



*Press release, March 19th 2018  
Partners: CNRS, SATT Linksum, Spintec*

## **HPROBE PIONEER OF MAGNETIC MEMORY TESTS**

**Founded in Grenoble area in March 2017, the startup is targeting the huge market of emerging Magnetic Random Access Memories (MRAM) by offering fast, accurate and flexible test equipment for foundries and integrated circuits providers who develop magnetic devices and MRAM.**

Eybens, March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018: Even before its creation, Hprobe delivered its first product to a major European mixed research/industrial laboratory. The growing interest of major players of the microelectronic industry on MRAM technology, as a replacement technology for embedded memory of system on chip (SoC), is a great opportunity for the startup to widely commercialize its products. MRAM needs low electrical energy to work and it is compatible with the power consumption requirements of the internet of things. A market driven by several tens of billion wireless units to be deployed in 2020.

"The wafer testing stage of MRAM devices is a critical bottleneck for industrial players investing in the mass production of this new generation of memories. Our equipment has the advantage of doing very fast measurements of magnetic devices. It enables the control of manufacturing performances at several stages of the production process and brings real cost and time benefits" said Laurent Lebrun, CEO and founder of the company.

Hprobe has spin-off a unique technology of 3D magnetic generator formerly developed by Spintec, a research laboratory (mixed unit of CNRS, CEA and Grenoble Alpes University) founded and led for many years by Jean-Pierre Nozières, also founder of the growing startup.

Together with Laurent Lebrun, who led several companies during twelve years in the fields of machine tools, metrology and precision mechanics, they decided to develop a complete tester for in-line control and testing of MRAM memories on industrial production lines. To achieve this, they relied on Spintec's valuable work which is based on more than a decade of development of MRAM specific test procedures.

Hprobe has now released and industrialize a complete turnkey solution for wafer sorting, process control and yield monitoring of MRAM and magnetic devices.

The startup has been supported by Linksum SATT (Accelerated Transfer Technology Company) and wins the 2017 iLab French National innovation contest. Hprobe is now closing a first round of fundraising and plans to reach a turnover of 15 M€ in five years with a team of 20 people.

### **ABOUT HPROBE:**

Founded in March 2017 and located in Eybens (Grenoble), the startup is specialized in the design and manufacturing of test equipments enabling competitive and efficient wafer testing of MRAM and magnetic devices. The company is driven by a team of high level executive composed of Jean-Pierre Nozières (Founder and Strategic Advisor), Laurent Lebrun (Founder and CEO), Siamak Salimy (Founder and CTO), Yann Richard (Business Development Director). Isabelle Jourard, research engineer at Spintec laboratory, gives her support in R&D.

<https://www.hprobe.com/>

## PARTNERS



### CNRS (centre national de la recherche scientifique)

The CNRS is a public institution of scientific and technological nature, under the supervision of the Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation. It produces knowledge and puts this knowledge at the service of society. With more than 32,000 staff in 1100 research and service units and a 2016 budget of 3.2 billion euros, the CNRS is the leading center for basic research in Europe. It is also one of the top ten patent applicants in France, making it a real player in the innovation and economic development of our country. 18 regional delegations provide direct and local management of laboratories and maintain links with local partners and local authorities. The Alpes delegation includes 2,250 CNRS staff in 84 research and service units in 4 departments: Drôme, Isère, Savoie and Haute-Savoie. More than 90% of the CNRS Alpes laboratories are joint research units in partnership with universities, national organizations, and European and international institutes.

<http://www.alpes.cnrs.fr>

### LINKSIUM

Linksiium fosters technology transfer through the creation of startups. It is one of 14 French SATT (Technology Transfer Accelerator Society). Linksiium received a grant of 57 million euros over 10 years from a French public funding program for innovation (PIA) to transform work from Grenoble laboratories into viable startups. Thanks to its unique blended program of technology transfer and startup building, Linksiium creates value around intellectual property. In three years of activity, it has already generated 23 startups within the 107 enhanced technologies, and this number of creation should increase by a rate of 30 startups per year.

<https://www.linksium.fr>

### SPINTEC

SPINTEC laboratory (Spintronics and component technologies) is a joint research unit CEA / CNRS / Université Grenoble Alpes whose aim is to bridge the gap between basic research and advanced technologies geared towards new devices in the emerging field of research. Spin electronics. Ideally located on the MINATEC campus in Grenoble, SPINTEC was created in 2002 and has grown rapidly to reach a hundred people. The projects currently range from magnetic random access memories to RF devices, nonvolatile logic circuits, magnetic sensors and nanomagnetism for health and biology, spin-orbitronic, topological insulators and 2D materials. The synergy of these complementary skills has placed SPINTEC at the forefront of spintronic research. In line with its mission at the crossroads of research and technology, SPINTEC has many links with academic research laboratories, but also with companies, including four startups from the laboratory since its creation: Crocus Technology, in 2006, eVaderis in 2014, HProbe and Antaios in 2017.

<http://www.spintec.fr/>

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HD photo on demand

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