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EANS-News: ams AG / ams divests MEMS microphone interface ASIC design assets to Knowles Corporation

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Building on long-term ams/Knowles relationship, transaction reflects ams' continuing focus on sensor solutions

Strategic Management Decisions

Premstaetten - Premstaetten, Austria (23 December 2019) -- ams (SIX: AMS), a leading worldwide supplier of high-performance sensor solutions, announces the divestment of its MEMS microphone interface design assets to its customer Knowles Corporation (NYSE: KN) ("Knowles"), a global provider of advanced micro-acoustic, audio processing, and precision device solutions. Continuing its strategic focus on sensor solutions and in view of significant future opportunities in optical technologies, ams will divest its industry-leading high performance interface ASIC design business for MEMS microphones which has worked in close partnership with Knowles for a number of years to create bespoke audio sensor interfaces. The transaction includes the transfer of a well-respected ASIC design team, related intellectual property rights and sourcing rights for ASIC wafers from multiple foundry partners for a total consideration of USD 58 million in cash. The transaction has already been closed.

"As we drive ams towards becoming a Sensor Solutions and Photonics leader, we have taken this step to secure a strong investment for the excellent ams IP and the expertise of the ams team in MEMS microphone applications," said Chris Feige, Head of Ear Solutions at ams. "With its market-leading understanding from design to execution in advanced micro-acoustics and audio processing and building on our established relationship, Knowles is an excellent partner for this transaction."

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About ams

ams is a global leader in the design and manufacture of advanced sensor solutions. Our mission is to shape the world with sensor solutions by providing a seamless interface between humans and technology.

ams' high-performance sensor solutions drive applications requiring small form factor, low power, highest sensitivity and multi-sensor integration. Products include sensor solutions, sensor ICs, interfaces and related software for consumer, communications, industrial, medical, and automotive markets.

With headquarters in Austria, ams employs about 9,000 people globally and serves more than 8,000 customers worldwide. ams is listed on the SIX Swiss stock exchange (ticker symbol: AMS). More information about ams can be found at <https://ams.com> [https://ams.com/]

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