

Varioptic Signs License Deal with Cognex

Varioptic and Cognex Enter into Partnership for Liquid Lens

Lyon, 4th January 2010 – Varioptic, the liquid lens company, announced today a new partnership and licensing agreement with [Cognex Corporation](#) (NASDAQ: CGNX), the world leader in vision-based inspection, guidance and identification systems. Under the terms of the agreement, Cognex will use Varioptic's liquid lens solutions to add auto-focus capability to its line of ID code readers.

Cognex recently announced the expansion of its DataMan® 200 line of fixed-mount, image-based ID readers with three new models that offer an integrated liquid lens.

Varioptic's liquid lens products are designed to match the requirements of low footprint systems for 1/4" and 1/3" formats. They are ideal for the latest camera applications such as video continuous auto focus, which requires fast response time, low power consumption and high reliability. With no moving parts, the liquid lens is very robust and the perfect solution for harsh industrial environments.

Liquid lenses have been in production with [Creative Sensor Inc. \(Wuxi, China\)](#) since January 2007 and also more recently, in mass production, with Japanese partner [Seiko Instruments Inc. \(SII\)](#).

"Cognex is pleased to have established this close working relationship with Varioptic," said Carl Gerst, Business Unit Manager for Cognex ID Products. "We believe that liquid lens technology can bring numerous performance advantages to our DataMan family of ID readers, and potentially to other areas of our product line as well."

"We are delighted that Cognex has decided to license our liquid lenses following the successful launch of their first liquid lens ID readers," said Christian Dupont, CEO of Varioptic. "Our liquid lens can be easily integrated in optical designs for applications used in a dynamic environment which requires re-focusing continuously and accurately in a very short time."

About Cognex

Cognex Corporation designs, develops, manufactures and markets machine vision sensors and systems, or devices that can "see." Cognex vision sensors and systems are used in factories around the world where they guide, inspect, gauge, identify and assure the quality of a wide range of items during the manufacturing process. Cognex is the world's leader in the machine vision industry, having shipped more than 500,000 machine vision systems, representing over \$2.5 billion in cumulative revenue, since the company's founding in 1981. Headquartered in Natick, Massachusetts, USA, Cognex has regional offices and distributors located throughout North America, Japan, Europe, Asia and Latin America. For details, visit Cognex on-line at <http://www.cognex.com>.



About Varioptic

Varioptic is the world leader in liquid lenses having pioneered the development of Electrowetting Technology to create variable focus lenses with no moving parts. Liquid lenses are used in a wide range of imaging applications from industrial vision to consumer cameras, and feature a number of advantages over traditional focusing technologies in terms of robustness, power consumption, size, cost and speed. Varioptic is located in France. For more information, please visit www.varioptic.com.

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