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Capturing Vineyard Water Content, Leaf Wetness, and Solar Radiation

Crossbow Technology Supports for New Sensors for Remote Crop Monitoring

San Jose, CA – October 28, 2008 – Crossbow Technology's eKo Pro Series wireless monitoring sensor system, already used by wine-growers to measure soil moisture and ambient weather conditions, will now support three additional external sensors – for soil water content, leaf wetness, and solar radiation.

“This demonstrates the versatility of the eKo Pro Series plug-and-play Environmental Sensor Bus (ESB) architecture,” said *[person, title]*. “It supports both smart and custom sensors from different manufacturers, with direct plug-in for most two or three wire sensors. The network will auto detect and self-configure each new node and sensor.”

The eKo Pro Series' newly supported Soil Water Content sensor from Decagon measures volumetric water content and calculates the dielectric constant or permittivity of the material in which the sensors are buried. Unlike many soil moisture sensors, its robust ECH20 probes are not sensitive to changes in soil type and salinity.

Also from Decagon, the Leaf Wetness sensor helps prevent many fungal and bacterial diseases that affect plants only when moisture is present on a leaf surface. No painting or calibration is necessary and low power requirements enable long-term monitoring.

Using a Davis sensor, the Solar Radiation sensor measures both the direct and diffuse components of solar radiation and also monitors evapotranspiration when used with an anemometer and a temperature and humidity sensor.

The eKo Pro Series is a highly integrated, expandable turnkey system that employs a self-powered, self-configuring mesh network of wireless sensors to deliver vital live data about crop health, vigor and growth progress via a simple internet browser. Its relatively low per node cost compared to other alternatives offers a quick, cost-effective way to deploy more sensors across different terrain and microclimates within a vineyard to achieve broader monitoring coverage without incurring other monthly or incremental fees. eKo also provides the flexibility to combine multiple applications into one system, including frost detection, irrigation monitoring, and disease prediction.

About Crossbow Technology

Founded in 1995, Crossbow Technology, Inc. is the leading end-to-end solutions supplier of wireless sensor networks and inertial sensor systems. Crossbow has shipped over 500,000 sensors to over 1000 customers

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worldwide, including select Fortune 100 companies, for applications as diverse as industrial automation, building monitoring, home automation, environmental control, defense, security and asset tracking.

Crossbow is leading the revolution in connecting the physical world with the digital world through wireless sensor networks and leading-edge inertial navigation systems. Headquartered in San Jose, California, Crossbow has offices in China, Japan and Switzerland and distributors in 24 countries worldwide. The company is privately held. Its major investors include Cisco Systems, Intel Capital, Morgenthaler Ventures and Paladin Capital. For more information, visit www.xbow.com.

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