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A2iA's INNOVATION REWARDED BY OSEO anvar

As a French SME, A2iA has just received from OSEO anvar the FCPI label, a repayable grant for the development of A2iA DocumentReader and a recruiting assistance to strengthen its R&D team.

Paris - March 30, 2006 - Since its creation, A2iA has relied on various measures at its disposal to secure financing for its growth. In addition, the software editor has always maintained close relations with OSEO anvar, the French supporting organization dedicated to innovative SMEs. OSEO anvar had already awarded A2iA a repayable grant 10 years ago for the development of *A2iA CheckReader*, its first handwriting recognition software for payment systems. This solution, currently used by 600 customers in 18 countries throughout the world, has generated more than 30 million euros in sales since its launch.

A2iA recently received **OSEO Anvar's FCPI label**, which honours innovative French businesses. One of only two specialists in intelligent cursive word recognition worldwide, each year this French SME earmarks nearly 25% of its sales to R&D for developing progressively innovative applications for automatic cursive handwriting recognition.

A2iA has also just obtained a **new repayable grant from OSEO Anvar** to support development and marketing efforts for its new *A2iA DocumentReader* software, which brings true innovation to both the IDR (Intelligent Document Recognition) and IWR (Intelligent Word Recognition) markets, the latter dedicated to keyword extraction and intelligent sorting of unstructured documents, including those written in freehand. ***A2iA DocumentReader is the first ever recognition software that entirely automates open incoming mail identification and classification.***

In order to support its research efforts, A2iA strengthened its R&D team by recruiting a young researcher in early 2005. This new hire was made possible through OSEO Anvar's recruitment assistance.

OSEO Anvar's renewed support for A2iA's innovative projects reinforces the company's strategic choices and boosts its objective of helping companies move toward automating more of their paper flow.

"Once again, OSEO Anvar has shown its confidence in us through its FCPI label and innovation assistance in the development of A2iA DocumentReader, our new recognition software which offers technological breakthroughs found nowhere else in the world. OSEO Anvar remains one of the greatest professional portals for innovative French SMEs and has always provided us with invaluable assistance in our development," explained Jean-Louis Fages, CEO of A2iA.

About A2iA

A2iA (Artificial Intelligence & Image Analysis), founded in 1991, headquartered in New York and Paris, is known as the worldwide leading developer of Intelligent Word Recognition (IWR) technology for extracting information from natural freeform and cursive handwriting on paper documents. The company's technology has been helping paper-intensive industries reduce data entry costs and improve business process automation for 15 years. A2iA's recognition engines harmonize their OCR, ICR and IWR technologies with their image analysis, artificial intelligence and neural network systems to enhance solutions from the world's leading systems integrators and other independent software vendors. For more information: www.a2ia.com.