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XOS Launches Ultra-Low Sulfur SINDIE™ Fuel Analyzer; Helps Refiners Meet New EPA Low-Sulfur, Acid Rain Regs

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For Immediate Release

Albany, Nov 6 – X-Ray Optical Systems, Inc. (XOS), East Greenbush, today launched production of its advanced, on-line and bench-top analyzers for measuring minute amounts of sulfur in motor fuels. The devices are critical to petroleum refiners and marketers in meeting U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ultra-low sulfur regulations for on-road diesel and gasoline, set to begin in 2006. These regulations aim to reduce sulfur-oxide exhaust emissions that form acid rain, and ultra-fine particles associated with adverse health effects.

The \$3 million development of this new x-ray analysis technique was assisted through a \$250,000 New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) contract. The resulting SINDIE™ line of analyzers represents a breakthrough for unprecedented reliability, speed, and detection capability.

EPA regulation of on-road gasoline and diesel requires reductions in sulfur content to as low as 15 parts per million (ppm), down from 500 ppm. "These dramatic reductions challenge existing analytical capabilities and increase industry and regulatory needs for reliable on-line, and bench-top sulfur analyzers," according to XOS President David Gibson. "XOS's advanced x-ray optics technology enables the introduction of entirely new and innovative analytical approaches in process, and bench-top based analyzers with a limit of detection well below 1 ppm."

Peter R. Smith, Acting NYSERDA President said: "While the petroleum industry is capable of producing ultra-low sulfur content fuels, controlling that production and distribution is problematic, as currently, there are no practical on-line methods for measuring these ultra-low sulfur levels. NYSERDA is proud to have helped XOS offer the first on-line continuous-measurement analyzers to hit the market, well in time for

the 2006 federal regulations. These advanced analyzers will help clean our air, while providing necessary fuels, cost effectively.”

David Gibson emphasized that “NYSERDA provided critical funding during the development and testing stage of the on-line analyzer. This allowed us to accelerate the development and introduction of these analyzers and helped XOS provide industry-wide analysis solutions, well in advance of the regulatory deadline,” he said. XOS’s SINDIE™ On-line and Bench-top analyzers are targeted toward the pipeline and terminal markets, where ease of operation, speed, and low maintenance are paramount to monitoring of low-sulfur fuels. Further, the exceptional detection capability and the operational benefits of a direct measurement technique provide a powerful analytical tool to refiners in the hydrotreating and blending areas. XOS is currently pursuing a laboratory ASTM standard for this analytical technique. XOS is a leading, global manufacturer of X-ray optics, components, and analyzers serving OEM’s and users in the petroleum, pharmaceutical, semiconductor, materials, and other industries worldwide. The company was founded in 1991 and is headquartered in East Greenbush, near Albany. www.xos.com

NYSERDA is a public benefit corporation established by law in 1975. It identifies and promotes solutions to New York State's energy challenges in ways that achieve energy efficiency while benefiting the state’s economy and environment. It administers the **New York Energy \$martSM** program that benefits all ratepayers of the investors owned electric companies across the State. www.nyserda.org

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