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ULIS paves way for hi-def Infrared imaging

ULIS launches a new large format 17-micron pixel pitch (1024 x 768) IR detector offering higher resolution imagery for surveillance cameras and enhanced night vision driving of military vehicles

Veurey-Voroize, France, April 14, 2009 - ULIS, a high-volume manufacturer of infrared detectors for low-cost IR cameras in industrial, professional, and security applications, announced today that the company is launching a new 4th generation IR detector that paves the way for higher-definition in IR surveillance cameras and in all-weather & night thermal imagers that enhance driver vision in military vehicles.

The image quality of an IR detector depends on the spatial resolution or number of pixels, which means that the higher the number of pixels, the better quality the image. The XGA format (1024 x 768) 17-micron pixel pitch IR detector from ULIS has doubled the number of pixels of earlier IR models, thereby significantly increasing resolution and meeting requirements of higher-performance IR products.

"We are delighted about extending our product offering and providing customers with more choice among high-end IR products," says Jean-François Delepau, managing director of ULIS. "This large format 17 micron IR detector is further evidence of our ability to mass produce state-of-the-art performance and high uniform products. We will be extending this technique to enhancing the compactness of our smaller formats, such as the popular 640 x 480, as we ramp up production towards the third quarter of 2009."

ULIS is one of a handful of companies in the world to make 17-micron IR detectors and the first to introduce them to commercial applications. This new technology will allow system integrators and IR camera makers to reduce the size and weight of optical systems, which will enable them to design smaller cameras.

Uncooled IR detectors first came to the market in 1995, but large format IR detectors were either unavailable or unaffordable for applications other than for the military. ULIS has made significant advances in the reduction of pixel pitch (miniscule dots of resolution), which are critical to improving IR image quality, as well as size reduction and camera performance.

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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 120 people.

For more information: <http://www.ulis-ir.com>

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