

# Police Aviation News

©Police Aviation Research

PAvCon Europe SPECIAL EDITION

June 2024



## PAvCon Europe Special Edition





## Wiener Neustadt, Austria—Aviation Technology Brought together

*I am assured that all things come to an end, and as I know that events and life itself are finite a plan is in hand to assure the future of PAvCon Europe into the foreseeable future.*

*So far the plan has gone well and, thanks to all the attendees, supporters and organisers, the latest edition turned out to have the biggest and most varied turn out of aviation professionals yet—all under the watchful eyes of a new Dynamic Range management team centred around Imogen Banks.*

*I have been organising Police Aviation Conferences in Europe since 2006, the PAvCon brand since 2009 and PAvCon Europe since 2018. That is 14 live events over an 18 year spread. Great fun, if a little exhausting and daunting, at times, but most importantly perhaps is the events have turned out to be interesting and mostly productive in a business sense.*

*The marque is being progressively passed to the safe new hands over the next few years.*

*Bryn Elliott*

## The Wiener Neustadt Gathering

The 2024 event was an unexpected return to the cavernous modern hangar of Airborne Technologies' (ABT) in Wiener Neustadt, Austria after difficulties arose with going to France as the next logical venue. For the thwarted 2024 French hosts, the Gendarmerie, it was a shrewd move subsequently born out by events. The overall pressures of time focusing on the Paris Olympics, manpower difficulties associated with failing to attract new staff for the Games period and the severe unrest in New Caledonia was distracting in the extreme.

Further assessment of the situation will undoubtedly mean that the Gendarmerie hosting will now slip to 2026 and that 2025 will therefore have as yet undetermined hosts. There are several attractive offers already in place.

Back in 2022, the last time PAvCon was held in Wiener Neustadt, the ABT facility was always seen as a challenge for everyone concerned. The main question was whether industrial rivals to ABT would feel threatened by being, as it were, in the enemy camp, and equally whether the host company would also feel threatened by having their rivals more or less able to roam unchecked around the facility. It did not prove to be a problem in either case and there are clear signs that it made many of the companies more likely to work together in the future. When the new opportunity to repeat the 2022 experience presented itself, ABT were quick to offer their facility once again for this year.

During the set up phase of the recent event some early doubts about technology integrity and proximity of rivals were expressed but within hours they were withdrawn. That does not mean that such issues will never rise up again at different venues, but it does show promise for future cooperation across what is a relatively small industry sector.

Due to on-going tender issues relating to them seeking airframe upgrades, the air police in Austria were unable to appear to support their local industry this year. The problem halted plans to visit exhibitors (or even welcome them) and take part in training sessions. Again, it was initially seen as a 'difficulty' likely to damage the overall event but it was soon glossed over.

The weather was good and mostly warm – although there were irregular dramatic downpours to keep everyone on their toes. Rain when it fell was imbued with the chill of mountain streams and the drops were the size of tea cups. Impressive and to be avoided where possible!



Compared with the two previous events in Austria the aircraft content in the static park was most definitely fixed wing in flavour – although the presence of the diminutive rotary wing Scheibel S-100 was most welcome. If it were not for the presence of the inordinately busy air ambulance next door to the ABT facility we might have forgotten that the helicopter had ever been invented.

