

## Press Release

25 February 2009,

### **Surveillance, Separation and Safety Nets**

#### **Egis Avia improves the performance of the onboard aircraft collision-avoidance system**

Under the umbrella of EUROCONTROL and in coordination with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the European Air Safety Authority (EASA), Egis Avia developed solutions to upgrade the safety performance of the Traffic alert and Collision-Avoidance System (TCAS).

The rocketing increase in air traffic in the European airspace over the last years and the forecasts for the coming years are more than ever raising air safety issues and more particularly aircraft separation concerns.

The TCAS system plays a critical role in air traffic management and is used as a last resort safety net to avoid aircraft collision, irrespective of separation rules. This system is mandatory worldwide onboard civil aircraft since 2003.

The Safety Issue Rectification Extension (SIRE+) project initiated by EUROCONTROL, the European organisation for the safety of air navigation, was aimed at improving the safety performance of the TCAS system through a revision of its standards. Egis Avia, lead contractor for SIRE+, in cooperation with the French Air Navigation Services Provider (DSNA), has developed solutions to upgrade the safety performances of the TCAS system and avoid extreme but possible scenarios which potentially led to catastrophic situations. This work was conducted in coordination with the FAA and the EASA and with support from a number of aircraft manufacturers, aircraft operators, professional organisations of pilots and controllers, and European Air Navigation Service Providers.

For this project, lessons were taken from the Überlingen accident in Germany in July 2002 and from other severe incidents. Influencing causes of these mid-air collisions include aircraft crew failing to obey TCAS instructions or misconstruing an instruction given by the system. The solutions developed by EUROCONTROL, Egis Avia and DSNA focus on these weaknesses and provide improvements which should dramatically cut collision risk.



#### **Notes:**

##### **About Egis**

*Subsidiary of "Caisse des Dépôts" Group with a workforce of 7,300 individuals worldwide and a 504M€ turnover in 2008, Egis is one of the world leading companies in infrastructure engineering and road,*

---

railway, air and urban transport systems including hydraulics and environment. It proposes a global offer including engineering, project deployment and infrastructures operations.  
For more information, visit [www.egis.fr](http://www.egis.fr)

### **About Egis Avia**

Thanks to a 40-year experience in a demanding sector, Egis Avia is today a key expert in the Civil Aviation industry. Egis Avia offers a multifaceted expertise covering all aspects of airport, air operations and air traffic management activities. With a current workforce of 194 employees and a 28.6M€ annual turnover in 2008 Egis Avia has been, since its creation in 1969, successfully managing more than 1000 projects in 140 countries.

Egis Avia provides research and technology, consulting and engineering services, operations and turnkey solutions adapted to each client's business needs. With its unique position on the market, Egis Avia provides bespoke solutions aiming at increasing operations safety and efficiency, the compliance with international regulation and offering an optimum use of advanced technologies.  
More information at [www.egis-avia.fr](http://www.egis-avia.fr)

---

### **Contacts:**

#### **Egis Avia**

##### **Christian Allibe**

Chief Executive Officer  
3, carrefour de Weiden  
92 441 Issy Les Moulineaux Cedex  
France  
Ph.: + 33 1 41 23 46 72  
Email: [christian.allibe@egis.fr](mailto:christian.allibe@egis.fr)

#### **Egis**

##### **Isabelle Bourguet**

Egis Communication Director  
11, avenue du Centre  
Saint Quentin en Yvelines  
78 286 Guyancourt Cedex  
France  
Ph.: + 33 1 30 48 44 12  
Email: [isabelle.bourguet@egis.fr](mailto:isabelle.bourguet@egis.fr)

#### **EUROCONTROL**

##### **John Law**

Mode S & ACAS Programme Manager  
Rue de la fusée, 96  
B-1130 Brussels  
Belgium  
Email: [john.law@eurocontrol.int](mailto:john.law@eurocontrol.int)

#### **DSNA**

##### **Guy Vilquin**

Communications Officer  
1, Avenue du Dr Grynfoegel  
BP 53584  
31035 Toulouse Cedex 1  
Ph. : 05 62 14 52 07  
Email: [guy.vilquin@aviation-civile.gouv.fr](mailto:guy.vilquin@aviation-civile.gouv.fr)