

AIRPORT INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Airport & Ground Handling

Passur Aerospace Inc. has announced that US Airways has contracted for Passur's arrival management system, RightETA™, to further enhance hub reliability and reduce operational costs. Passur RightETA, a component of the Passur Arrival Management Solution, has been demonstrated to be the most accurate ETA available in the market, powering airline systems such as gate management, scheduling, passenger flight information, and baggage management. The Passur ETA is derived from algorithms which are fed by multiple data sources in real time, including flight position information from the network of Passur radar systems installed throughout the U.S. Brad Beakley, Vice President Operations Control and Planning for US Airways, said: "Our studies show that the Passur 'Estimated On' arrival time results are consistently and considerably more accurate than other sources. Combined with US Airways' developed taxi-in time prediction algorithms, Passur provides ETA improvements with a magnitude that allows us to make improvements in our service and financial goals." #872.AIT1

* Passur Aerospace has announced that ten major North American airports have contracted for or completed the process of managing their entire field condition reporting process - including the integration with the FAA Flight Services eNOTAMs system - onto the Passur OPSnet collaborative platform. This major enhancement allows for more effective decisions in operational areas with significant financial and environmental impacts, such as push-backs, cancellations, deicing, diversions and fuel burn - through immediate, timely and automated dissemination of official NOTAMs and other critical information.

This network provides a common operating environment on the PASSUR OPSnet collaborative operations platform, which has thousands of daily users worldwide among airlines, airports, cargo operators, FBOs, FAA, TSA, ground handling suppliers and many other aviation organizations. All airports in the programme are converting to the eNOTAM integration on PASSUR OPSnet.

Passur FCR with eNOTAMs generates savings ranging from USD 1.2 million at small airports to USD 4.3 million at medium airports and up to USD 12 million for large airports, derived from reductions in cancellations, diversions and secondary deicing. #872.AIT2

Airport 20/20 has announced the signing of a contract with Christchurch International Airport in New Zealand, the Southern Hemisphere's first carbon neutral airport, to upgrade its existing Airport 20/20 Operational Database (AODB) and Flight Information Display (FIDS) systems. In addition to the upgrade, the 20/20 solutions at Christchurch Airport will be extended to include the 20/20 Resource Management System (RMS) which is designed to optimize the efficiency in scheduling and operation of the airport's gates and stands. Nigel Farley, Airport 20/20 General Manager, said: "I'm very pleased that Christchurch International Airport, the very first airport in the Southern Hemisphere to use 20/20, has decided to upgrade and extend their investment in our solutions. We are excited to deliver our latest FIDS and RMS capabilities building on our recent success with these solutions at JFK, Newark, Helsinki, Melbourne and Montreal International Airports." #872.AIT3

Air Traffic Management

Air traffic control and radio communications technology from Harris Corporation will provide critical air-to-ground and ground-to-ground digital communications services for a new Manila Area Control Centre in the Philippines, connecting it with remote sites throughout the 7000-island nation. The Harris Liberty-STAR™ Voice Communication and Control System (VCCS) will improve communications between the Area Control Centre controllers and aircraft en route and on the ground. Also, the Harris Integrated Radio Equipment and Network Adapter (IRENA) will enable communications to isolated areas, where digital services are sparse and reliance on legacy links and older analog technology is required. Harris/SolaCom ATC Solutions and its partner, Speer Technologies Corporation, will deliver, install and integrate the communications system. It includes eight IRENAs, 16 touch-screen operator positions, 20 radio interfaces, 20 telephone interfaces and 10 Jotron VHF Multimode Digital Transceivers. The contract also covers operation and maintenance training for controllers and technical staff.

John O'Sullivan, Vice President of Mission Critical Networks for Harris Corporation, said: "Operators can continue to communicate using their legacy radio equipment and upgrade when they choose to do so." The contract marks the first international sale of the IRENA system.

The Liberty-STAR VCCS uses a modular architecture with open-platform software and commercial-off-the-shelf hardware. This technology delivers a reliable, scalable solution for air traffic control (ATC) towers, area control dispatch, airline dispatch, flight service stations, ATC simulators and mobile shelters. IRENA was designed to multiplex voice and data signals transmitted between air traffic management facilities and local or remote radios over standard telecommunications links. It can be used with any voice communication and control system and with all ATM radios. This adapter provides interfaces for digital voice, legacy analog voice, SatCom, datalink, ADS-B, TIS-B, FIS-B and other data services. #872.AIT4

Tetra Tech Inc. has been awarded the U.S. FAA's USD 200 million Navigation Technical Assistance Contract (NAVTAC). Tetra Tech will provide engineering and technical support services for the planning, research, development, implementation, sustainment, and decommissioning of FAA's navigation, landing, and lighting systems. Tetra Tech will also help the FAA transition to an integrated ground- and space-based navigation systems architecture and will support the FAA's modernization initiatives, including its Next Generation Air Transportation System (NextGen) effort.

