

Press release, November 15, 2019

First Sensor welcomes EU resolution on the compulsory use of driver assistance systems in motorized vehicles

According to a current EU resolution, from 2022 onwards, various driver assistance systems such as reversing assistance systems, lane departure warning systems and emergency braking systems are to be made compulsory for all new vehicles that are registered in order to improve safety for more vulnerable road users such as pedestrians and cyclists. First Sensor AG welcomes this initiative: “Driver assistance systems can prevent accidents caused by human driving error. For this reason, their widespread launch is long overdue in order to make traffic safer for all participants. We are playing our own part in this with our optic sensors for LIDAR scanners and our camera systems,” says Dr. Dirk Rothweiler, CEO of First Sensor AG.

Greater care and attention will be called for this coming Sunday, November 17, The World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims. In 2018, 3,265 people died on German roads, almost just as many as in previous years. Accidents involving trucks and cyclists are particularly dangerous; turning procedures, in particular, can lead to fatal collisions. The EU resolution therefore stipulates that trucks and buses must be designed and built in such a way that the blind spot around the vehicle is reduced considerably. They will have to be equipped with modern systems that detect pedestrians and cyclists in the immediate vicinity of the vehicle.

First Sensor is already supplying manufacturers with solutions that are designed to detect and prevent hazardous situations. “Our ‘Blue Next’ cameras, for example, use an internationally active Tier-1 supplier for driver assistance systems in order to equip RVs and buses. They replace traditional rear-view mirrors, thereby helping to prevent accidents caused by the blind spot,” says Prinz von Hessen. “Industry has recognized the relevance of these systems and is working intensively on launching further solutions. Manufacturers of commercial and special vehicles, in particular, are pioneers in this respect.”

Networked camera systems in conjunction with radar and LIDAR technology – for which First Sensor is developing and producing Avalanche photodiodes – should also enable fully autonomous driving in the future. The focus here is on monitoring the entire area around the vehicle and combining items of sensor data. Self-driving cars are still in the pilot phase, but forecasts predict that as many as 54 million of these vehicles could be on the road by 2035. Experts estimate that autonomous driving could reduce the number of traffic accidents by up to 90% by 2040.

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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