MATRIX VISION becomes part of the Balluff Group

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MATRIX VISION GmbH is now part of the sensor and automation specialist Balluff (head office in Neuhausen auf den Fildern, Germany.

Neuhausen a.d.F. – 14 September 2017 – After several years of development partnership, MATRIX VISION GmbH of Oppenweiler near Backnang is becoming part of the sensor and automation specialist Balluff. The shareholders of MATRIX VISION and the Balluff management signed the relevant agreements in August. MATRIX VISION, with its 100 employees, will still operate independently and with an unchanged brand in the field of image processing. The managing directors Uwe Furtner and Erhard Meier will continue to manage the company at its site in Oppenweiler. Balluff now holds 75 percent of the shares in the company, with the remaining 25 percent being retained by the previous shareholders. They all agree: "Machine Vision will grow in importance in the future against the backdrop of Industry 4.0. As part of the Balluff Group, we will be able to service this growing market better, both nationally and internationally. The resulting long-term opportunities for our company are enormous, giving our workforce a clear perspective for the future."

Extending the portfolio in the machine vision area

"In the future, our product portfolio will complement the range of the Balluff Group in a field in which Balluff has played a relatively small role till now: Machine Vision," explains Uwe Furtner, Technical Director of MATRIX VISION. The company, which was founded in 1986, specializes in development and sales of frame grabbers, standard industrial cameras, intelligent cameras, video sensors, embedded systems and software in the field of industrial image processing. "For four years, we have been closely cooperating with MATRIX VISION in a development partnership," adds Balluff Managing Director Florian Hermle. "One of our two camera-based product lines is from MATRIX VISION. So we already know that we are well-suited to one another and our product lines are optimally matched." Furthermore, MATRIX VISION also attaches great importance to the subject of software. As Hermle explains: "MATRIX VISION lets us extend both our product portfolio in the area of camera-based sensor systems and our software development capacities.

Furtner agrees: "Balluff and we are an excellent match. We already know each other very well from

MATRIX VISION GmbH | Talstrasse 16 | DE - 71570 Oppenweiler
Telefon: +49-7191-9432-0 | Fax: +49-7191-9432-288 | www.matrix-vision.de
Mail: info@matrix-vision.de

several years of collaboration in the development partnership. Our product ranges do not overlap, but rather complement each other perfectly." Furtner also identifies great potential for MATRIX VISION within Balluff Group in terms of sales and services for customers. "Many of our customers have production sites worldwide and expect local support from their suppliers. At some point MATRIX VISION would have run into difficulties on that score, simply due to our size, but with the Balluff sales and service network, we now have access to a whole new range of possibilities."

Link: http://www.balluff.com/en/de/news/press-news/balluff-family-is-growing/

About Balluff

Founded in 1921 in Neuhausen auf den Fildern, Balluff and its 3,550 employees enjoy an international reputation for innovation, quality and cross-sector experience in industrial automation. As a leading sensor and automation specialist, the family-owned company in its 4th generation offers a comprehensive portfolio of innovative sensor, identification and network technologies and software for integrated system solutions. In 2016 Balluff Group reported revenues of around EUR 378 million. In addition to its headquarters in Neuhausen, Balluff has sales, production and development sites around the globe, as well as 37 wholly owned subsidiaries worldwide. This guarantees customers swift worldwide product availability and a high standard of local support and service.

About MATRIX VISION

Founded in 1986 in Oppenweiler near Backnang, MATRIX VISION is one of the major providers of image processing components in the German-speaking market. As a pioneer in the field of vision, the company offers a wide range of frame grabbers, industrial cameras, intelligent cameras, video sensors, embedded systems and software in the industrial image processing sector. MATRIX VISION also develops customized solutions for special requirements ranging from individual components to fully rounded functional units. MATRIX VISION employs 100 people and generated revenues of EUR 15 million in 2016.

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Telefon: +49-7191-9432-0 | Fax: +49-7191-9432-288 | www.matrix-vision.de
Mail: info@matrix-vision.de

F.l.t.r.: Michael Unger, Florian Hermle, Katrin Stegmaier-Hermle, Uwe Furtner, Erhard Meier, Gerhard Thullner, Werner Armingeon

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