

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate publication

New Maastricht Upper Area Control Center Relies on Barco's ATC Visualization Components

MAASTRICHT, NETHERLANDS, February 18, 2003 – Last January, the new Air Traffic Control room at EUROCONTROL's Maastricht Upper Area Control Center was inaugurated. To control the dense civil and military traffic in the Benelux and North-West of Germany, EUROCONTROL opted for Barco's hardware and software ATC visualization components. The center features Barco's PVS 5600 graphics controllers, 2Kx2K ISIS LCD displays and Barco Orthogon's ODS Toolbox for software development.

EUROCONTROL's Maastricht UAC is the second largest ATC center in Europe in terms of volume of traffic. In 2002, the center handled safely close to 1,200,000 flights in the upper airspace of Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg and the North-West of Germany. In this very dense and complex traffic situation, controllers rely on Barco's ISIS LCD main display, PVS graphics controllers and ODS Toolbox for their life-critical decision-making. EUROCONTROL is using the ODS Toolbox for its re-usability during the complete lifecycle of the program, from prototyping to development, installation and maintenance, resulting in reduced lifecycle cost. EUROCONTROL opted for Barco's ISIS LCD main display for its low lifecycle cost, outstanding optical quality and functional compatibility with the existing CRT-based main displays.

Barco Orthogon's ODS Toolbox offers a standardized set of development tools to support software development and configuration of Operator Input and Display Systems (ODS). Developed in close cooperation with EUROCONTROL, this multi-purpose software development tool can be used for a wide range of applications, where dynamic objects are visualized within a graphical interactive user interface. The ODS Toolbox, running on all UNIX and Windows NT platforms, provides a flexible environment with a wide range of standardized tools/modules.

The ISIS LCD main display, fully compatible with the worldwide de facto ATC standard 20" x 20" square format and 2048 x 2048 resolution, can easily be integrated into both new and existing Controller Working Positions. The high-bright light output and crisp graphics present more detailed information, offer enhanced user comfort, counteract eye fatigue and reduce lifecycle cost considerably.

The PVS5600 and PVS6600 series of 2Kx2K graphics controllers have been especially designed for real-time, life-critical applications like Air Traffic Control that require a substantial amount of pixmap, label and track manipulations. The PVS series offers state-of-the-art PCI graphics adapters designed for applications that need high-performance drawing with high-resolution video output.

About Barco

Barco, an international company headquartered in Kortrijk, Belgium, is active in three key areas of imaging technology. Barco designs and develops solutions for large screen visualization, display solutions for life-critical applications, and systems for visual inspection. Barco has a network of subsidiaries, distributors and agents in almost 100 countries. Barco is quoted on Brussels/Euronext, is a BEL 20 and a Next 150 company, and is a member of the Dow Jones Sustainability Indexes.

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