

First IZT direction finders installed for Eurocontrol

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Innovative RF direction finder technology ensures safety in European airspace

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More information is available at:

<https://www.izt-labs.de/press/>

IZT has installed and successfully commissioned the first two of four radio direction finders for Eurocontrol. The Erlangen-based technology company is thus making an important contribution to flight safety in European airspace.

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The installation of direction finders for Eurocontrol, the European Organisation for the Safety of Air Navigation, will relieve the burden on air traffic controllers and make the upper airspace of Belgium, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and north-west Germany safer.

IZT acts as a system provider and supports Eurocontrol from the selection of the location to the commissioning of the direction finders on site. "Apart from the foundation and the mast, all the hardware is developed and manufactured by IZT and its employees" says product manager and project manager Holger Schlegel.

About IZT

The Innovationszentrum für Telekommunikationstechnik GmbH IZT is a spin-off of the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft, Germany's leading institution for applied research. Founded in 1997 in Erlangen, the company emanated from the Fraunhofer Institute for Integrated Circuits (IIS). The Innovationszentrum für Telekommunikationstechnik GmbH IZT specializes in the most advanced digital signal processing and field programmable gate array (FPGA) designs in combination with high frequency and microwave technology. The product portfolio includes equipment for signal generation, receivers for signal monitoring and recording, transmitters for digital broadcast, digital radio systems and channel simulators. IZT offers powerful platforms and customized solutions for high signal bandwidth and real-time signal processing applications. The product and project business is managed from the principal office located in Erlangen/Germany. IZT distributes its products worldwide together with international strategic partners. The IZT quality management system is ISO 9001:2015 certified.

IZT supplies a total of four radio direction finders to Eurocontrol. The IZT R5509 Radio Direction Finders (RDF), which are distributed over several locations, enable the Maastricht Upper Area Control Center (MUAC) to send important position information to air traffic controllers. When a radio message is sent, the systems locate the signal by means of a cross bearing, and a circle shows the air traffic controllers which aircraft is currently transmitting. This is to avoid misunderstandings and to speed up the identification process.

"The first two of four systems are now in the field and working perfectly" says Schlegel. The antennas are located in Hessian Calden and the Eifel region, others will follow in France and north-east Germany soon.

IZT offers direction finders and their subsystems for a wide range of applications such as drone detection, airspace surveillance or spectrum monitoring in general. Their high RF performance and software defined architecture ensures maximum accuracy and is open to future enhancements of their functionality.

More information about the project with Eurocontrol can be found in the [press release dated December 11, 2018](#)



The IZT R5509 is so compact that it can be integrated into the antenna.



Field installation of the IZT R5509 direction finder in Wagenhausen.



Field installation of the IZT R5509 direction finder in Calden.