Tetra Tech currently serves as programme manager for the FAA Air Traffic Organization's Information Technology Support Services Contract (ITSSC) and has helped the FAA deploy satellite navigation technologies under NAVTAC predecessor contracts held since 1998. The period of performance for this new, single-award contract is two years, with five one-year option periods. The initial contract award is USD 70 million; if all options are exercised, the contract value could exceed USD 200 million.

Tetra Tech Chairman and CEO, Dan Batrack, said: "The U.S. commercial aviation industry is expected to carry one billion passengers annually by 2021. As the number of passengers continues to grow, the FAA faces an increasingly complex challenge in making flight safe, efficient, and cost-effective. Tetra Tech is pleased to support the FAA under the NAVTAC and other contract vehicles." #872.AIT5

Security & Surveillance

Geneva International Airport (AIG) has implemented an AEOS system from Netherlands-based Nedap to control the access of a workforce of 13 500. One of the main reasons that AIG chose Nedap AEOS as its security management system was its structurally different architecture based on behaviour components. AEOS behaviour components allow the system to support and enhance the airport's security policy and procedures. Moreover, changing requirements can be put into effect much more easily. Another advantage of AEOS is its capability of simultaneously handling multiple reader and credential technologies in a single system. Four different identification technologies are used simultaneously in the AEOS access control system at Geneva Airport: Nedap, Mifare, Legic and magnetic stripe. Each technology serves a different purpose. The Nedap Combi card has been put into place combining all the required technologies and increasing convenience for the users, as they do not have to carry four different cards.

Nedap technology is used for convenient hands-free access of up to 1 m distance for people, and long-range reading distances for vehicles. Vehicle identification at the premises is achieved via the Nedap transit long-range reader and compact tag, which detects vehicles up to 10 m away. Mifare technology is used, amongst others, for data transaction purposes such as secured storage of biometric templates in the Mifare chip. Legic technology is applied to preserve previous investments in the field of access control. For vending purposes, a magnetic stripe has been added to the Combi card.

The AEOS features contractor, and vendor and permit management provide a good solution. Contractor management distinguishes contractors from employees and visitors. The contractors' person data are linked to the vendor information and a contact person. Vendor management registers the applicable vendor data and links the vendor to a permit. A permit determines how many and which contractors are allowed to work on it, the type of work it is issued for, and the validity period. Once the permit has expired, all the contractor's access rights are automatically blocked. #872.AIT6

Addis Ababa Bole International Airport in Ethiopia has chosen Pelco Inc. by Schneider Electric as the provider for its digital video recording. As the most advanced airport in the East Africa region, the new Endura video surveillance system will be used for security monitoring as well as improving airport operation activities. "We believe that the proposed Pelco solution is one of the most advanced in use today," says Tewdros Berhe, head of the EAE Engineering Department. "We expect that it will give us complete coverage of all of our points of interest and that the system will assist us with improving airport security overall as it adds value to our customers." The Pelco system when fully installed will have over 300 cameras, including more than 260 Spectra IV IP cameras - coverage of all areas of the airport, including the domestic and international terminal buildings, the cargo terminal and parking areas. The system also includes five viewing stations (VCDs) and a workstation. Also included in the system scope will be a mobile control unit, which will be installed in a vehicle. Completion of the system is expected to be late January 2010. #872.AIT7

American Science and Engineering Inc., a leader in X-ray detection technology, has received a USD 7.3 million follow-on order from a Middle East customer for a significant quantity of Gemini parcel inspection systems. The order includes service, parts and warranty. Anthony Fabiano, AS&E's Chief Executive, said: "We believe that the Gemini system's combination of Z Backscatter

X-ray and dual-energy transmission technology provides the most attractive value proposition for parcel inspection available today. More and more customers are discovering the benefits of the Gemini system's superior threat detection with a proven multi-technology platform for checkpoint security."

