

## **Vectronix Wins Swiss-French Innovation Award**

**Vectronix AG of Switzerland has won the annual “Award for Innovation” from the Swiss-French Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CFSCI) for its STERNA target locator with advanced inertial technology. The annual award ceremony was held on January 25, 2013 in Montreux, Switzerland.**

**Heerbrugg, January 25, 2013** – The Swiss-French Chamber of Commerce and Industry organizes annual awards for companies from these two countries for outstanding achievements in several categories. The jury this year was especially impressed with the joint work by French company Sagem and Vectronix, its wholly-owned Swiss subsidiary, who created a truly innovative product: the STERNA target locator, featuring a north finder based on hemispherical resonator gyro (HRG) technology.

Sagem designs high-performance navigation systems for air, land and naval applications. It is one of the few companies in the world that masters the technologies needed for hemispherical resonator gyros, which combine high performance with light weight and reduced power consumption for applications demanding very accurate navigation and guidance.

Vectronix identified the exceptional value offered by Sagem's HRG technology and adapted it to the specific needs of its own customers. STERNA is the first and only fully portable target location solution offering reliable and accurate determination of true north, without a magnetic compass or GPS receiver. The system provides reliable performance even in magnetically disturbed environments or completely enclosed rooms. STERNA's small size and light weight, combined with an attractive price, makes it the ideal solution for both the defense industry (forward observers, airborne fire support units, etc.) and civil applications.

"We developed this truly innovative solution by drawing on Sagem's technological expertise," said Jean Harter, Chief Executive Officer of Vectronix: "Our teams in France and Switzerland worked together very closely to make this product a success".

Since its market introduction in 2011, STERNA has set a new standard for the accurate determination of true north, even under the harshest environmental conditions. In fact, the U.S. Army has already ordered the STERNA target location system.

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### **About Vectronix AG**

Vectronix is an established leader in the development and manufacturing of integrated handheld, mounted, module, and precision systems for observation, detection, geo-positioning, and targeting solutions. Leveraging core competencies in electro-optics, laser range finding, and northfinding technologies, Vectronix supports the requirements of defense and law enforcement as well as industrial and commercial markets. Headquartered in Heerbrugg Switzerland, Vectronix AG is owned by Sagem (Safran) and maintains two subsidiaries with four branches in the US.

### **About Sagem**

Sagem, a high-tech company of Safran, holds world or European leadership positions in optronics, avionics, electronics and safety-critical software for both civil and military markets. Sagem is the No. 1 company in Europe and No. 3 worldwide for inertial navigation systems (INS) used in air, land and naval applications. It is also the world leader in helicopter flight controls and the European leader in optronics and tactical UAV systems. Operating across the globe through the Safran group, Sagem and its subsidiaries employ 7,500 people in Europe, Southeast Asia and North America. Sagem is the commercial name of the company Sagem Défense Sécurité.

For more information: [www.sagem-ds.com](http://www.sagem-ds.com)

### **For further information, please contact:**

Pascal Robache, Marketing Communications Manager  
Tel: +41 71 726 7415, Email: [pascal.robache@vectronix.ch](mailto:pascal.robache@vectronix.ch)  
[www.vectronix.ch](http://www.vectronix.ch)