



MEMS world market leader Bosch forms subsidiary for new application areas: **Bosch Sensortec GmbH – micro mechanic sensors for consumer electronics**

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- ▶ Bosch Sensortec GmbH offers micro mechanic sensors, application and foundry service for consumer electronics, medical technology, security systems, logistics and life sciences.
- ▶ The first product is the new SMB 360 accelerometer.
- ▶ The company, founded early in 2005, is one hundred percent a subsidiary of Robert Bosch GmbH, the MEMS pioneer and the largest manufacturer of automotive sensors worldwide.

STUTT GART – The Bosch Group continues to intensify its growth in the field of micro mechanic systems (MEMS) and solidifies its position as world market leader by recently founding the subsidiary Bosch Sensortec GmbH, headquartered in Kusterdingen close to Reutlingen/Germany. Bosch have been active in the field of MEMS since 1988 and is one of the pioneers in this technology. Today, more than 300 engineers of the Bosch Group are working in the field of MEMS technology.

Starting out with a workforce of 20, Bosch Sensortec applies MEMS sensors for rapidly growing markets such as consumer electronics. In doing so, Bosch Sensortec has access to the development and manufacturing competencies of the Bosch Division Automotive Electronics in Reutlingen. The short distance between Bosch Sensortec and Bosch Automotive Electronics makes for flexible and close cooperation during all project phases.

This puts Bosch Sensortec in the position to not only focus on new applications, but to also quickly respond to special customer wishes. The new company's time-to-market of new products is dramatically faster than is usually the case in the automotive industry: the first Bosch Sensortec product – the SMB 360 accelerometer, developed for the consumer goods

market – now already has prototypes available, the production start is planned for the end of 2005.

Longstanding development and manufacturing competencies in MEMS

Bosch has been developing and manufacturing micro mechanic sensors since 1988. Several hundred different types – ranging from pressure and acceleration to yaw sensors – have since been manufactured for the automotive industry. The current annual production at Bosch amounts to more than 100 million MEMS.

"Bosch Sensortec, due to its integration in the Bosch Group, provides almost two decades of development, manufacturing and application know-how in this area, which is unique in regards to the range of competence in these technologies“, stated Dr. Frank Melzer, CEO of Bosch Sensortec GmbH. With a record of more than 450 million sensors, Bosch is not only a pioneer of the early beginnings but also the most experienced and largest MEMS sensor manufacturer worldwide. "With this background, we are not only capable of a rapid adaptation of existing sensors in new areas of application but also of completely new and customized applications of micro mechanic systems“, Dr. Melzer went on to explain.

The first Bosch Sensortec product: The new SMB 360 triaxial accelerometer

The SMB 360 is an example of a specific development targeted at consumer electronics. The SMB 360 is an acceleration sensor measuring over three axes and basically universally applicable. Potential areas of applications include entertainment electronics, mobile handsets and computer technology, but may also include health care systems, security systems and life sciences. For instance the sensor could trigger a (radio) alarm if a person remained motionless or if some unauthorized person removed a notebook. Other products such as pressure and yaw sensors are being developed.

Foundry Service by Bosch Sensortec

Bosch Sensortec, aside from ready-to-use sensors and their applications, also offers specific foundry service. Bosch Sensortec takes care that all specifications of MEMS are optimally met from the very beginning and the sensor can be produced in large unit numbers and high quality.

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