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First Sensor supplies tank pressure sensors for plug-in hybrids to Asian Tier-1

- Usage in vehicles of a German automobile group
- Supply agreement up to 2025

First Sensor AG, a developer and manufacturer of standard products and customer-specific sensor solutions on the growth market of sensor technology, is driving forward the introduction of innovative pressure applications in order to implement green mobility. The specialist in sensor technology has been awarded a contract to supply tank pressure sensors by an Asian Tier-1 automobile supplier for emission control systems. The sensors are installed in plug-in hybrids of a German automobile group, where they detect possible leaks. The agreement with sales worth millions runs until 2025. Volume production for the new key customer will start in December 2019.

“As one of the leading suppliers of pressure sensors, we use our solid expertise in chip design and production as well as microelectronic packaging in order to provide key customers on the growth market of mobility with powerful technologies for low-emission and low-consumption mobility. We already equip the plug-in hybrids of all German as well as many European OEMs with our pressure sensors,” says Dr. Dirk Rothweiler, CEO of First Sensor AG. The company made a total of EUR 64.5 million with pressure sensor technology in 2018, 40% of this in the target market of mobility. Driven by the mega trends of green mobility and electrification, First Sensor is expecting accelerated growth for OEM pressure sensor technology in the medium term.

The growth is supported by a new technology to measure tank pressure. This facilitates an easier and more accurate measurement through the combination of pressure and temperature sensor technology. Based on MEMS pressure sensor chips from semiconductor production in Berlin-Oberschöneweide, the innovative sensors produced at First Sensor Mobility GmbH in Dresden in accordance with IATF 16949 detect minimum pressure and temperature changes in the fuel tank. Key customers such as a French Tier-1 supplier are already qualifying a solution that has been adapted for them.

“Throughout our pressure strategy for the target market of mobility, the focus is not just on tank pressure sensor technology but also on expanding our business in the field of exhaust gas aftertreatment and hydrogen applications for fuel cell vehicles,” explains Wilhelm Prinz von Hessen, Vice President of Mobility at First Sensor AG. “Because the trend towards environmentally-friendly mobility is accompanied, structurally speaking, by increased demand for powerful sensors in vehicles.” As such, the market research company Yole Développement expects growth in pressure sensor technology of USD 1.6 billion between 2017 and 2023, which is also a basic technology for new drive technologies and CO₂-neutral air-conditioning systems.

About First Sensor AG

Founded as a technology start-up in the early 1990s, today, First Sensor is a global player in sensor technology. With our expertise in chip design and production as well as microelectronic packaging, we develop and produce standard sensors and customer-specific sensor solutions in the fields of photonics, pressure and advanced electronics for the ever-growing demand in key applications for the target markets of Industrial, Medical and Mobility. With around 1,000 employees, we are represented at six German locations and also have development, production and sales sites in the USA, Canada, China, the Netherlands, Great Britain, France, Sweden and Denmark along with a worldwide partner network. First Sensor AG has been listed in the Prime Standard segment on the Frankfurt Stock Exchange since 1999. For more information please visit www.first-sensor.com.

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First Sensor AG

Peter-Behrens-Str. 15
12459 Berlin
Germany

Press contact:

Carolin Becker
E-Mail: Carolin.Becker@first-sensor.com
T +49 30 639923-736
