IMAGING SENSORS & SYSTEMS

Imagine future imaging...

CEA-Leti, technology research institute

Contact: leti.contact@cea.fr
There’s a boom in video and imaging applications for use in industry and everyday life. However, innovations are continually expected to meet the challenges of industry and society. Smarter machine-vision systems can assist decision-making and, in turn, raise productivity. Low-cost imaging platforms that monitor human activity without privacy issues are valuable in improving building safety and energy management. More sensitive X-ray imagers reduce medicinal doses delivered to the patient and real-time image systems scanning crowds at railway stations and airports make public transportation safer. It is almost impossible to imagine tomorrow’s world without video and imaging technologies.

CEA-Leti mobilizes more than 30 years’ experience in imaging sensors and systems to develop technological solutions that equip a wide range of applications across both commercial (automotive, consumer, etc.) and high-end (aerospace and defense, health, etc.) markets.
CEA-LETI’S VISION

REFLECTS YOUR DEMANDS,
CUTTING EDGE TECHNOLOGICAL TRENDS
ARE GUIDING CEA-LETI’S IMAGING R&D

2D VISION

There’s a common trade-off between performance and SWAP-C or minimized Size, Weight, Power and Cost. CEA-Leti’s research into multiple technological bricks targets two guiding principles: a continuous focus on market needs and on the functions offered by an image-based product. Many applications implement a combination of these technological bricks.

PERFORMANCE

• Sensitivity
• Dynamic range
• Resolution
• Frame rate

SIZE, WEIGHT, POWER AND COST

• Pixel pitch
• Low-power... self-powered
• Advanced embedded processing

For example:
Advanced driver assistance system (ADAS) functions in automotive applications require imaging sensors that must simultaneously meet the cost constraints of this very competitive market and high-performance characteristics such as robustness and high dynamic range.

BEYOND EYE-VISION

3D VISION

3D imaging from X-ray to far-infrared wavelengths is a key technology in transport, robotics, drone engineering, gesture recognition, non-destructive testing (e.g. X-ray tomography), augmented reality and medical imaging.

• Visible and infrared time-of-flight monolithic sensors
• X-ray tomography

MULTICOLOR / MULTI-ENERGY

Multispectral and hyperspectral imaging captures the unique fingerprint of the sample under test. These processes can provide vital information in multiple applications within the food inspection, agriculture, wellness, health, cosmetics non-destructive testing, machine vision and many other sectors.

• Hyperspectral cmos image sensors with filtering at the pixel level
• Multi-energy X-ray sub-systems
• Multispectral infrared arrays

ADVANCED IMAGING SYSTEMS

Advanced imaging systems are favored, when the image sensor is integrated into complex architecture combining hardware and software. This trend is perfectly exemplified by imaging for machine vision in Cyber Physical Systems (CPS), which implies functions additional to the vision sensor such as energy harvesting or event-based detection. Other examples are lens-free imaging, microscopy, fluorescence, IR, computed tomography and thermography.

• Advanced functions
• Computer vision
• Machine learning
• Adaptive resolution
• Time resolved diffuse optical tomography
For over 30 years, CEA-Leti has been extending its know-how throughout the imaging chain in cooperation with leading manufacturers. Development has ranged from growth of base materials to characterization of final image systems and has included integration of optics and advanced wafer functions. CEA-Leti’s multidisciplinary know-how ensures innovation in sensors, vision modules and systems to meet challenges raised by every stakeholder from component manufacture to end user. Our R&D projects embrace every aspect of modeling, designing, prototyping and testing image sensors and systems.

Based on strong interactions with CEA-Leti’s experts in imaging technologies, a design team can ensure every development aspect from the CMOS read-out circuit close to the pixel signal to advanced embedded software.

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ABOUT CEA-LETI (FRANCE)

CEA-Leti, a technology research institute at CEA, is a global leader in miniaturization technologies enabling smart, energy-efficient and secure solutions for industry. Founded in 1967, CEA-Leti pioneers micro- & nanotechnologies, tailoring differentiating applicative solutions for global companies, SMEs and startups. CEA-Leti tackles critical challenges in healthcare, energy and digital migration. From sensors to data processing and computing solutions, CEA-Leti’s multidisciplinary teams deliver solid expertise, leveraging world-class pre-industrialization facilities. With a staff of more than 1,900, a portfolio of 3,100 patents, 10,000 sq. meters of cleanroom space and a clear IP policy, the institute is based in Grenoble, France, and has offices in Silicon Valley and Tokyo. CEA-Leti has launched 69 startups and is a member of the Carnot Institutes network. Follow us on www.leti-cea.com and @CEA_Leti.

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Commissariat à l’énergie atomique et aux énergies alternatives
Minatec Campus | 17 avenue des Martyrs | 38054 Grenoble Cedex 9 | France
www.cea-leti.com