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Microsaic Systems awarded follow-on contract with Ministry of Defence

Microsaic Systems awarded follow-on contract to continue development chip-based pre-concentrator devices for detection of explosives with Smiths Detection as part of MEAD consortium led by QinetiQ and funded by Ministry of Defence.

London, 1st September 2008

Microsaic® Systems (Woking, UK), the developer of chip-based detector technology, is pleased to report that it has signed a follow-on contract funded by MoD to further develop MEMS pre-concentrator technology for the detection of explosives. The additional award will be employed to optimize Microsaic's proprietary chip-based pre-concentrator designs and to demonstrate their performance with appropriate sensors for the collection and detection of trace concentrations of explosives.

Microsaic continues to partner with consortium members Smiths, QinetiQ and MoD to development a new generation of MEMS pre-concentrators that address various trace detection requirements.

Microsaic Systems develops highly deployable detectors capable of quickly and accurately identifying chemical compounds such as explosives, chemical weapons and drugs. Microsaic's detectors are based on its core ionchip® technology, the world's first chip-based mass spectrometer, and are many times smaller and consume far less power than comparable laboratory-scale mass spectrometer instruments.

About Microsaic Systems

Microsaic Systems is a UK company developing next generation systems capable of identifying trace compounds such as explosives, chemical weapons and narcotics. Mass spectrometers are sophisticated systems used in everything from explosives detection to drug discovery. Today's mass spectrometers are large, heavy and expensive. Microsaic's breakthrough ionchip® technology integrates the mass spectrometer onto a single silicon chip leading to massive size, cost and reliability advantages. Portable and fixed systems are under development by Microsaic Systems for a variety of applications including the analysis of petrochemicals, pollutants, chemical & biological warfare agents, explosives and narcotics. The company partners with customers to develop products incorporating ionchip® technology.

Microsaic was formed in 2001 with technology from Imperial College London, the UK's premier technical university. Microsaic owns 53 patents, of which 22 are granted. Based in Woking, Surrey (UK), Microsaic's headquarters are within 30 minutes of London, and Gatwick and Heathrow Airports.

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