VDMA: European machine vision looks back on a record year

- 2016: European machine vision industry in Europe shows 10 percent growth
- 2017: Growth perspectives of 8 percent

Frankfurt, 14 February 2017 – The European machine vision industry remains on a solid growth course. According to the results of the VDMA incoming order and turnover statistics, the European machine vision industry grew by 10 percent in 2016 in comparison with the previous year. Incoming orders increased significantly towards the end of 2016. Hence, the industry had a successful start in 2017 regardless of the many political uncertainties in the world. "Machine vision is a major trend. The period of growth will continue. For years, the European machine vision industry has been conquering new markets and applications. Many great opportunities, such as the smart factory or the car of the future, can only be achieved with machine vision as key technology. And new trends such as embedded vision open up additional areas of application", said Olaf Munkelt, Chairman of the Board of VDMA Machine Vision, on the occasion of the release of the new VDMA figures. More details on products, markets and applications and a more precise growth forecast will follow in June 2017, when the final results of the VDMA annual market survey machine vision are available.
Machine vision – a growth market

The machine vision industry in Germany and Europe has been reporting high growth numbers and record sales figures for years. Sales in the industry have more than doubled in the years 2005 – 2015. The German machine vision industry alone achieved in all likelihood a record turnover of 2.3 billion euros in 2016 (+11 percent). The reason for the boom: Equipped with machine vision systems, machines and robots are learning to "see". Within the global race towards greater automation, this key technology is not just found in traditional industrial sectors, but is conquering brand new areas too. Improved quality, greater reliability, increased safety and cost-effectiveness are benefits that are just as crucial in non-manufacturing contexts as in the realm of industrial production.

About VDMA Machine Vision

VDMA (Verband Deutscher Maschinen- und Anlagenbau, Mechanical Engineering Industry Association) represents more than 3,200 mostly medium-sized companies in the capital goods industry, making it the largest industry association in Europe. As part of the VDMA Robotics + Automation association, VDMA Machine Vision has more than 115 members: vendors of machine vision systems and components as well as integrators. The objective behind this industry-driven platform is to support machine vision with a wide range of activities and services. Its activities include statistical analyses and the annual market survey of the machine vision industry, marketing and standardisation activities, public relations, trade fair policy, as well as networking events and conferences. More information is available at www.vdma.org/vision.