The Gemini parcel inspection system is the lowest cost multi-technology parcel inspection system on the market and the only system to combine AS&E's patented Z Backscatter technology and dual-energy transmission. Z Backscatter technology provides enhanced detection of organic materials such as explosives (including sheet and liquid explosives), drugs, and plastic weapons which are easily missed by transmission-only systems in cluttered parcels. Z Backscatter technology's photo-like images are easy to interpret, thereby speeding analysis time, potentially decreasing bags flagged for secondary screening, and reducing operator fatigue. Dual-energy transmission provides outstanding image quality, and enables the quick detection of a wide variety of threats such as guns, knives, and wires for IEDs. In addition, dual-energy offers organic and metallic discrimination. The Gemini 6040, Gemini 7555, and Gemini 100100 systems offer multiple tunnel sizes to inspect air cargo, large packages, break-bulk cargo, mail and other small parcels to meet the security requirements for Customs checkpoints, high-threat facilities, building lobbies, air-cargo facilities, and mailrooms. #872.AIT8

Israel has unveiled new airport technology that it says could reduce intrusive security checks while making flying safer. Israel Airports Authority spokeswoman Maayan Malchin said the biometric system is currently being tested at Tel Aviv's Ben Gurion airport. Instead of waiting in long lines to be checked by inspectors, travellers will swipe smart cards containing their photo, fingerprints and personal details. The biometric scanners are similar in size and appearance to cash machines. They are fitted with cameras that snap a picture of the traveller and compare it to the card. Travellers then answer basic security questions on the screen, Malchin said. Security checkers will stand by to assist with questions. They are also there to observe body language like excessive sweating and nervousness. Foreign travellers will be allowed to register with the system. The authority said the homegrown technology is the first of its kind, and if the test is successful, it could be used at all Israeli border crossings next year. Israel has long been a world leader in airport security – the result of hijackings and other attacks in past decades. #872.AIT9

Communications & Connectivity

Aviation communications specialist SITA has been appointed by Virgin Atlantic as the airline's Network Guardian, with primary responsibility for all voice and data IT services, which will result in a significant reduction in network communication costs. The five-year, multi-million dollar partnership with Virgin Atlantic covers in excess of 100 sites worldwide. It progressively moves full responsibility for a diverse range of services from multiple providers to SITA including; international and domestic IP VPN, voice (IPT and PBX), Managed LAN, cabling, core network support, Vendor Management Services and Service Management. The service has commenced and full transition to SITA as the single supplier will be completed by summer 2010.

Matthew Billings, Head of IT Services, Virgin Atlantic Airways, said: "The financial savings are fundamental to our goal of driving down the overall cost base of delivery of IT to the business but as Head of IT I am also assured that our newly extended partnership with SITA will enable us to deliver other strategic initiatives including global supplier consolidation, service standardization and improved

Service Levels to our end users. Our company values are well aligned and our teams are closely integrated – we see the SITA team as a seamless extension of our own IT department.”

Rob Watkins, Regional Vice President for Northern Europe, SITA, said: “As Virgin Atlantic’s Network Guardian, SITA will be in a position to focus on the airline’s overall business objectives rather than the delivery of any single, specific technology. The immediate cost savings will be strengthened by our experience and understanding of the air transport industry. Virgin will also benefit from our drive for innovation and continuous improvement in the provision of IT and communications.” #872.AIT10

ARINC Inc. and Vizada Americas have announced the availability of Inmarsat Classic Aeronautical voice and data services using the next-generation Inmarsat I-4 satellite constellation. Effective immediately, the companies will provide Inmarsat Aero H, Aero H+, Aero I, and Aero L packet data services, and Aero H+ voice services, over Inmarsat’s I-4 satellite network, as well as over the previous generation Inmarsat I-3 satellites. Services available over the new I-4 network will complement those available on the I-3 network. Inmarsat’s Classic Aero services are currently used on more than 8000 commercial air transport aircraft, business jets, and military aircraft for operational and safety-critical applications, such as ACARS and Controller-Pilot Data Link Communications (CPDLC).

“ARINC and Vizada continue to anticipate and respond to our customers’ needs by integrating this new satellite network with the world’s most diverse aviation media suite, including GLOBALink VHF, HFDL and Iridium. This diversity results in a robust system that should never leave our customers out of touch,” stated Ron Hawkins, ARINC Vice President, Commercial Aviation Solutions. “By offering these industry-standard voice and data services over the new I-4 satellites we are ensuring that our aviation customers have a seamless migration path between the I-3 and I-4 networks. We are committed to providing complementary and dependable aeronautical communications well into the future,” said Bob Thompson, ARINC Senior Director, Satellite Services.

