CHIPS.

Newsletter
February 2022

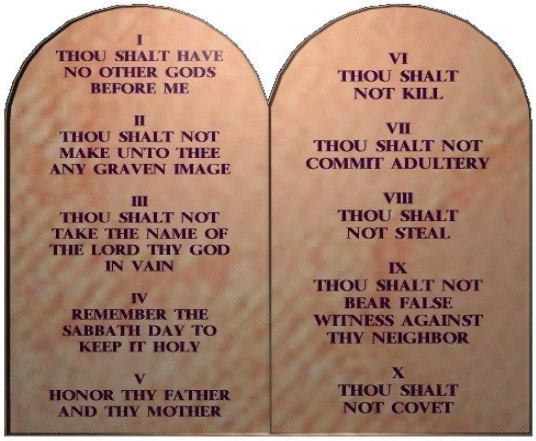
Imagination is everything. It is the preview of the coming events of life.

Albert Einstein

CEO's Note

Dear Reader,

It's terrible what's happening so close to us. Invasion of Russian troops in Ukraine. And it doesn't seem to be just a limited action in the Donbas, which would be bad enough in itself. No, the intention is, at least it seems so from today's perspective, to annex the whole of Ukraine. One would not have believed that such a brutal invasion of a peaceful country with a democratically elected government was still possible in the 21st century. I sincerely hope that the evening of February 21, 2022 will not go down in history as the start of World War III. And I wish the Ukrainian people and their government to be able to repel the enemy. But it is also bad when the love, peace and happiness community in the West suddenly wants to stand up to the despots from Russia with almost unimaginable means. The same people who created the power vacuum in the West.



It's in the nature of things that if the envelope around it leaks, a vacuum will be filled with something. It is terribly bad if the (new) content is unwanted. The German (red-green-yellow) government recently approved a budget with military spending of one hundred billion euros. You could say it's better late than never. Still, the power vacuum is there and has opened the floodgates to Putin and his entourage, in this case the Ukraine. We already got a first taste of his insidious determination when Crimea was annexed on March 18, 2014. Wasn't this campaign foreseeable? What's next? The Baltic States?

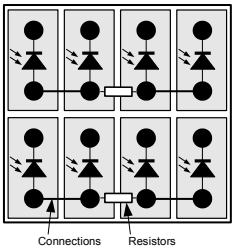
Despots like Putin and his accomplices should be banished from the face of the earth and brought to justice! I hope that SpaceX will soon be able to fly further than Mars and never back with such unwanted earthlings.

Beat De Coi

PS: The sixth commandment means: "Thou shalt not kill."

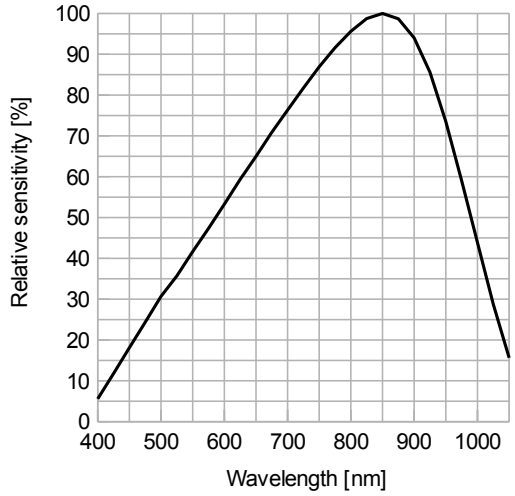
Photo diode arrays epc3xx

The epc3xx family products are high-sensitive photodiode arrays for light-barrier, light-curtain and the like applications. They are designed to be used in a reverse-bias mode with a bias voltage between 1.5 and 20 Volts. The individual diodes feature a very high quantum efficiency of 90% in the near IR range and a response time less than 100 ns. The advanced Chip Scale Package (CSP) makes them ideal for miniaturized systems where a minimal space requirement is key (0.5 x 1.0 mm per diode).



epc320 with 8 photo diodes

Ideal applications are angular or linear encoders, very low cost triangulation sensors and the like. Due to its very low crosstalk, channel separation is a key feature.



Best in class PD array's NIR sensitivity

Find out more here.

Stefano, Marketing & Communication Manager

What are your responsibilities at ESPROS?

I'm the new marketing & communication manager. My job is to spread the word. The word about fantastic products, a great team in a great company with a great future. I got to know about ESPROS while working for CEDES, which is a global leader in sensor solutions, and one of its key customers. ESPROS is living a fantastic moment. The atmosphere is very inspiring. The company is growing, so please click here and get an overview of the currently available positions.

How long have you been working with ESPROS?

I started my work with ESPROS first of February 2022.

What do you most enjoy about working with ESPROS?

ESPROS' history inspired me, and its products and technology, with the increasing impact it has on our daily lives, made me more and more curious. The possible fields of application are the most diverse, and it's potential is quite staggering. Microchips are changing the world we live in, and I am glad to have become part of this story.

Where are you from and where do you live?

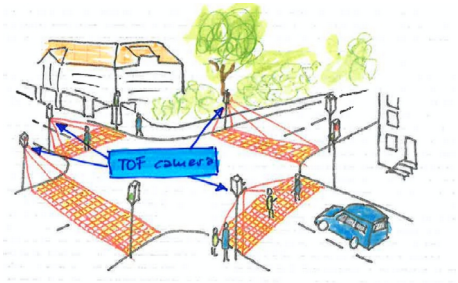
I'm an Italian, but I just came all the way from China, where I have spent the last 8 years. Currently, I live in the small but beautiful town Maienfeld.

What do you like doing in your spare time?

The years spent in Asia, with the chance to be exposed to different cultures and environments, were so precious. They also enable me to look around with fresh eyes, now that I am back here, in my beloved Europe. Thus, my first focus is to explore the beauty of the wonderful Rhine Valley. Actually, the young River Rhine, which becomes one of the most important rivers in Europe in terms of water traffic.

Confucius said: "The wise man enjoys the water, the benevolent enjoys the mountain." By hiking in Switzerland I will possibly become more wise and benevolent.

TOFcam-660 to improve traffic flow



As road traffic is set to continually and exponentially increase, intelligent traffic systems are also set to become much more commonplace. Again the epc660 TOF chip lies at the heart of this revolution, as it is the foundation upon which the ESPROS' TOFcam-660, a cost optimized 3D camera, is based. This camera is ideal for pedestrian crossing detection and object recognition at busy junctions.

It is based on ESPROS proprietary time-of-flight technology using the epc660 TOF chip. The camera controls the illumination and the imager chip to obtain distance and grayscale images. The depth images are compensated against ambient light, temperature and reflectivity of the scene. Thanks to the high performance of the imager chip with the unique ambient light suppression, the camera can be used in many cases under full sunlight conditions. The TOFcam-660 outputs depth and grayscale images – allowing a variety of new applications, e.g. for mobile robotics. This module brings you right to the forefront with the latest technology in 3D depth sensing. All the complex engineering and time consuming design tasks regarding optics, illumination and signal processing have already been solved. More details about the TOFcam-660 can be found here.

++ Be part of our team and click here for our current job opportunities ++