

a-SIS launches a heads-up display system

This new multi-mode mobility solution offers a real alternative to augmented reality glasses, combining information displayed on a high-definition screen positioned on the visor of a cap with voice technology. The result is a clear field of view and free hands.



a-SIS develops software solutions for the supply chain, and is part of the Savoye Division (Legris Industries Group). During the 2016 SITL international trade show for transport and logistics (22-25 March, Paris Nord Villepinte) the company is presenting a new multi-mode mobility solution. Its main advantage is that it offers warehouse operatives clear visibility while also leaving their hands free. This unique solution is a powerful alternative to augmented-reality glasses. *"Initially, we prototyped and tested glasses, but we came to the conclusion that this solution is not very suitable for use in a warehouse,"* explains Evelyne Raynaud, Director for Product Development and Strategy at a-SIS. In fact, the software developer considers that glasses are too restrictive: they do not take into account

people who are obliged to wear glasses as a matter of course, they obscure the wearer's field of view, they cannot guarantee optimum security in an environment where forklift trucks are constantly moving around, and finally they raise the problem of WiFi emissions from the arms of the glasses. To overcome these disadvantages, a-SIS therefore developed its own solution, after three years of R&D.

Greater freedom for operators

The system consists of two main elements: a cap with an adjustable, high-definition, 0.39-inch OLED screen attached to the visor, connected to a hi-vis vest containing a micro PC and the batteries powering the system. The two devices are connected by a USB-HDMI cable. *"Unlike glasses, a screen positioned on the cap visor leaves the operator's field of view totally free,"* Evelyne Raynaud adds. In practice, to see what tasks need to be performed, operators only have to raise their eyes to see the screen under the visor. Looking ahead again, they have a clear field of view. In addition to the screen, a-SIS has incorporated voice technology, because the cap is also equipped with a headset and an earpiece. Another positive point is the option of associating photos with the information, further reducing possible sources of error.

This a-SIS mobility solution can be adapted to any workstation and suits warehouse processes where the operator is on foot: reception, preparation of orders, inventories, etc. The Savoye Division brand even intends to offer it in production situations. The cap can be customised with the user's corporate colours or logo, and batteries have 10 hours of autonomy, covering a full day of work.

a-SIS already has its first customer, its parent company, the Savoye Division, which is rolling out the system on its site at Ladoix-Serrigny (Côte-d'Or). As for the price, the heads-up display system is designed to be competitive, as it is being marketed at a price comparable to that of a commercially-available radio terminal.