

## Valeo acquires gestigon, a developer of cabin 3D image processing software

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**Paris, March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017** – Valeo has acquired all of the outstanding shares of gestigon, a German start-up specialized in developing 3D image processing software for the vehicle cabin.

Designed to reinforce Valeo's technological leadership in automated driving, this acquisition provides a solution to the need to develop simple, intuitive and effective human-machine interfaces (HMI) in a hyper-connected world. With the acquisition, Valeo will be able to develop its cabin comfort and driving assistance operations, particularly in high-growth technologies such as interior cameras and image processing.

These technologies are increasingly a key differentiating factor in the automotive industry, and gestigon's cutting-edge artificial intelligence-based solutions will contribute to the development of Valeo's automated driving strategy. The start-up's software suite, which is compatible with all types of in-vehicle gesture and movement recognition sensors, signals a real technological breakthrough.

Building on Valeo's existing Driver Monitoring system, which can sense driver drowsiness or distraction, the acquisition will lead to the development of a comprehensive offering of object and occupant detection features. Going forward, the vehicle will be able to analyze the cabin environment and seamlessly adapt to the occupants' safety needs – by activating airbags, for example.

*"We are delighted to welcome gestigon to the Valeo community," said Marc Vrecko, head of Valeo's Comfort and Driving Assistance Systems Business Group. "A leader in human-machine interface solutions, this start-up enjoys recognized expertise in the automotive industry. By combining our skills in a larger team, we will sharpen our edge and reinforce our leadership in autonomous and connected cars."*

Valeo is an automotive supplier, partner to all automakers worldwide. As a technology company, Valeo proposes innovative products and systems that contribute to the reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and to the development of intuitive driving. In 2016, the Group generated sales of €16.5 billion and invested over 11% of its original equipment sales in research and development. Valeo has 155 plants, 20 research centers, 38 development centers and 15 distribution platforms, and employs 91,800 people in 32 countries worldwide. Valeo is listed on the Paris stock exchange and is a member of the CAC 40 index.

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