

Press Release

Schneider Electric Acquires Optoelectronic Specialist Dinel

Rueil-Malmaison (France), October 4, 2004 — Schneider Electric has acquired Dinel, a French company that designs, develops, manufactures and markets a wide array of innovative optoelectronic products. Founded in 1980 and based in Gournay-en-Bray (France), Dinel generates roughly €3.4 million in annual sales, of which 42% from outside France, and has 35 employees.

The Dinel product lineup includes optoelectronic amplifiers and sensors, glass and plastic fiber optic sensors, transparent product sensors, LASER sensors, and contrast sensors. They are used in a variety of industrial applications, such as packaging, labeling, handling and storage, and automatic and elevator doors, and in a full range of industries, including wood and paper, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals, medical supplies, food, banking, automotive, metallurgy, micromechanics and electronics.

An innovative company, Dinel has recognized expertise in integrating microcontrollers into product architecture in ways that improve ease of use. Recent products include the world's first color sensor, a new type of laser sensor for worldwide distribution, a line of miniature sensors, and an imaging system used for final quality control on production and packaging lines.

Strengthening its leadership in high value-added sensors

With Dinel, Schneider Electric has extended its current wide range of electromechanical, photoelectric, inductive, capacitive and ultrasonic sensors, with the goal of better serving customer needs for innovative, high value-added products. Schneider Electric also intends to expand its presence in manufacturing industries by offering customized products.

The acquisition reflects Schneider Electric's commitment to continue developing its range of automation products and is fully in line with the Company's external growth strategy.

About Schneider Electric

Schneider Electric is a world leader in power and control. Through its world-class brands, Merlin Gerin, Square D and Telemecanique, Schneider Electric anticipates and satisfies its customers' requirements in the residential, buildings, industry and energy and infrastructure markets. With 83,000 employees, Schneider Electric generated sales of €8.8 billion in 2003 through 13,000 sales outlets in 130 countries.

Schneider Electric: Giving the best of the New Electric World to everyone, everywhere, at any time



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