

## Press Release

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# ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING: AIT AND CHRISTOF INDUSTRIES JOIN FORCES

The goal: sensor networks and environmental solutions for cities in Asia

Both, air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions, continue to increase worldwide - the consequences of the Covid 19 pandemic leave only a temporary dent in this long-term trend. This makes it even more important to monitor air pollutants carefully and reliably in all regions of the world in order to be able to take targeted measures against emissions. Therefore, the AIT Austrian Institute of Technology and the environmental technology specialist Christof Industries are now pooling their know-how. The common goal is to bring sophisticated solutions for the recording and evaluation of environmental pollutants into use worldwide.

"Our partnership with the renowned AIT Austrian Institute of Technology aims to make a significant contribution to the reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and air pollutants through municipal environmental monitoring," explains Wolfgang Nestler, Managing Director of Christof Systems, a subsidiary of the Graz-based family-owned company Christof Industries. The company successfully develops, builds and markets integrated waste management and environmental concepts for cities and regions. Examples include municipal waste management concepts in Southeast Asia, plants in South Africa for the sustainable recycling of biological waste by insect larvae, innovative technologies for the rapid, safe and cost-effective disinfection and sterilisation of infectious, contaminated medical waste, or treatment processes from biogenic raw and waste water to reduce nitrogen oxide emissions and nitrate pollution of soils.

"Modern and sustainable environmental management needs digital communication solutions and highly secure IT systems, which have been developed through high-tech research at AIT in recent years. In an exemplary cooperation with the environmental technology specialist Christof Industries, we can jointly position leading digital solutions made in Austria on the global market," says Helmut Leopold, Head of the Center for Digital Safety & Security at AIT.

### **Solutions for environmental management**

UWEDAT is a complete system for environmental monitoring that integrates data from sensor networks to measure parameters from air, water, meteorology, electromagnetic fields, etc. UWEDAT is robust and highly reliable. UWEDAT is designed to be robust and very flexible and can combine stationary sensor networks with other sensors (such as from temporary measuring points on construction sites or drones) as well as with area data. UWEDAT is used in various air quality measurement networks, for water monitoring or in measurement network centres both in Austria (e.g. Federal Environment Agency) and abroad (e.g. in Bulgaria or Indonesia).

The EMIKAT system is a data management system for emission data that enables very specific evaluations from very large data input volumes using corresponding models and freely definable

scenarios. For example, emission calculations can be carried out on polluter groups or target paths of emission reduction measures can be tracked over time. EMIKAT is used by six federal states in Austria, among others, which compile their emission and air quality registers with the system and use it to derive reference points for future spatial, urban and transport planning.

### **Austrian technology export**

AIT and Christof Industries now want to work together to develop future-oriented sensor networks and environmental solutions that will be used in heavily air-polluted urban regions - with Asia in particular in mind as a target market. Christof Industries operates a subsidiary in Southeast Asia with its own very large manufacturing facility that meets western quality standards.

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