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Marlink: Marlink and IDG Europe Complete Successful Trials of Smalltrack with Swedish Air Ambulance Operators

Successful fixed wing and helicopter trials of new portable tracking system

Oslo/Paris, 15 August 2016 – Marlink and IDG Europe have completed trials of the innovative new Smalltrack portable tracking system on a fixed wing aircraft operated by Scandinavian Air Ambulance and a helicopter operated by Scandinavian MediCopter in Sweden.

Marlink's next generation location-based Iridium tracking device features a new, compact and lightweight design, Smalltrack is a highly mobile device with user-friendly operation and installation. Operating on the Iridium satellite network, the system can be used in any location without connecting to external power or antenna sources. It can be online in minutes, conveniently providing accurate tracking to support flight safety and logistics, in addition to manual and automatic emergency alerting.

The fixed wing aircraft Smalltrack testing took place on a Beech Super King Air 200 over a period of five days. Smalltrack was placed on the glare shield of the aircraft and position reports closely monitored. The successful trial proves that convenient placement on the glare shield does not affect the ability to transmit or receive data. During the trial, tracking data was made available through the Smalltrack online interface.

The helicopter testing was aboard an AS 365 Dauphin N2, with daily flights for 3 weeks. Throughout the testing all data reports were effectively transmitted. As with the fixed wing testing, Smalltrack was set to start-up using the built in accelerometer so it does not have to be included in the pre-flight check list, which saves the pilot time before taking off.

"Working closely with Marlink, Scandinavian Air Ambulance and Scandinavian MediCopter we have demonstrated Smalltrack's ability to deliver highly reliable asset tracking on small aircraft," said Håkan Österhed, VP Aero Sales, IDG Europe. "The system itself is incredibly easy to install and because everything is built-in, it can operate faultlessly without any external connections."

"Highly compact, mobile and reliable, Smalltrack is the ideal 'carry-on' tracking device for small fixed wing aircraft and helicopters," said Danny Côté, President Enterprise, Marlink. "The trials with our partner IDG Europe demonstrate the convenience of the system for small aircraft pilots, who will benefit from the added layer of safety and security tracking provided, without having to add another item to pre-flight check lists."

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About Marlink

Marlink is the pioneer of business critical communication solutions for customers operating in remote environments. With 600 employees and 27 offices worldwide, the company is the largest technology-independent satellite communication and digital solutions provider serving the maritime and enterprise markets. Marlink's multi-band communication services covering Ku, Ka, C and L-band extended with mobile and terrestrial links, enable over 200,000 customers to operate in an ever smarter, safer and more profitable way.

With over 75 years' experience in developing innovative business critical communication solutions, Marlink's strategy is to deliver the benefits of a digital and connected world to its customers' remote operations. Today Marlink is the leading maritime communication and VSAT operator in the world. Marlink leverages strong partnerships with all major satellite network operators to deliver communication solutions direct to the customer and via an unrivalled network of service provider partners.

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