

Infrared vision specialist ULIS wins contract from Sagem Défense Sécurité to supply the French army's FELIN program uncooled thermal sensors

Veurey-Voroize, France, August, 08th, 2008 - ULIS, a leading infrared vision specialist making affordable uncooled thermal sensors for civilian and military applications, announced today that the company has signed a five-year contract with Sagem Défense Sécurité (Groupe SAFRAN) as a primary source of supply for major weapon sights, handheld equipment and military programs for cameras, including the French army's Future Infantry Soldier System (FELIN).

Uncooled thermal sensors, known as microbolometers, will be used to fit the thermal imaging rifle sights, multifunction goggles and cameras for day and night operation and improved target acquisition.

"ULIS is delighted to be a major source delivering high performance products to Sagem Défense Sécurité," said Jean-François Delepau, Managing Director of ULIS. "The fact that we successfully passed extremely stringent qualification tests confirms that ULIS's technology is also highly suitable for military applications. This represents an important step forward in the growth of our company."

ULIS and Sagem Défense Sécurité have a long-standing business relationship and this contract for a major military application emphasizes the commitment of both companies to strengthen their business partnership. Under the agreement, ULIS will deliver its uncooled 384 x 288 - 25 micron microbolometers, with the first delivery due at the end of the year.

The contract also provides for an extension to supply other higher performance uncooled infrared products, such as the 640 x 480 - 25 micron and the 1024 x 768 - 17 micron microbolometers, for several military programs and new markets. Financial terms were not disclosed.

Microbolometers detect thermal energy over the long-wave range (8 – 14 microns). When this happens, the detector heats up in response to the absorbed energy and changes its electrical resistance. The resistance change is processed to create an image. Unlike other IR detector equipment, microbolometers do not require cooling. This advantage contributes to lowering the cost of infrared cameras. ULIS amorphous silicon technology, a unique and mature semiconductor technology offers cost-effectiveness and producibility which are not accessible to other technologies. These attributes make ULIS's microbolometers affordable for all types of camera applications.

Camera applications for ULIS' IR detectors include industrial maintenance, security and surveillance, building inspection, fire fighting and law enforcement, and night vision enhancements for vehicles.

About ULIS

ULIS, a subsidiary of Sofradir, specializes in the design and manufacture of innovative, high quality uncooled microbolometers for thermography, automotive, safety and military applications. It enables makers of infrared equipment to produce low weight, low power consumption and cost-effective infrared cameras in large volume. ULIS is located in Veurey-Voroize, near Grenoble, and ULIS employs 110 people.

For more information: www.ulis-ir.com