms with large distances between the participants.

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