“Vizada is pleased to partner with ARINC to bring these important services to the market on schedule and with full functionality,” stated Bob Baker, President and COO, Vizada Americas. “These are critical communications services for the aeronautical market and we will continue to innovate our network to meet the industry’s evolving needs.” #872.AIT11

MRO

AirAsia X has selected Teledyne Controls’ Wireless GroundLink® Quick Access Recorder (WQAR) for installation on 25 new Airbus A330 aircraft and retrofit on 2 Airbus A340 aircraft. AirAsia X also selected Teledyne’s Flight Data Monitoring (FDM) Services for the replay and analysis of their flight data. Used together, Teledyne’s WQAR and FDM Services will provide AirAsia X with an efficient solution to monitor the performance of their fleet. AirAsia X will deploy Teledyne’s wireless technology across their entire fleet to automate the recording and air-to-ground wireless transfer of their aircraft data. The WQAR will also allow AirAsia X to transmit their ACMS (Aircraft Condition Monitoring System) reports from the aircraft inexpensively, at a fraction of the cost of sending the same information via ACARS. A significant new feature of Teledyne’s WQAR system is the new Download on Demand (DoD) capability. This function will allow AirAsia X to remotely command flight data download whenever they need earlier access to their flight data, regardless of airport destination, designated hub or gate. With the WQAR’s DoD capability, the airline can collect critical flight data much faster from almost any airport worldwide and respond to potential issues in record time.

Teledyne's Wireless GroundLink® QAR is designed to provide operators with an immediate, reliable and cost-effective solution for transmitting data from the aircraft to the airline's back office. The WQAR offers unprecedented end-to-end system reliability with observed data recovery rates close to 100 percent of all flights flown. The raw data recorded during flight is compressed, encrypted and then transmitted via cellular technology and the internet to the airline's or Teledyne's ground-based data centre for processing and analysis. With the WQAR solution, airlines can significantly reduce data delivery delays since the data is typically available within 10-15 minutes after an aircraft has landed, versus several days or weeks with manual data retrieval. In addition to routine data transfer, the WQAR can also transfer data in under 'out-of-network' conditions with its Download on Demand (DoD) feature. DoD allows operators to send a one-time SMS text message command to the aircraft's WQAR unit to activate immediate data download from almost any airport in the world back to the airline's home base. This function allows timely retrieval of critical flight data, which can alleviate physical inspection of the aircraft and significantly reduce delays related to resolving Aircraft On Ground (AOG) issues. #872.AIT12

Company News

Following a rigorous two-month audit process, Smartworld, a leading provider of advanced information and communications technology-based services in the Middle East, has been accredited with an ISO 9001:2008 certification. Conducted by Der Norske Veritas, (DNV), a globally recognized certification body, the Quality Management System certification was awarded to Smartworld for its strong commitment to ensuring high levels of quality and its customer centric approach. This accreditation will further facilitate Smartworld to leverage its expertise in the growing managed services market. Commenting on the certification, Eyad Shihabi, Chief Executive Officer of Smartworld said: "We are pleased to receive this certification as we endeavor constant quality improvement across our operations. As we look forward to another productive year in 2010, this accreditation will open a new chapter for Smartworld to further reiterate our commitment towards developing next generation business applications and value added service for our customers." #872.AIT13

Names

UBM Aviation, a provider of aviation data products, publications and events for the global aviation community, recently appointed Jan Wood as Vice President of Marketing, and Stephen Baggett as Director of Cargo Sales, Americas. They will be based in UBM's Chicago, IL, office. The appointments are part of UBM Aviation's plan to expand its information services offerings. "We are bringing seasoned marketing and sales executives onboard to deliver a new level of aviation intelligence products and services to the marketplace," said Brendan Hickman, Chief Commercial Officer of UBM Aviation.

Wood joins UBM Aviation after 11 years with Teradata, a global leader in enterprise business intelligence. At Teradata, she was a senior partner in the travel industry consulting practice and was responsible for developing innovative business improvements for all sectors of the travel industry. Baggett joins UBM Aviation from APL Logistics and brings 20 years of experience in business development, account management and sales and marketing management in international air and ocean transportation and logistics. #872.AIT14