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ULIS launches first stand-alone 12-micron thermal image sensor

Atto320™ gives system integrators unique design flexibility to enable improved performance and cost differentiation in handheld thermal cameras

Veurey-Voroize, near Grenoble, France, April 3, 2017 - ULIS, a manufacturer of innovative thermal sensors, today announces the launch of Atto320™, the first in a family of 12-micron, stand-alone, image sensors. The 12-micron pixel pitch is the new industry standard in thermal image sensors for market applications where reducing the overall size and cost of the camera are important. Key markets include the outdoor leisure/observation, thermography and surveillance sectors.

Atto320 brings sharply focused and accurate images, compactness and extended battery-life to handheld camera makers. The advantage of offering Atto320 as a stand-alone component is that system integrators have ultimate flexibility in configuring designs that meet their specific performance needs, enabling them to offer true product differentiation to end-users. Other 12-micron products are sold either as modules or thermal camera cores, where access to the thermal image sensor's performance parameters is restricted.

The new fully digital Atto320, a 320x240 thermal image sensor (microbolometer), is designed with ULIS' unique 12-micron technology for sensor miniaturization. It generates high-quality moving images due to the high frame rate (60Hz) and ease-of-use handling with simple calibration. These features allow users to view fast-moving objects as well as observe scenes at distances of several hundred meters. The new sensor consumes less than 220 mW at 60 Hz, enabling extended autonomy of more than 10 hours for handheld systems.

"ULIS believes in constant innovation and is proud to announce its very first 12-micron product, manufactured using its unique 12-micron pixel pitch manufacturing technology," said Sebastien Tinnes, marketing manager at ULIS. "Atto320 is the first in our next-generation 12-micron product line. It showcases our expertise in developing innovative products for camera makers seeking more compactness and performance attributes that bring greater competitive advantages. This is a major step forward in our ability to fulfill our customers needs in optimizing the cost, compactness and performance of their systems."

By using the new 12-micron technology, Atto320 can reduce the size of the optics by as much as 50 per cent, translating to a cost reduction of up to 20 per cent. It is fully compatible with other ULIS products in its 17-micron GEN2 imaging sensor line. This means Atto320 is easy to use, saving customers time-to-market when switching to 12-micron technology.

Atto320 is ideally suited for traditional market applications, in particular the outdoor leisure market, which is estimated to grow at a CAGR of 21 per cent ([Uncooled Infrared Imaging Market August 2016 Report, Yole Développement](#)).

It combines ULIS' product excellence in high uniformity and stability, key parameters for easy implementation and low power consumption, with state of the art performance in temperature difference detection, as low as 0.06°C (60mK thermal sensitivity).

ULIS will show Atto320 by invitation only at SPIE DCS in Anaheim, California, April 9 – 13; booth B314. In its 40th year, the event attracts global leading manufacturers, developers and researchers in imaging and sensing for applications in defense, security, healthcare and the environment. North American customers interested in Atto320 can contact ULIS' sister company Sofradir EC directly (mintiso@sofradir-ec.com or +1 973-882-0211)

About ULIS

ULIS, a Sofradir Group company, specializes in designing and manufacturing innovative thermal image sensors for the surveillance, thermography, firefighting, outdoor leisure and automotive markets. It enables makers of consumer electronics and infrared equipment to produce low weight, low power consumption and cost-effective thermal cameras in high volume.

Founded in 2002, ULIS has grown to become the second largest producer of thermal image sensors (microbolometers). It offers a targeted range of microbolometers that are the key component of many top brands in thermal imaging equipment sold across Europe, Asia and North America. Size, weight, low power consumption and cost reductions drive ULIS innovations, enabling the company to address new trends in smart buildings, road safety and in-cabin comfort of vehicles. ULIS is located in Veurey-Voroize, near Grenoble. <https://www.ulis-ir.com/>

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