

OMRON to Acquire Sentech, Leading Industrial Camera Maker

- *Achieving innovative manufacturing sites through image data that replaces the human eye by integrating a camera into all processes*

New Delhi, May 08, 2017: OMRON Corporation (HQ: Shimogyo-Ku, Kyoto. President and CEO: Yoshihito Yamada) today announced that it has entered into an agreement with Sentech Co., Ltd., a manufacturer of industrial cameras (HQ: Ebina, Kanagawa; hereinafter referred to as "ST"), to acquire ST and make ST and its subsidiaries members of the OMRON Group. This acquisition is part of OMRON's drive to reinforce its development capabilities for factory automation technologies in its industrial automation business. This acquisition will be completed on July 3, 2017 and the name of the new company is intended to be Omron Sentech Co., Ltd.

As a leading manufacturer specializing in industrial cameras, ST develops machine vision systems for industrial applications, as well as cameras for various medical and laboratory applications, and markets them globally. ST offers a comprehensive range of industrial cameras, including more than 200 models, developed through its advanced camera design technology that enables compact design, high speed, and superb image quality.

With ST joining its group, OMRON will acquire ultra-compact high-resolution cameras, along with related design and development technologies. By combining OMRON's image processing controllers with ST's technologies and products, which have not been available at OMRON until now, OMRON will be able to further strengthen its business. By combining OMRON's various industrial robots and quality inspection systems with ST's cameras, it will become possible to integrate these advanced cameras into any stage of manufacturing, from processing and assembly to inspection. This will enable exchange of image data between many different processes. In this way, OMRON will aim to realize innovative manufacturing environments with significantly enhanced quality and productivity.

In recent years, soaring labor costs in emerging nations and the rapidly aging population of developed countries have made it difficult for manufacturers to maintain human-operated assembly and visual inspection systems. As a result, manufacturing sites are seeking new ways to

improve appearance inspection systems to ensure higher quality, and to reduce labor requirements for assembly processes through the use of robots. This in turn has resulted in a steadily increasing need to implement advanced automation in manufacturing processes, especially those processes which have previously relied on human vision.

Through the acquisition of ST, OMRON will work to develop an ultra-compact and high-definition smart camera¹ that can be easily installed virtually anywhere. This can be achieved by combining ST's design technology for creating compact, high-resolution, and high-speed cameras with OMRON's high-speed and high-accuracy image processing technology. Moreover, OMRON will be able to develop and incorporate an ultra-compact camera into a pick-and-place robot arm to enable 3D recognition of objects. The combination of OMRON's technologies and ST's one will also enable new automation systems that eliminate the dependence on human vision. This will help free operators from demanding visual inspection tasks, while allowing OMRON to develop new markets. A variety of applications are possible, such as using robots to reduce labor in the assembly process; integrating optical sensors in simplified camera configurations; and creating individual product management systems for product quality traceability.

As a leader in factory automation, OMRON offers a wide variety of products, ranging from input devices such as vision sensors to output devices such as controllers and servo motors, as well as safety devices and various industrial robots. By combining these devices, OMRON has supplied manufacturing sites throughout the world with sophisticated automation technologies. Through the acquisition of ST, OMRON expects to further evolve its world-leading role in automation. By continuously working to bring innovation to manufacturing through partnerships with various manufacturers, OMRON will promote further growth in order to achieve the goals of its long-term vision, "Value Generation 2020.

About OMRON Automation:

Headquartered in Kyoto, Japan, OMRON Corporation is a multi-billion-dollar, diversified company with business units producing industrial automation products, electronic components, and healthcare equipment and ticketing systems. OMRON Industrial Automation is a global leader providing complete automation solutions for industrial applications. It brings innovation to manufacturing sites through automation with "Integrated", "intelligent" and "interactive" concepts with one of the world's most sophisticated Input-Logic-Output-Robotics + Safety (ILOR+S) technology including the proprietary sensing technology.

OMRON Automation - India, now more than two decades old in the country, caters to over 7 industrial applications encompassing the wide requirements of packaging, automotive, material handling, solar, food & beverages, textile and panel handling applications. In recent years the company has been

concentrating on the solution business which provides “One Stop” solutions, improving the overall efficiency on diverse production sites. Focusing on the themes of quality, safety and the environment, they support manufacturing innovation worldwide with their unique sensing & controlling technologies. OMRON is rapidly expanding its operations with focus on major cities namely Mumbai, Gurgaon, Bangalore, Pune, Ahmedabad and Chennai and making its presence felt across the country with a strong network of offices, automation centre, training centres, sales & marketing force, application teams, resident engineers, channel partners to address the ever challenging requirements of the clients. A major factor in OMRON’s progress globally & locally has been the strong commitment towards its customers keeping ‘Quality First’.

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About Sentech Co., Ltd.

Company Name:	Sentech Co., Ltd.
President:	Masumi Kawakami
Established:	1987
Business:	Development and marketing of industrial cameras
Employees:	88 (including employees for subsidiaries)
Headquarters:	Ebina, Kanagawa, Japan
Subsidiaries:	Japan, U.S.A., Taiwan, Hong Kong, China, and Singapore

¹ *About smart cameras*

A smart camera is a camera integrated with an image processor. Today, it is mainly used in the inspection process for foods, pharmaceuticals, household goods, and automotive components in the U.S. and Europe. Its compact dimensions make the camera installable virtually anywhere. For this reason, smart cameras are enjoying expanding markets for such applications as simple appearance inspection and code reading. Through the acquisition of ST, OMRON aims to augment the smart camera lineup, as well as its compact vision systems incorporating a separate camera and image processor.

² *About Value Generation 2020 (VG2020)*

"Value Generation 2020 (VG2020)" is the OMRON Group's long-term management vision targeting the decade from 2011 to 2020. To achieve VG2020 goals, OMRON is committed to accelerating business growth, providing new value to many customers across the world

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