



Microsaic Systems

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## Microsaic Systems to develop preconcentrator for detection of explosives

*Microsaic Systems to develop MEMS preconcentrator devices for detection of explosives with Smiths Detection as part of MEAD consortium led by QinetiQ and funded by Ministry of Defence.*

**London, 1<sup>st</sup> December 2006**

Microsaic® Systems (Woking, UK), the developer of chip-based detector technology, is pleased to announce that it has signed a contract with Smiths Detection to develop MEMS preconcentrator technology for the detection of explosives. The funding will enable Microsaic to prototype proprietary chip-based preconcentrator devices and sampling techniques for the detection of explosives.

"We are delighted to have secured this prestigious award from the MoD together with Smiths and QinetiQ. During this project Microsaic and Smiths will be developing preconcentrator devices based on MEMS technology which could significantly enhance the performance of explosives detectors in the field" said Alan Finlay, CEO of Microsaic Systems, "This funding enables us to partner with Smiths, QinetiQ and MoD to develop a new generation of MEMS devices that address real defence needs."

Microsaic Systems manufactures and sells 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 rapidly growing 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 laboratory systems are available from Microsaic for a variety of applications including the analysis of petrochemicals, pollutants, chemical & biological warfare agents, explosives and narcotics. Microsaic partners with customers to deliver products incorporating ionchip® technology.

Microsaic was formed in 2001 with technology developed at Imperial College London, the UK's leading technical university. Microsaic owns 53 patents, of which 20 are granted, or are pending grant. Based in Woking, Surrey (UK), Microsaic's headquarters are within 30 minutes of London, and Gatwick and Heathrow Airports.

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