



**A dream doesn't become reality through magic; it takes sweat, determination and hard work.**

*Colin Powell*

## CEO's Note

Dear Reader,

Change is one of the most solid certainties we have in life. Being aware of this allows us to deal with it properly and effectively.

ESPROS is growing fast and it is a fantastic time when we are experiencing operational challenges. Experiencing this was my dream when I founded ESPROS in 2006. It's here, even though there is a huge uncertainty due to emerging political conflicts, power plays by crazy despots, and an energy disaster in the old world based on home grown political utopia.

I'm happy with the growth of the company, especially under these difficult boundary conditions. Thus, it seems that our business is quite robust. I can share the secrets of our position: a powerful

technology, extensive application know-how, and a market with limitless application potential.

Of course, all this also requires a high level of personal responsibility from all. A strong and united team and clear communication are paramount. Communication happens both by talking and listening, and is what enables understanding of goals, roles and responsibilities. Everyone's contribution is valuable and indispensable, and everyone has to facilitate the work of others. We must always be there for each other.

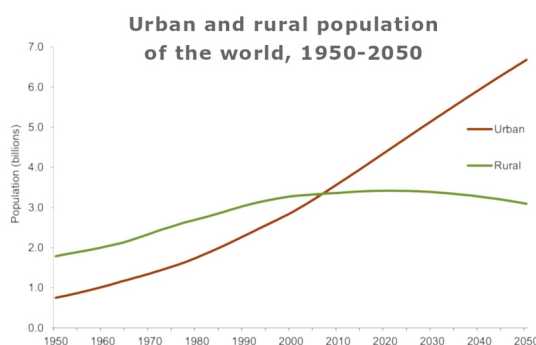
Excellence is our goal, it has always been so and it will always be. Strengthening our team spirit will help us continue to create and promote our culture of excellence.

Beat De Coi

## TOFcam-635: optimal for smart agriculture and mobile robotics

Things such as autonomous agriculture, autonomous mobile robots, AGVs and all related issues concerning smart 3D vision, collision avoidance, autonomous driving and so on are becoming more and more topical.

According to UN projections, the world population will grow steadily in the coming years and is expected to be 9.8 billion in 2050. This will lead to an increasing need for agricultural production, which will be accompanied by a trend of decreasing rural population in favor of urban population.

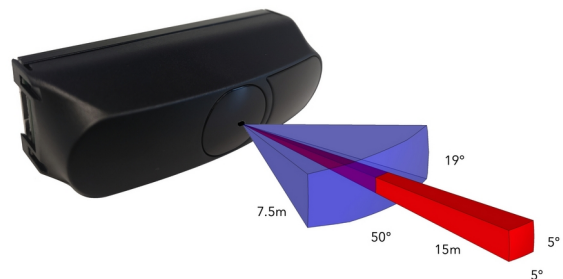


Source: *World Urbanization Prospects 2018 - Highlights (UN)*

In this scenario, it is fair to imagine an expanding use of autonomous vehicles in farming activities, in order to fill this gap.

Also recent 'pandemic-induced' global logistics backlog has ramped up pressure on distribution centers to process and ship materials, boosting the need for reliable and efficient automation.

For such applications, ESPROS [TOFcam-635](#) is an ideal solution. With a resolution of 160 x 60 pixel, and a working range of up to 15 m, it is a 3D Time-of-flight camera with an excellent price-performance ratio.

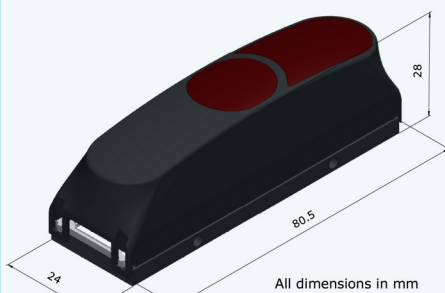








It has the unparalleled Ambient Light Suppression capability of the epc635 chip, based on the 8 million electrons full well capacity shared by all ESPROS TOF chips. This makes it an excellent choice for outdoor applications.

With a frame rate of up to 50 fps, it is really suitable for working in changing scenarios, where elements in the surrounding environment or the application itself are in motion.

It is small in size, very easy to use, and the ROS driver allows an easy integration of the module into existing robot platforms. Furthermore, customized versions are possible. Check out [here](#) for more information.

(Key performance data on next page)

<b>TOFcam-635</b> 	 <b>Resolution</b> 160 x 60 pixel	 <b>Ambient-light</b> 100 kLux
	 <b>Range</b> Wide FOV: 0.1 ... 7.5 m Narrow FOV: 1.0 ... 15 m	 <b>Frame Rate</b> up to 50 fps
	 <b>Field of View</b> Wide FOV: 50° x 19° Narrow FOV: 5° x 5°	 <b>Power Consumption</b> Supply voltage 5 V Approx. 1 W, depending on operation mode

## Pascal, Head of IT

### What are your responsibilities at ESPROS?

A reliable, secure IT system is essential to any business, whether an SME or global giant. As Head of IT Systems at ESPROS, my daily job is to ensure our IT environment runs efficiently and reliably. This covers everything from regular laptops used for mainly administrative purposes as well as those for programming and R&D activities up to servers and network devices. Ours is a very compact company, so it's relatively easy to maintain a good overview, and this also means I have had contact with almost everybody in the company, at some stage.

### Is there anything that changed significantly in your work over the years?

The critical importance of ensuring Cyber Security has increased exponentially over recent years, where the threats range from very annoying bugs to more invasive phishing to potentially crippling hacks. Fortunately, ESPROS is very well protected against all these. Nevertheless, you have to keep your guard up as this is an ever-evolving situation. Even though my daily job is connected with virtually every other employee's daily work. That wouldn't be possible without the superb support of my second-in-command, Mewes; we work very well together.

### How long have you been working at ESPROS?

I'm a relative newcomer to the ESPROS family having joined in October last year. I've settled in very well, and am happy to be part of a small company with such a promising future. I enjoy the teamwork and camaraderie.

### Where are you originally from and where do you now live?

I'm a Swiss guy, from Basel but moved to the St. Gallen Rhein valley at a young age and currently living in Schellenberg, Principality of Liechtenstein. It's the fourth smallest country in Europe, nestled in the Alps between Switzerland and Austria. It is German speaking, but they have their own dialect.

### What would you most like?

As regards what I would most like, I guess I can dream about pressing a button that guarantees complete IT integrity forever!

### What do you like to do in your free time?

My hobbies changed rapidly in the last two years as my wife and I became parents of a little baby girl. So for the moment I just love to spend time with my family and being the handyman for all the work inside and outside our home.



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