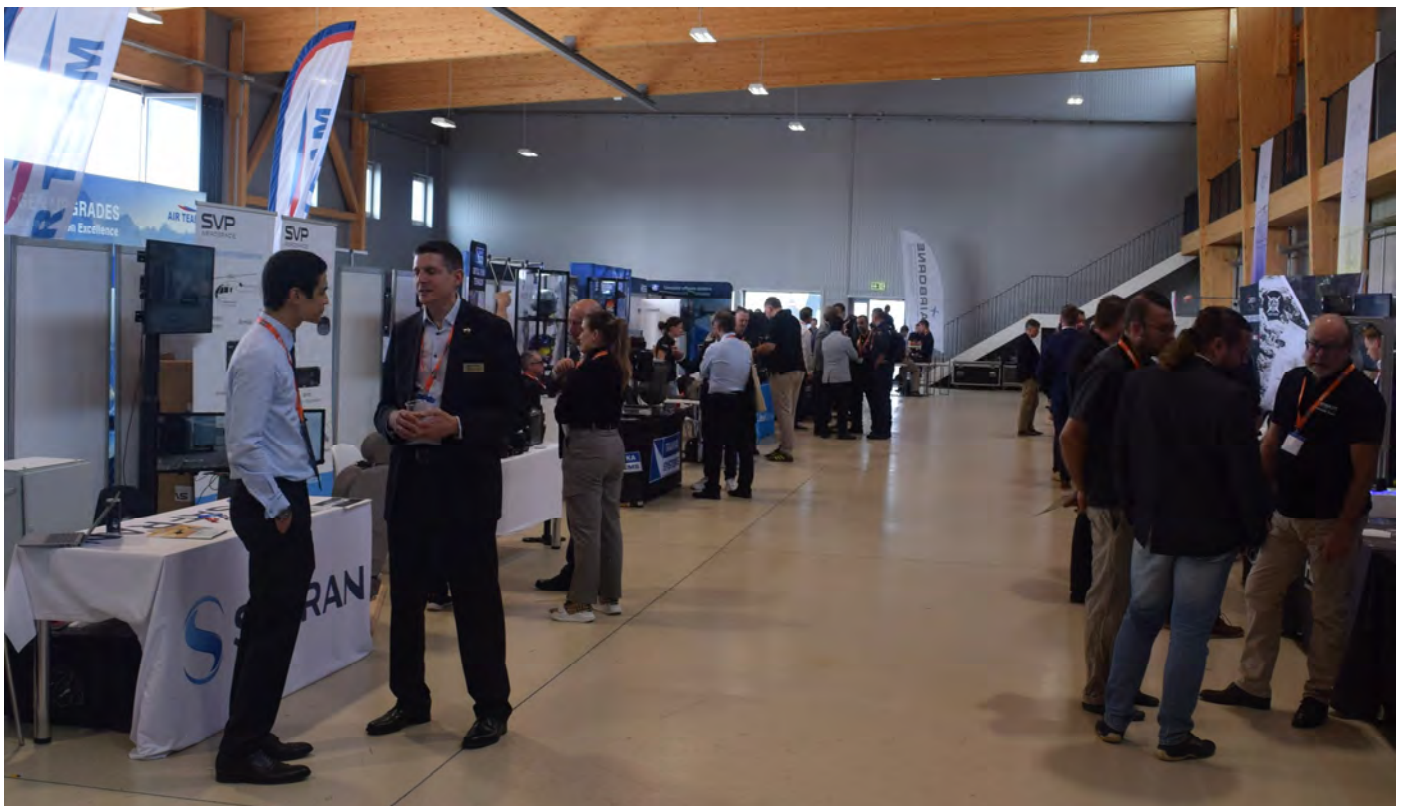
As the home airfield of Diamond Aircraft, the main air traffic movements were focussed on the fixed wing output of the factory across the runway undertaking test flights and the regular demonstration flights undertaken by the DHC/Viking Twin Otter operating from the ABT facility.



The modern take on the 50 years old DHC-6 Twin Otter was the by now familiar ten-years old C-GVKI, the demonstrator jointly operated by DHC/Viking and ABT from Austria and wearing blue and light grey 'camouflage.'

In the hangar and out of public view was the first Twin Otter for the Danish Home Guard surveillance unit. A few days after the PAvCon Europe conference and exhibition the second Twin Otter destined for Denmark flew in to join the conversion process. Like its stablemate the new arrival, wearing civil marks OY-FHC, is overall grey with standard trim and national marks. The first machine, reported on in the April edition of PAN, was marked '22.' The type is destined to replace the smaller Britten-Norman BN-2 Islander in undertaking ISR missions in support the police and military in Denmark.

Some forty exhibitors filled the hall. Weeks prior to the event the exhibitor spaces were filled and the organisers were only able to offer late comers the option of walking the floor and perhaps a space for a remote pop up display in some corner 'somewhere'. Several additional attendees took up the option, it was the first time I recall that the event was 'sold out' to industry.



Despite the negative vibes of the self-exclusion of the Austrian Air Police, there was a good number of air police and military of different European nationalities extending from Finland in the north to Cyprus in the south and most nations in between. They were present for flight training and to seek information on new products from exhibitors and in the conference room.

