

Press release

MES software specialist leverages synergies with expert for machine connectivity

iTAC Software AG expanding Industry 4.0 solutions with acquisition of Cogiscan

Montabaur, February 17, 2021 – iTAC Software AG

(www.itacsoftware.com), a member of the Dürr Group, is strengthening its position in the area of digitalization/Industry 4.0 by acquiring 100% of the shares of Canadian company Cogiscan Inc. Cogiscan is a solution provider for the electronics manufacturing industry leading in connectivity and analytics, and will continue to operate independently. Cogiscan brings a deep domain expertise in the area of machine connectivity, analytics and factory automation software along with an extensive network of partnerships with leading machine and software vendors.

“Digitalization is one of the Dürr Group’s core competences and offers great potential for growth. With the acquisition of Cogiscan, we will be adding a strong team of experts and key technologies to the Digital Factory, which is a cross-divisional virtual organization for joint development of digital products within the Dürr Group,” explains Peter Bollinger, CEO of iTAC Software AG.

Founded in 1999 with headquarters in Bromont, Quebec, Canada, Cogiscan has a global footprint with over 450 customer sites across 50 countries. Over the past 22 years the company has grown to become a technology leader in the electronics manufacturing industry. The Cogiscan TTC (Track, Trace and

iTAC Software AG
Aubachstr. 24
56410 Montabaur, Germany

Tel.: +49 2602-10 65-0
Fax: +49 2602-10 65-30
kontakt@itacsoftware.com
www.itacsoftware.com

Control) platform sets the foundation for the smart factory of the future and bridges the gap between the shop floor and enterprise systems such as MES, PLM and ERP.

Trend towards greater integration and connectivity

With the acquisition of Cogiscan, the Dürr Digital Factory is taking a strong position in an expanding segment: “The segment of machine connectivity is expected to yield superior growth rates as manufacturers face increasing pressure to accelerate their digitalization initiatives to better compete in a fast-changing global supply chain,” explains Peter Bollinger. “At the beginning of any digitalization roadmap is the automated collection of quality data and the need to integrate and share data across all machines and software applications, a challenge that is exacerbated by the large variety of data sources and interfaces associated with legacy equipment and systems.”

History of collaboration

iTAC Software AG and Cogiscan already have a long and successful history of collaboration. One of Cogiscan’s key business segment comes from a network of partnerships with software vendors that leverage the machine data collected by Cogiscan to increase the value and efficiency of their own solutions. This includes several leading MES providers that operate in the electronics manufacturing industry, among others. Cogiscan has collaborated for over 10 years with iTAC, feeding machine data to their MES for corporate customers.

In addition, Cogiscan has developed strong partnerships with leading machine vendors, providing connectivity and other TTC technology that is embedded in the machine vendor’s software portfolios.

Leveraging synergies and expansion of business areas

“Together with Cogiscan, we will be able to offer our customers a broader range of smart factory solutions. Cogiscan is a technological leader in machine connectivity and analytics solutions,” says Peter Bollinger.

Cogiscan will continue to operate as an independent company and will maintain their core business strategy which includes working with other machine and

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software companies outside of the Dürr Group. The integration within the Dürr Group offers a good basis for accelerating Cogiscan's sales growth as they will have improved access to large global customers, and will be able to expand their business more quickly.

"Cogiscan will benefit from the Dürr Group's reputation and resources in many ways. This merger accomplishes two significant goals for Cogiscan and for our customers. First it ensures the long-term future of Cogiscan through the financial support and stability offered by a large corporation. In addition, the synergies will accelerate the execution of our original vision. We feel that this is a perfect fit for both companies and we look forward to this new stage in our corporate history," says Vincent Dubois, CEO of Cogiscan and co-founder of the company. Vincent Dubois along with the other co-founders and the management team will remain on board for several years as part of the transition plan.

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itAC acquires Cogiscan as an addition to the knowledge in the Dür Digital Factory



Team Cogiscan

itAC Software AG
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About iTAC

iTAC Software AG, a stand-alone company of mechanical and plant engineering group Dürr, offers Internet-enabled information and communication technologies for the manufacturing industry. Founded in 1998, the company is now a leading MES manufacturer. The iTAC.MES.Suite is a manufacturing execution system used worldwide by companies in various sectors, including the automotive, electronics/EMS, telecommunications, medical technology, metals and energy industries. Further systems and solutions for implementing IIoT and Industry 4.0 requirements complete the portfolio. iTAC Software AG is headquartered in Montabaur, Germany with offices in the USA, China and Japan, and has a worldwide partner network for sales and service. iTAC's philosophy is to connect people, data and systems.

The Dürr Group is one of the world's leading mechanical and plant engineering companies with outstanding expertise in the fields of automation and digitalisation/Industry 4.0. Dürr products, systems and services facilitate highly efficient manufacturing processes in various industries. Dürr supplies many industries, including the automotive, mechanical engineering, chemical, pharmaceutical and wood processing sectors. The company has 92 locations in 32 countries and 16,500 employees worldwide.

About Cogiscan Inc.

Cogiscan is the leading track, trace and control (TTC) solutions provider for the electronics manufacturing industry. The scalable Cogiscan platform perfectly integrates with all major equipment types and is highly configurable to enable a personalized solution to each customer's specific production needs. Since 1999 Cogiscan has attained several international patents for TTC hardware and software and has won multiple awards throughout the years. For more information, visit www.cogiscan.com.

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www.itacsoftware.com

Contact

iTAC Software AG
Natalie Wolodin
Inbound Marketing
Tel.: +49 2602 1065 216
Fax: +49 2602 1065 30
Email: natalie.wolodin@itacsoftware.com
www.itacsoftware.com

PR agency:
punctum pr-agentur GmbH
Ms Ulrike Peter
Managing Director
Tel.: +49 211 971 7977 0
Email: pr@punctum-pr.de
www.punctum-pr.de

iTAC Software AG
Aubachstr. 24
56410 Montabaur, Germany

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