



## **3SI combines forces with ECA.**

### ***-Reinforcing market leadership and strengthening presence in European market-***

**Exton, 14 February 2006**, 3SI Security Systems (3SI), the world's leading manufacturer of electronic security systems for cash protection, and ECA Horst Kriechbaum (ECA) are pleased to announce that they have signed an agreement for 3SI to acquire the ECA operations. The combined business will trade as 3SI.

ECA, headquartered in Klosterneuburg, Austria, is a leading European provider of bank security solutions. The company's main products are cash degradation systems (SmokeNote and AsTec3), as well as SMS data transmission technology. The company was founded in 1988, employs 10 people and has distribution agreements in 13 European countries.

3SI is the world leader in electronic cash protection solutions. Currently 91 of the top 100 banks in the USA and 27 of the top 50 banks in Europe use 3SI security solutions. The company has offices and headquarters in the US and Europe and employs 185 people.

The acquisition of ECA will reinforce 3SI's market leadership, strengthen its presence in Europe and further improve the firm's ability to deliver on client needs. Stirling Square Capital Partners, the majority owners of 3SI, are backing the transaction.

Thomas Oxenfeld, CEO, of the combined business said, "We look forward to working with Horst and his team to build on our respective successes to date and continue to serve our clients' needs through the provision of effective solutions to stay ahead of crime."

Horst Kriechbaum, CEO of ECA said, "3SI has established an excellent reputation in the security market and is a clear market leader. We are excited that we will be able to expand our market presence through the 3SI distribution network and cross sell our respective products. This transaction will allow 3SI to accelerate the development of new and innovative products and grow the business internationally."

Bolaji Odunsi, Partner at Stirling Square said, "Both businesses have strong client bases and enviable patented and proprietary products. We see great potential for the combined business and will continue to provide strategic input, capital and access to our network of contacts".



## Enquiries

Thomas E. Oxenfeld, President & CEO  
3SI Security Systems  
tom\_oxenfeld@3sisecurity.com  
+1 610 280 2000

Bart Milissen, Executive Vice President & General Manager Europe  
3SI Security Systems  
[Bart\\_milissen@3sisecurity.com](mailto:Bart_milissen@3sisecurity.com)  
+32 2 713 62 06

Horst Kriechbaum, CEO  
ECA Horst Kriechbaum  
+43 2243 28508

Bolaji Odunsi  
Stirling Square Capital Partners  
bo@stirlingsquare.com  
+44 20 7808 4140

## About ECA Horst Kriechbaum

ECA is a leading European provider of bank security solutions. The company was founded in 1988 and is headquartered in Klosterneuburg, Austria with a subsidiary in Milan, Italy. The company's main products are cash degradation systems (SmokeNote and AsTec3), as well as SMS data transmission technology. Its products are distributed in 13 European countries.

[www.ecavienna.at](http://www.ecavienna.at)

## About 3SI Security Systems

3SI Security Systems is a world leader in protecting cash, using proprietary electronic smoke and ink and GPS-based technologies in banks ATMs, safes and other applications. Currently, 91 of the top 100 banks in the USA and 27 of the top 50 banks in Europe use 3SI security solutions. Its US headquarters are located in Exton, PA and the European headquarters are located in Zaventem, Belgium. The company has R&D and production facilities in Byron, Georgia, USA and Zaventem, Belgium. Globally, the business employs a team of 185 people providing innovative solutions, professional service and customer satisfaction.

[www.3sisecurity.com](http://www.3sisecurity.com).

## About Stirling Square Capital Partners

Stirling Square Capital Partners is a pan-European mid-market private equity firm with \$280 million of committed capital. Citigroup is the firm's 'cornerstone investor'. Stirling Square Capital Partners provides private equity investment to European companies with enterprise values in the €50 million - €500 million range, operating across a broad range of sectors and industries. Target companies are sector leaders with international aspirations, defensible competitive advantages, and talented management teams capable of executing a clearly defined value creation strategy.

[www.stirlingsquare.com](http://www.stirlingsquare.com) .