



Sense of touch for robots with future potential

WITTENSTEIN and WIKAI to set up joint venture

WITTENSTEIN, the mechatronics corporation, and measuring equipment specialist WIKAI Alexander Wiegand SE & Co. KG have just announced their intention to set up a joint venture to develop, manufacture and market miniaturized 6-axis force /torque sensors for the industrial market.

The two partners will each hold 50% of the shares in Resense, which has its headquarters in Klingenberg am Main (home of WIKAI). The establishment of the joint venture is subject to the approval of the antitrust authorities and will only become legally effective after clearance by the Federal Cartel Office.

Fingertip sensitivity for machines

The joint venture is based on an innovation by the WITTENSTEIN group: miniaturized hollow-shaft multi-axis sensors for highly precise measurement of forces and torques in confined spaces. This patented concept paves the way for the smallest 6-axis haptic sensors anywhere in the world. They are used in medical research, humanoid robots and precision manipulation in industrial applications.

Strategic partnership

The move to Klingenberg am Main will provide WITTENSTEIN's present startup team with the perfect setting. As a leader in the manufacture of industrial measurement technology, WIKAI can contribute high-tech manufacturing expertise in the field of sensor and chip components.

"The joint venture will seek to carve out a leading role for itself in the future market for haptic sensors. We're convinced that this form of cooperation will allow the strengths of both partners to be optimally exploited and help us reach our common goal faster", said Dr Bertram Hoffmann, CEO of the WITTENSTEIN group. "Our novel silicon bonding technology can make a key difference here, and we see this as a great opportunity to grow together in the exciting robotics segment", added Alexander Wiegand, CEO of the WIKAI group.

February 16, 2023

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About WITTENSTEIN:

With around 2800 employees worldwide and sales of €461 million in 2021/22, the WITTENSTEIN group enjoys an impeccable reputation for innovation, precision and excellence in the field of cybertronic motion – not just in Germany but internationally. The group possesses exceptional expertise for the mastery and further development of all technologies relevant to mechatronic drives and comprises six innovative Strategic Business Divisions. These develop, produce and sell products such as high-precision servo drives and linear systems, servo systems and motors as well as cybertronic drive systems for many areas of application including machine and plant construction, aerospace or oil and gas exploration. Nanotechnology and software components round off the portfolio. With 25 sites in more than 45 countries, the WITTENSTEIN group (www.wittenstein.de) is represented in all major technology and sales markets.

About WIKA:

As a family-run business acting globally, with over 10,200 highly qualified employees, the WIKA group of companies is a worldwide leader in pressure and temperature measurement. The company also sets the standard in the measurement of level, force and flow as well as in calibration technology. Founded in 1946, WIKA is today a strong and reliable partner for all the requirements of industrial measurement technology, thanks to a broad portfolio of high-precision instruments and comprehensive services. With manufacturing locations around the globe, WIKA ensures flexibility and the highest delivery performance. Every year, over 50 million quality products, both standard and customer-specific solutions, are delivered in batches of 1 to over 10,000 units. With numerous wholly owned subsidiaries and partners, WIKA competently and reliably supports its customers worldwide. Our experienced engineers and sales experts are your competent and dependable contacts locally.

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