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New Chief Technical Officer Jean-Christophe Robert strengthens management team at Varioptic SA

Lyon, 19 December 2005 – Varioptic SA (www.varioptic.com) is pleased to announce that it has appointed Jean-Christophe Robert its new CTO. He brings to Varioptic over twenty years' experience in the imaging business.

Before joining us Jean-Christophe was head of Research and Development at Kodak Industrie. His revitalization of innovation policy there prompted a comprehensive shift in the company's research portfolio away from conventional photography to digital projects.

On graduating as an engineer from the Paris Higher School of Physics and Industrial Chemistry (ESPCI), Jean-Christophe joined the Kodak group in 1983 as head of video R&D. He then led research programmes into new optical materials, before being appointed to the Eastman Kodak Company's research unit in the USA. He went on to head the Photographic Research Laboratory, prior to becoming Director of Research and Development.

"We're delighted that Jean-Christophe Robert is joining Varioptic," says Varioptic CEO Etienne Paillard. "His experience and expertise will help us to go on developing our liquid lenses with the aim of marketing products whose quality and performance levels meet the standards expected by customers and set by Varioptic."

"I'm enthusiastic about joining the Varioptic team," states Jean-Christophe. "The company has achieved remarkable distinction through an innovative technology that most of the major players in the optics business have already adopted. I'm glad to be able to contribute to its growth."

At Varioptic Jean-Christophe will head up the full development cycle from strategy definition through to the finished product.

About Varioptic:

Varioptic S.A. venture-backed by Sofinnova Partners, PolyTechnos Venture-Partners and NIF Partners, was founded in 2002. Located in Lyons, France, the company is world leader in liquid lens technology. It pioneered the development of electrowetting technology to create revolutionary autofocus and zoom lenses with absolutely no moving parts. These products feature several crucial advantages over traditional technologies in terms of cost, size, power consumption and speed. Varioptic is led by CEO Etienne Paillard, and founder/inventor and CTO Bruno Berge.

www.varioptic.com

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