

## EXHIBITOR INTERVIEW: LUCIEN VLEUGELS, TERRITORY MANAGER, LMI TECHNOLOGIES



At this year's expo, LMI Technologies not only took the opportunity to reveal its latest technologies, but was also on the lookout for experts who might be interested in joining the company's 190 employees at its facilities in Canada, Europe and Asia, where more than 20 positions are currently available.

To facilitate growth, the company has recently moved its headquarters to a new location in Vancouver, which effectively doubles the manufacturing space to meet increasing demand for sensor production, while providing added floor space to accommodate a rapidly growing workforce. The increased square footage and custom-designed manufacturing facilities will provide employees with access to a gymnasium, basketball/tennis courts, rooftop patio and riverside parkland and walking paths.

This expert in 3D machine vision develops a range of 3D in-line smart sensors designed for factory automation. "We believe one of our competitive advantages is chip-level engineering, which means we develop all the hardware components and all software, firmware and tools. That gives us

tremendous flexibility, so we can offer the best sensors and tools without compromise," said territory manager Lucien Vleugels.

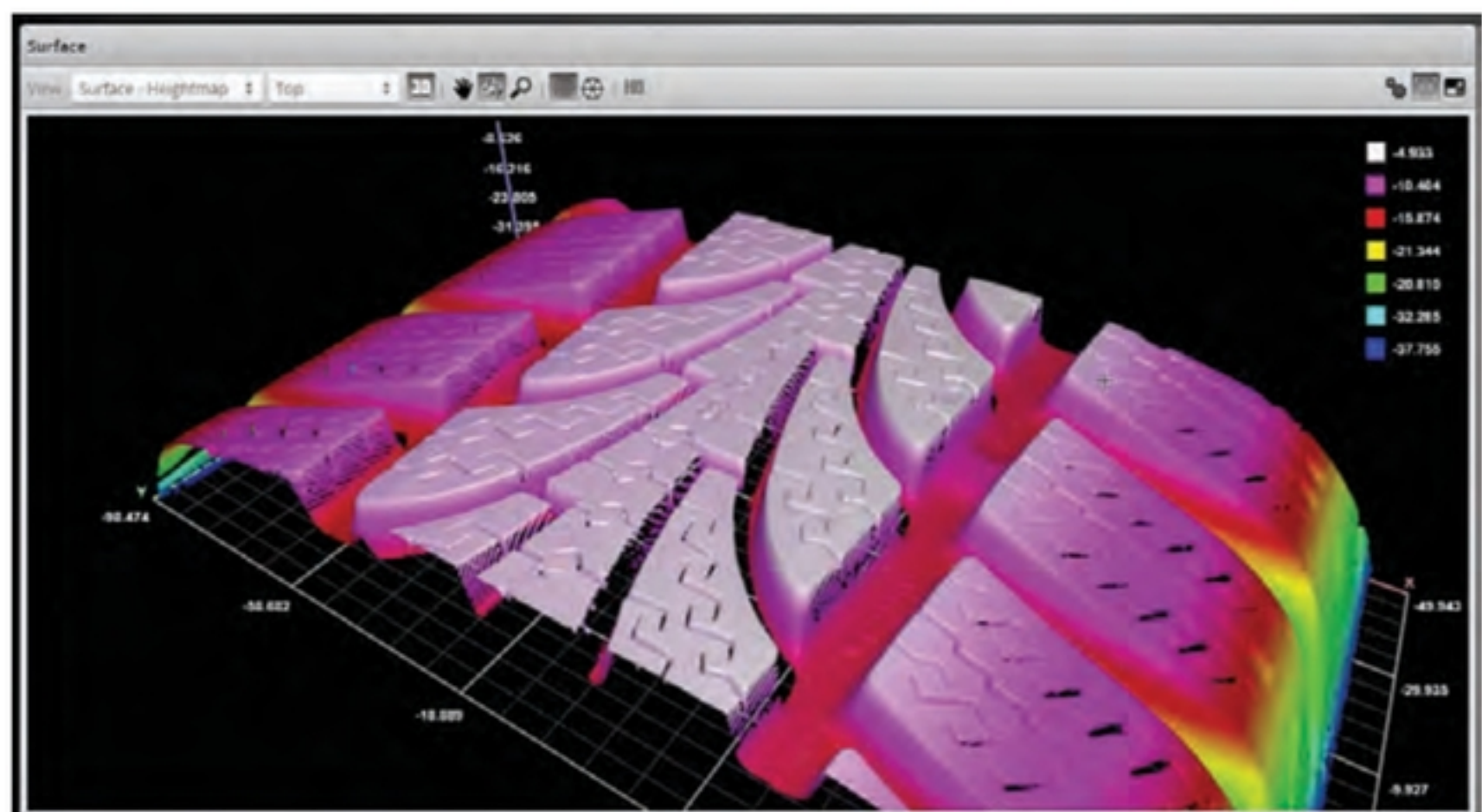
Sensors developed by the supplier can be integrated into different inspection systems in various configurations. Visitors to the show were able to learn more about the recently introduced Gocator

2400 series, said to be the first 2MP laser line profiler, which is both high resolution and high speed and uses a blue laser.

"The G2400 leverages our smart sensor technology in which you do not need an external controller or even external software to run your application," Vleugels explained. "Our first models were developed to deliver the very high resolution demanded by customers in consumer electronics. Here at the show we are presenting two new models in the 2400 series – the 2430 and 2440 – which are designed specifically for rubber and tire applications." In addition to the company's laser profiler products, new sensors will be added to the Gocator 3000 snapshot series in late Q1 of 2017.

"We are also very active in developing tools that are easy to use for various inspection tasks," noted Vleugels. "Ease of use is an important focus, which is why we adopted web technology for the Gocator user interface and designed our sensors in an all-in-one package. We listen to customers and recently we introduced some unique tools, such as our Gocator Development Kit, which enables the user to modify the firmware of a sensor and create their own measurement tools to run their sensor as a customized unit – another industry first in the sensor business."

According to Vleugels, Tire Technology Expo serves as a platform to gain ideas, look into new applications and realize advanced new solutions for specific customer requirements. "That will drive our decisions to develop the next systems in smart technology," he said. ■



Gocator 2400 series is said to be the first 2MP laser line profiler. The 2430 and 2440 models are for rubber and tire applications