

ATEX certified u-blox cellular module for Pietro Fiorentini's metering

SARA-G350 ATEX is designed for use in gas metering applications in residential and industrial areas



Thalwil, Switzerland and Arcugnano, Italy – March 17, 2016 – Pietro Fiorentini S.p.a., a leading company producing components, systems and services for the regulation and metering of natural gas, has announced the launch of the RSE gas meter family, in collaboration with u-blox (SIX:UBXN), a global leader in wireless and positioning modules and chips. The devices are used for gas metering in

residential and industrial areas, where power efficiency, as well as product robustness and reliability are crucial. The u-blox cellular module, SARA-G350, is certified according to ATEX, an EU Directive defining the technical requirements and conformity assessment procedures to be applied to equipment deployed in potentially explosive environments.

"We needed a high quality and reliable smart technology for critical gas telemetry in residential and industrial areas. SARA-G350, the ATEX certified cellular module from u-blox was therefore the right choice. This is another step towards better, more efficient, stable and safer gas distribution networks and management," explains Pietro Cerami, Marketing Director at Pietro Fiorentini.

The <u>SARA-G3 series</u> of GSM/GPRS modules features extremely low power consumption and a miniature LGA form factor. SARA-G350 is the quad-band version for global connectivity, while the ATEX certified variant is the ideal solution for the development of smart devices deployed in potentially explosive environments. u-blox also complies with ATEX regulations by manufacturing in ISO/TS 16949 certified production sites.

"It was very exciting to collaborate with a market leader such as Pietro Fiorentini in developing a product that would guarantee secure and high quality wireless communication in smart gas metering applications," explains Stefano Moioli, Director Product Management Cellular at u-blox. "Professional grade SARA-G350 ATEX follows the u-blox 'nested design' philosophy: to maintain form factor and software portability. This enables customers to easily upgrade their products with each new generation of u-blox wireless modules, without having to change the PCB designs. The easy migration between u-blox products contributes to a maximized investment, simplified logistics and drastically reduced time-to-market," he adds.

Pietro Fiorentini and u-blox plan further collaboration with the advent of new mobile technologies, such as <u>Narrowband IoT (NB-IoT)</u>.

About u-blox

Swiss u-blox (SIX:UBXN) is a global leader in wireless and positioning semiconductors and modules for the automotive, industrial and consumer markets. u-blox solutions enable people, vehicles and machines to locate their exact position and communicate wirelessly over cellular and short range networks. With a broad portfolio of chips, modules and software solutions, u-blox is uniquely positioned to empower OEMs to develop innovative solutions for the Internet of Things, quickly and cost-effectively. With headquarters in Thalwil, Switzerland, u-blox is globally present with offices in Europe, Asia and the USA. (www.u-blox.com)

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About Pietro Fiorentini S.p.a.

With 70 years of experience, Pietro Fiorentini S.p.a. is a leading company operating on an International level in designing, manufacturing and selling components, systems and services for the regulation and metering of natural and liquid gas. Its goal is to enable and increase a safe gas usage by distributors and consumers, with continuous improvement. Pietro Fiorentini leads the way in the implementation of latest regulations in all directions: quality control, safety at work, environmental management and finally products and production facilities. (www.fiorentini.com)

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