

iMAR at the ILA 2006 in Berlin

Latest solutions in inertial navigation, guidance and control from St. Ingbert (Germany) on display at the last International Aerospace Exhibition in Berlin

The *Internationale Luft- und Raumfahrtausstellung* (ILA), Germany's world-famous **International Aerospace Exhibition** took place in Berlin from 16th to 21st May 2006 and closed with a greater success than ever. Its 1,014 exhibitors from 42 countries were spread out in 10 large halls over a huge exhibition area close to where the new airport of the German capital is going to be built. Innovative products, systems and processes from every branch of the aerospace industry, as well as 340 aircraft on display and a rich flight programme attracted over 250,000 visitors from all over the world. Among them 115,000 trade visitors and about 4,100 media representatives from 70 countries were recorded.

After some years' absence **iMAR**, the specialist in advanced and custom-designed inertial solutions for navigation, guidance and control based in St.

Ingbert/Saarbrücken, came back presenting a selection of its most recent developments for aircraft applications in the ILA's HeliCenter. Its exhibits and multimedia presentation were a subject of great interest to many international trade visitors, and made it possible for the German company not only to come into contact with new potential customers but also to agree on the conclusion of some important supply contracts.

The highly technical contents of the projects presented at the ILA were explained clearly and in an interesting way for the non-specialist, too, resulting in many a question being asked by general visitors as well. iMAR focused its ILA presentation on two main products: the new **helicopter Slung-Load Damping system** (iSLD) developed in cooperation with DLR (Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt), and the new **3D Airborne Laser Scanning system** (3D-ALS).

The so-called "helicopter flight director" is an innovative helicopters' slung load control system. Based on an inertial multi-sensor package, iMAR's **iSLD** detects the motion of both helicopter and slung load, and presents its measurement data in real time on a special display on board. Whenever a potentially dangerous situation unexpectedly intervenes, the pilot can rely on an efficient system enabling him to control the slung load position with a shorter reaction time and to improve the safety level in its whole. Thanks to the iSLD system a possibility of safely transporting slung loads at a speed higher than usual is also given.

The special 3D airborne laser scanning system is a product of proven quality. Based on the company's own high-precision ring laser gyro iNAV-RQH-0018 and other equipment (e.g. Riegl airborne laser scanner and Rollei 32Mpixel camera), iMAR's **3D-ALS** is already successfully in operation by BEWAG/Austria since June 2005. The task: surveying castle Forchtenstein (Eisenstadt, Austria) from a helicopter and generating accurate plans and drawings of this large historic complex in order to preserve it faithfully to the original for years to come or even reconstruct it into the smallest detail in case of fire or similar events.

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