

Leica Camera AG and Socionext Europe continue their long-standing collaboration with a focus on next generation System-on-Chip (SoC) solutions

Langen / Germany, 21 September, 2016 --- Leica Camera AG and Socionext Europe (SNEU) have signed a confirmation of good cooperation for the continuation of their long-standing and successful collaboration. The focus of the partnership will be set on the ongoing development of next generation System-on-Chip (SoC) solutions.

Socionext Europe (SNEU), founded in 2015 as the successor to Fujitsu Semiconductor, and Leica Camera AG have been partners in this venture since 2008. SNEU's expertise in semiconductor development, and particularly in the field of SoC image processors for digital cameras, led to the development of the successful Leica MAESTRO II image processor, installed for example in the Leica S, that is responsible for the excellent image quality, fast processing speed and low power consumption of the professional medium format digital camera.

Markus Limberger, Chief Operating Officer (COO) at Leica Camera: 'Leica has always stood for high-quality products with innovative technologies. In SNEU, we have a strong and reliable partner who can offer us optimum in-camera image processing solutions. The image processors of the Socionext Milbeaut series, on which the development of the Leica MAESTRO II is based, deliver precisely the exceptional performance that our customers expect and are familiar with from Leica products.'

Mitsugu Naito, Corporate Senior Vice President, Head of Business Group3 at Socionext Inc. comments: 'SNEU will fully support Leica's requirements while developing the next generation SoC Maestro III and respective firmware. Our team of dedicated hardware and software engineers will continue merging the strengths of SNEU's image-processing technologies with Leica's high-definition imaging technologies and offer an industry-leading image processing solution.'

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About Socionext Inc.

Socionext is a new, innovative enterprise that designs, develops and delivers System-on-Chip products to customers worldwide. The company is focused on imaging, networking and other dynamic technologies that drive today's leading-edge applications. Socionext combines world-class expertise, experience, and an extensive IP portfolio to provide exceptional solutions and ensure a better quality of experience for customers. Founded in 2015, Socionext Inc. is headquartered in Yokohama, and has offices in Japan, Asia, United States and Europe to lead its product development and sales activities. For more information, please visit socionext.com.

About Socionext Europe GmbH

Socionext Europe GmbH (SNEU) plays a major role in the worldwide activities of Socionext Inc. Founded in 2015, Socionext Europe is headquartered in Langen, near Frankfurt, with other locations in Munich, Braunschweig, Maidenhead (UK) and Linz (Austria). For more information, please visit eu.socionext.com.

About Leica Camera

Leica Camera AG is an internationally operating premium-segment manufacturer of cameras and sport optics products. The legendary status of the Leica brand is founded on a long tradition of excellence in the construction of lenses. Combined with innovative technologies, Leica products continue to guarantee better pictures in all situations in the worlds of visualization and perception to this day. Leica Camera AG has its headquarters in Wetzlar, in the state of Hesse in Germany, and a second production site in Vila Nova de Famalicão, Portugal. The company is internationally represented by its branch offices in Australia, China, France, Italy, Japan, Singapore, South Korea, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the USA. New and innovative products have been the driving force behind the company's positive development in recent years. www.leica-camera.com

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Photo: Leica Camera AG and Socionext Europe continue their collaboration
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From Left to Right:

Markus Mierse, Senior Director Graphics Solution, Socionext Europe GmbH

Toshihiko Tanaka, President & Managing Director, Socionext Europe GmbH

Markus Limberger, COO, Leica Camera AG

Mitsugu Naito, Corporate Senior Vice President, Socionext Inc.

Dr. Volker Zimmer, Group Leader Digital Imaging, Leica Camera AG

Hisako Ogawa, Global Business Project Management Team, Socionext Inc.