



## News Release

### **SAES<sup>®</sup> Getters technology in next-generation MEMS gyroscopes from ST**

**SAES<sup>®</sup> Getters Group**, world leader in getter technology for high vacuum applications, has successfully completed the collaboration that was launched a few years ago with **STMicroelectronics**, a leader in the manufacture and sale of MEMS (Micro Electro-Mechanical Systems) devices, for the integration of the SAES getter thin-film technology into new generations of MEMS-based gyroscopes.

The excellent results achieved thus far confirm the strong synergy between semiconductors and getter technology.

Getters have been used in very large quantities since the beginning of the fifties in many electronic devices, all of them "analog" devices, such as Cathode Ray Tubes, Power tubes, Infrared Detectors and many others. Nowadays getters are becoming an important and unique solution in digital devices significantly enlarging possible application fields.

The latest example is getter film in MEMS. It has been clearly proven that getters in MEMS ensure extremely reliable performances and favour continuous size reduction of these sophisticated devices where mechatronic and semiconductor properties are harmonically merged together.

Five inventions covered worldwide by 35 granted patents and 28 pending applications regarding getters in MEMS has made it possible for SAES<sup>®</sup> Getters to offer a technological package capable to fit into ST's MEMS technology. The joint efforts of both ST and the wholly Italian SAES<sup>®</sup> Getters finally brought about the development and industrialisation of a "state of the art" gyroscope MEMS platform with features and performances that other technologies currently cannot match.

It is important to underline that in a period characterised by heavy cost reduction policies, the two companies showed the necessary strategic attitude to pursue significant investments in R&D. Both companies focused on emerging and fast-growing cutting-edge technologies, and joined together their core competencies to ensure the achievement of some very challenging targets in the MEMS field.

MEMS technology opens up new opportunities in multiple applications including automotive, entertainment, and mobile devices such as smart-phones. Both STMicroelectronics and SAES<sup>®</sup> Getters are leading the way in developing technologies that can change our lifestyle.

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