

EXALOS closes Financing Round for its Broad Band Light Source Operation

EXALOS, a start-up company based in Switzerland, has secured additional equity financing in a second round of financing to fund new product development for its opto-electronic components operation.

Zurich, Switzerland, January 2004. EXALOS AG, a privately held company, was founded in June 2003 to develop, manufacture and sell Superluminescent Light Emitting Diodes (SLED) and other optoelectronic devices to the fiberoptic gyroscope, medical imaging, test equipment and sensor industries. The company took over the specialist team and bought the relevant assets from Optospeed after the latter went out of business in 2003. It already has a sound customer base and products well introduced in the market. The company has its headquarters in Technopark Zurich, Switzerland.

Johann Peter Bitterli who founded the company in 2003 and acts as CEO of EXALOS commented: "We very much welcome NETinvest and Mr. Gustav A. Wirz as shareholders. These new investors bring complementary strengths that can enhance our business. We now have a strong shareholder base from which to finance our future expansion and reach positive cash flow in the near future.

Dr. Christian Vélez, founder of the company and CTO, also welcomes is delighted to see the new business partners. He and is very confident of having the resources and know- how to bring the best solution to the industry.

NETinvest and Mr. Wirz are very pleased to partner with EXALOS and to back the company in its efforts to grow into a leading, high quality supplier of optoelectronic devices and modules. "They are confident the company will successfully build on its existing strong relations with leading suppliers and prime customers worldwide".

NETinvest is a Swiss investment company providing institutional and private investors with access to private equity investments and marketable securities in the fields of information technology worldwide. The shares of NETinvest are listed on the SWX Swiss Exchange.

Gustav A. Wirz is the founder of Alphasem AG, the leading manufacturer of fully automated precision machines for the semiconductor industry with subsidiaries in the United States and Asia. He has patented several inventions and among other things, is the co-inventor of the "Vertical Diffusion Furnace". In 1987 Gustav Wirz was the first European to be elected to the board of directors and executive committee of Semiconductor Equipment and Materials International (SEMI), the trade association serving the global semiconductor equipment, materials and flat panel display industries. In 1999 Mr. Wirz sold Alphasem AG to Dover Corporation. He will act as a board member of EXALOS AG.

EXALOS envisages several additional product lines for future development which is intended to be strongly application oriented and offer higher functionality. The basic concept is to integrate functionality at the module level and to offer easy to apply SLED products.

EXALOS SLED products are semiconductor optical devices emitting a stable, broad wavelength output enabling a wide variety of applications in the gyroscope, medical, test equipment and sensor industries. EXALOS offers mainly three product lines differing in the emission wavelength, i.e. 830nm, 1300nm and 1550 nm. These products address specific and known customer requirements.

EXALOS has established strategic alliances with technological and cost leadership partners, with the goal to provide customers with the optimum balance of price, time to market, performance, and size for any given specification. This approach gives EXALOS the flexibility to develop devices as solutions tailored for particular customers and markets. EXALOS will exclusively focus on its core competencies: design, test and qualification of devices, supply management, customer relationship and support.

See www.exalos.com for more information or contact:

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