



Taking responsibility gives meaning to our lives.

unknown

CEO's Note

Dear Reader,

Several big names got cold water dumped on them in the opening round of the World Cup. These teams despite a mouth-watering abundance of singular talent; fell victim to self-satisfaction. Meaning either their strategy, or their execution was at fault. A top team has to be able to adapt to the circumstances on the pitch. A certain flexibility must be in-built, adaptability based on core strengths. As I write it is unclear if this self-satisfaction has been fatal or just soul destroying! Regardless, it must be avoided. The fans (customers) have a right to certain expectations. (I know that there is an opponent on the other side which has the same goals, lots of talents and big pockets.)

As soccer teams round the globe are being relentlessly tested by injuries to key players, the companies get injured by a partial disruption of free trade by the outbreak of Corona. When the football teams

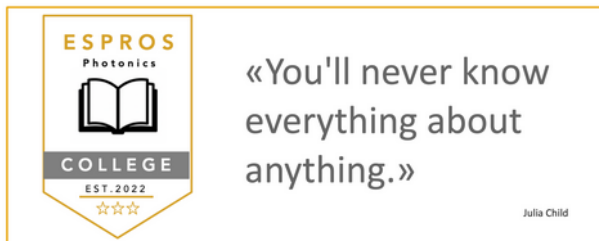
receive offside goals, it's like the energy price hikes for companies. If referees awarding unfair penalties, it's like supply chain disruptions to companies.

We here at ESPROS refuse to make a drama out of a crisis, we steer a steady course, calm and determined, by always having the customer at the center of everything we do. Confident in the incredible performance of our chips and modules. Although the waters are still very choppy, with energy costs and pressure on supplies, supply chains and costs are not where they once were. However, we stay true to our course, we will emerge even stronger.

We are fortunate to have the right products at the right time, our challenge is to meet demand. Yes this is a nice problem to have. But it is a problem and it's our responsibility to bridge the gap between demand and supply. We fight for this everyday.

Beat De Coi

Learning together at the ESPROS Photonics College



As our CEO Beat De Coi stated in last month's newsletter, "Strengthening our team spirit will help us continue to create and promote our culture of excellence."

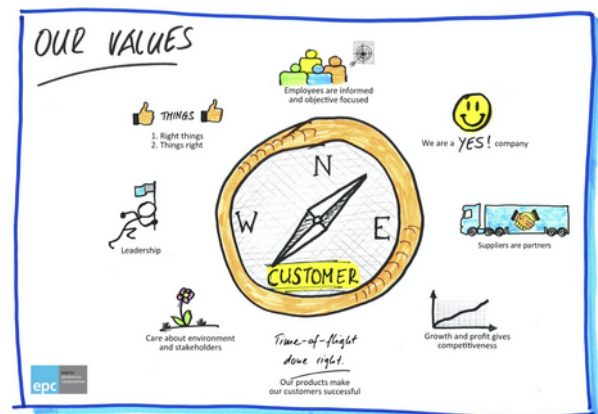
Team spirit and teamwork are cornerstones of our culture, fundamental to fostering a healthy and innovative environment, firmly focused on solutions.

We believe that knowledge sharing is one of the most effective ways to strengthen team spirit. For this reason, the ESPROS Photonics College project was launched on November 14.

At ESPROS each team member possesses skills that are critical to the organization. Everyone's contribution is essential to our success. Sharing knowledge will not only benefit the performance of the organization and each individual, but will also improve mutual understanding and relationships and help us bring the customer experience to a higher level.

Customers, outside and inside the company, with their goals and challenges, are at the center of our

navigator. The ESPROS Photonics College will facilitate the consolidation of the right attitude in order to ensure customers are always the focus of our attention.



It will also provide everyone with tools to continue to grow professionally and an opportunity to better integrate their views with those of their colleagues.

It will be a creative experience, as everyone will have the chance to contribute to the corporate culture by proposing themes and topics to explore together.

The potential of this project is huge. Learning new things and constant growth will have a positive impact not only on the company's performance, but also on the quality of life. So our challenge is to make it succeed together!

epc660: the eyes of the last mile

The so-called "last mile" is a very important part of the supply chain, and is marked by specific challenges. In urban areas, traffic congestion, destinations that are difficult to locate or inconvenient to reach with an ordinary delivery van, absence of people to receive the parcel, and other reasons make the last mile very time-consuming, resource demanding and costly. Companies have a compelling need to improve this process. At the same time, e-commerce is growing, and with it consumers' desire for faster, more efficient and predictable deliveries.



Starship robots are advanced autonomous devices that can carry items over short distances. The delivery platform enables a new era of instant delivery that works at much lower costs. Parcels, groceries and food are directly delivered from stores, at the time that the customer requests via a mobile app. Once ordered the robots' entire journey and location can be monitored on a smartphone.

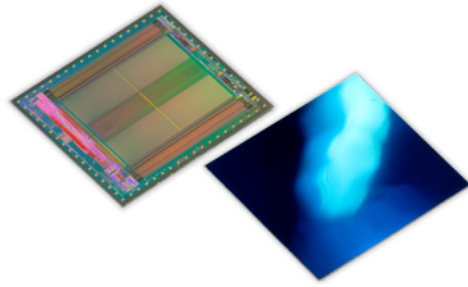
Last but not least, we can also mention the need to cope with labor shortages and decreased person-to-person contact under special conditions, such as those that occurred during the recent COVID pandemic.

Autonomous delivery robots are an effective answer to all these challenges, which is why this young market is growing and has a very promising future ahead of it. In many countries robots already deliver a variety of goods, such as parcels, groceries, medication, etc.

Starship Technologies is a pioneering US robotics technology company, headquartered in San Francisco and with its main engineering office in Estonia, and is the world's leading provider of autonomous delivery services. As an example, Starship's robots are already a common sight on American campuses.



Starship's autonomous delivery robots are using ESPROS' [epc660](#) 3D TOF chip.



Delivery robots have to operate in darkness, but also in bright sunlight. The epc660 excels in both conditions. "Its outstanding operation under strong ambient light is one of the reasons, why Starship Deliveries selected the epc660 chip. Another reason is its very high sensitivity in the near infrared," says Ahti Heinla, Co-Founder and CTO of Starship. "This allows a longer operating range with less illumination power to save the robots battery energy." These two parameters - excellent high ambient light operation and high NIR sensitivity - provided an important breakthrough that Starship Technologies needed to further increase autonomy in all ambient light conditions.

The combination of ESPROS' unique Time of Flight technology, with Starship Technologies' position as the leading commercial autonomous delivery service, lies at the heart of over 3.5 million commercial deliveries and over 4 million miles driven around the world.

"The future of delivery, today: this is our bold promise," says Lauri Vain (VP of Engineering at Starship), adding, "With a combination of mobile technology, our global fleet of autonomous robots, and partnerships with stores and restaurants, we are helping to make the local delivery industry faster, cleaner, smarter and more cost-efficient, and we are very excited about our

partnership with ESPROS and its unique chip technology."

Some Robot Operations Key Statistics:

- Over 1,700 robots in 24/7 operation
- More than 4 million autonomous deliveries
- Whereas 1 million in the last 9 months
- Over 4.5 million miles driven
- 3 x epc660 per robot for perfect surround view

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