

CEDES sells Safety & Automation business to Rockwell Automation

Landquart, 28 February 2008

Leading Swiss safety light curtain and optoelectronic sensor supplier, CEDES AG, announced today that it is to sell its Safety & Automation business unit to Rockwell Automation, Inc. The sale involves products, technology, development engineering, marketing, sales and distribution. Production of safety and automation products will continue at CEDES' Landquart headquarters in the east of Switzerland.

As a provider of innovative optical sensor technologies, CEDES AG has grown from a one-man operation in 1986 to an international company with almost 400 employees worldwide. The founder and chairman of the board of directors of CEDES, Beat De Coi, explained that the deal enables CEDES branded products to be far more widely distributed around the world.

"CEDES has grown so successfully because we have always been innovative, looked to the future and were able to deliver what the customer wanted. We realised that the best way to expand sales of our excellent safety and automation products, was to combine our capabilities with Rockwell Automation's global strength in this branch," he added.

"For 20 years, we have specialized in developing innovative optical sensor technologies for a wide range of applications, including industrial safety and automation markets. As we combine these capabilities with Rockwell Automation's global leadership in industrial automation control and information systems, this will enable more manufacturers around the world to help protect their workers from accidents involving machinery and equipment," De Coi outlined.

CEDES' recently confirmed plans to extend its Landquart headquarters and increase its workforce, remain unchanged. The company requires the extra space and manpower as it concentrates on expanding its two remaining and interconnected Elevators and Doors & Gates business units.

For questions referring to this press release, please contact Mr. Beat De Coi (Tel.+41 81 307 2340, beat.decoi@cedes.com)