

## **Oxsensis Wins IET Award for 1000°C Wave-Phire™ Dynamic Pressure Sensor**

**London, UK, November 2008. Oxsensis Ltd was awarded the prestigious Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET) Innovation Award in the Power / Energy category for Wave-Phire™, the world's first commercially available 1000°C (1800°F) dynamic pressure sensor designed for use in helping combat emissions in gas turbine power plant and aero engines; the award in this category was sponsored by Siemens.**

The annual awards scheme, which attracts hundreds of entries from around the world, is a unique opportunity for industry innovators to showcase their brightest ideas. The winners of the awards for 2008 were announced at a gala ceremony at the Park Plaza Riverbank, London hosted by television science presenter Maggie Philbin.

Oxsensis is developing the Wave-Phire™ series of sensors to allow direct control of combustion in the hottest locations of power stations, aero-engines and internal combustion engines. The sensors must operate at temperatures up to 1000°C (while glowing yellow-hot) and have shown measurement capability, repeatability and survivability in customer equipment.

David Gahan, the CEO of Oxsensis declared, "Oxsensis is proud to be recognized for its innovation achievement by one of the most famous organisations in the electronics world for over a hundred years".

IET Chief Executive, Robin McGill, said, "I would like to congratulate all the winning and shortlisted entries in this year's Innovation Awards, which demonstrate genuine novelty and represent a significant technological advance for the industry."

Dr Andrew Elder of Oxsensis backer Albion Ventures said,

"The Wave-Phire™ sensors promise to be of significant help in increasing energy efficiencies in several important world industries. It is exciting to see the first of the products being recognised by such a prestigious institution."

Ends

Higher resolution images are available electronically

### **Contacts**

Oxsensis Ltd.

Alex Winterburn

Tel: +44 (0)1235 77 8329

Email: [contact@oxsensis.com](mailto:contact@oxsensis.com)

Website: [www.oxsensis.com](http://www.oxsensis.com)

## **Further Information**

Oxsensis' sensor technology is based on the micromachining of super resistant materials such as single-crystal sapphire (melting point >2000°C) together with innovative fibre optic interrogation techniques which give high sensitivity and immunity from electro-magnetic interference (EMI) effects common in turbo-machinery such as gas turbines.

As part of their close ties working in the gas turbine industry, Oxsensis is one of 17 European organisations working together on HEATTOP, a gas turbine programme. Other collaborators in the three year programme include Siemens AG, Rolls-Royce Plc. and Oxford and Cambridge Universities. The €8.8M (\$11M) programme, backed by the Commission of the European Communities under the FP6 programme, aims to advance technologies available for gas turbine life optimisation, performance and condition monitoring through accurate high temperature engine measurements. As a result, European gas turbine manufacturers will be able to reduce emissions and increase engine efficiency; reduce product development time and cost of ownership; and improve the competitiveness of their products in global markets.

## **About Oxsensis Ltd.**

Oxsensis is a spin-out from STFC Rutherford Appleton Laboratory in Oxfordshire formed in 2003. The company is backed by Venture Capital from Albion Ventures, Foursome Investments, Seven Spires Investments Ltd., Rainbow Seed Fund and Strathdon Plc., together with prominent individual investors.

## **About Albion Ventures LLP**

Albion Ventures LLP was established to generate long-term investment returns by investing in small companies. The investment management team has created market leading investment performance for the shareholders in the seven Venture Capital Trusts they manage, with funds under management of more than £200m. In the twelve years since the first fund was launched a dividend has been paid on every fund every year, totalling some £81 million; more than any other VCT manager.

Albion Ventures LLP was created in January 2009 when it acquired the business of Close Ventures from Close Brothers plc and is structured as a partnership formed by the Close Ventures management team. The team believes it's appropriate that a business investing in owner-managed companies is itself owner-managed. Close Ventures itself was started by the current management in 1996.

Albion Ventures look to invest £1-10m in a wide range of growing businesses, from technology-oriented companies to service and asset-based businesses.

Albion Ventures is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority.

## **The IET**

### **Notes to editors:**

1. The Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET) is a world leading professional organisation, sharing and advancing knowledge to promote science, engineering and technology across the world. For more information, visit [www.theiet.org](http://www.theiet.org)
2. The IET dates from 1871 and has 150,000 members in 127 countries with offices in Europe, North America and Asia-Pacific.
3. The IET licenses EngTech, IEng and CEng; is supporting the Engineering Diploma and developing the new ICTech and accredits more than 160 undergraduate courses in the UK
4. The IET operates IET.tv, a web TV service which covers a wide range of engineering and technology events and content. For more information, visit [www.iet.tv](http://www.iet.tv)
5. The IET celebrates 100 years at its London home, Savoy Place, in June 2009 and will be staging a programme of centenary celebrations

**Further information, including awards criteria and judges' comments, is available at [www.theiet.org](http://www.theiet.org)**

**Media enquiries to:**

Robert Beahan, IET Press Officer

T: +44 (0)1438 767336

M: +44 (0)7595 400912

E: [rbeahan@theiet.org](mailto:rbeahan@theiet.org)

Mary Donovan, IET Head of Communications

T: +44 (0)1438 765587

M: +44 (0)7725 498117

E: [mdonovan@theiet.org](mailto:mdonovan@theiet.org)



