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VARIOPTIC EXPANDS ITS FOCUS TO DELIVER LIQUID LENSES IN NEW MARKETS

New Initiatives Bring the Revolutionary “Electrowetting” Technology to the Communications, Industrial, Security and Entertainment Markets

LYON, France – 6 September 2005: Varioptic, the liquid lens company, today announced the launch of a liquid lens for a number of new markets:

- The communications market: for PDAs, web cams, video conferencing applications and integrated PC/laptop cameras
- Industrial applications: such as barcode imager applications and industrial endoscopes
- Security markets: including indoor video surveillance devices and biometry
- The entertainment market: which includes miniature (high-end) digital cameras, camcorders and gaming applications

Varioptic’s liquid lenses act similarly to the human eye, changing shape automatically without mechanical aid, by using electricity to focus the lens by altering the border between two drops of liquid. The company’s patented “electrowetting” technology provides several advantages over traditional lenses, in terms of size, cost, speed, durability, and silent operation

Varioptic is the inventor of the liquid lens and is committed to providing auto focus lenses - with no moving parts – to the camera phone market. These lenses will be available by the end of the year. As Varioptic’s work in this important marketplace approaches general availability, the company has expanded its focus to deliver liquid lenses to the new markets

“The new markets we’re expanding into possess many of the same requirements as the camera phone market – in that they all seek enhanced functionality and durability, in a smaller package, at an affordable price,” said Etienne Paillard, CEO of Varioptic. “Each new market has been chosen carefully, and we’re implementing our significant four year’s worth of experience and R&D investment to date to ensure successful adoption in each market. The expansion we’re announcing today also facilitates new partner and customer opportunities – and we’re looking forward to working with numerous companies to help spread our technology on a global scale.”

The specifications of Varioptic's lens is as follows:

	Item	Unit	25°C +/- 5°C	-10°C to +40°C
Mechanical	Pupil diameter	mm	3	
	Dimensions	mm	Φ10.5 x 2.5	
Optical	Focal range	dioptr	> 20	> 18
	Offset dioptric power	dioptr	-5 ±2	-5 ±3
	Wave front error (RMS)	μm	<0.5	<0.7
	Minimum transmittance	%	>82	>80
	Hysteresis	□	<1	<2
	Response time	msec	< 80	TBA
Electrical	Driving voltage range (at 1kHz)	Vrms	0 - 60	
	Power	mW	< 1	
Environmental	Storage temperature range	°C	-20 to +50	
	Operating cycles		1,000,000	

About Varioptic:

Founded in 2002, and located in Lyon, France, Varioptic is the world leader in liquid lens technology. Varioptic pioneered the development of Electrowetting Technology to create revolutionary auto focus and zoom lenses with absolutely no moving parts. These products feature several crucial advantages over traditional technologies in terms of cost, dimensions, 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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