**Police Aviation News** is published monthly by **POLICE AVIATION RESEARCH**,  
7 Windmill Close, Honey Lane, Waltham Abbey, Essex EN9 3BQ UK.  
Contacts: **Cell:** +44 7778 296650  
**E-mail:** [editor@policeaviationnews.com](mailto:editor@policeaviationnews.com) and [policeaviation@hotmail.com](mailto:policeaviation@hotmail.com)

*Police Aviation Research Airborne Public Safety Association Member since 1994—Corporate Member since 2014*

#### SPONSORS

Anodyne Electronics  
Bell Textron  
ECS  
Teledyne FLIR Systems  
L3 Harris/Wescam  
Shotover  
Smith-Myers  
Trakka Systems

Airborne Public Safety Association  
PAvCon Europe

[www.aem-corp.com](http://www.aem-corp.com)  
[www.bellflight.com](http://www.bellflight.com)  
[www.enterprisecontrol.co.uk](http://www.enterprisecontrol.co.uk)  
[www.flir.com](http://www.flir.com)  
[www.l3harris.com](http://www.l3harris.com)  
[www.shotover.com](http://www.shotover.com)  
[www.artemis.smithmyers.com](http://www.artemis.smithmyers.com)  
[www.trakkasystems.com](http://www.trakkasystems.com)

[www.publicsafetyaviation.org](http://www.publicsafetyaviation.org)  
[www.pavconeurope.eu](http://www.pavconeurope.eu)

As has been customary the main PAvCon Europe training effort aimed at Tactical Flight Officers was undertaken immediately prior to the main event on the Monday. The trainers were Inspector Harald Brink, Netherlands, and Luc Stremersch, Belgium, retired. The content was free, sponsored by FLIR Textron and FlySight, and included a restricted section on tactics. With the enforced Austrian police absence numbers were slightly down this year.



Although not directly associated with PAvCon Europe a second series of training sessions was run by the Airborn Sensor Operators Group (ASOG) using the facilities previously used for the conference. The ASOG Airborne Mission Management Systems & Sensors Course, held from May 30 to May 31, provided participants with an intensive and comprehensive learning experience. With a diverse group of instructors from ASOG, FlySight, Centum, Safran, and Smith Myers, the course aimed to enhance the skills of Airborne Sensor Operators (ASO) and non-rated aircrew.



**People Solutions**

- Transformation Management
- Crew Resource Management
- Organisational Development
- Psychometrics
- Talent Management
- Coaching
- Facilitation

*'Helping you to realise and release the talent potential that sits within your organisation, developing your people and ensuring that you safely thrive and fly'*

David Howell, Director

[www.ableandrush.com](http://www.ableandrush.com)



The main differences between the two was that the ASOG training was paid for by attendees and was open to a wider clientele. Both training solutions offer the attendees opportunities to discuss flight safety, engender greater understanding of the equipment and discuss tactics with an international audience. Despite the two different options in style, I am led to understand that some senior management in several nationalities believe that there is no value in such training and interaction. Such attitudes in the often remote senior ranks are universal it seems. Unfortunately they do not help the aims of what is supposed to be one of the few gathering places for international policing in Europe.

Despite the management difficulties the formula continues to work well enough.

Front and centre at PAvCon were the three aircraft in the static (the Twin Otter, DA-62 and the S100) and they tended to overshadow the other offerings by sheer size but it did not take long to note that there were potentially attractive new products in the displays. The regular PAvCon attendee Trakka, best known for their unique searchlight design were displaying a very different LED design on their booth space. Close by Spectrolab were exhibiting for the first time, they too were exhibiting a visually similar LED searchlight. Surely products to be investigated by prospective customers although, perhaps fortunately, there was insufficient power available for some sort of competitive light show.

There was marginally less direct competition between the providers of cameras, instruments, displays and systems. They were many and varied. The point being that much of the variety available in the market was gathered in one place for comparison.

Smith Myers used PAvCon Europe to make *significant announcements that highlighted their commitment to innovation and excellence in the field of search and rescue technology.*

Team Smith Myers arrived at PAvCon Europe 2024 with a salvo of firsts, as soon as they touched down at Wiener Neustadt.

Key milestones announced included news that the company had achieved the prestigious and internationally acclaimed King's Award for Enterprise Innovation 2024 and selection to be integrated on the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) Cormorant Search and Rescue Helicopter Mid-Life Upgrade (CMLU) Project.



**Secure intel, real-time vision, safer streets**

**Evennode** is a series of equipment providing capability for a range of information exchange requirements. The new video and data encoder enables **police forces** to react to evolving scenarios in **real time** thanks to the **low latency** of <120ms; equipment can be deployed for **air and ground** which provides innovative video solutions for **police applications**

**ECS**   
TACTICAL DATA LINKS

Discover more at [enterprisecontrol.co.uk](https://enterprisecontrol.co.uk)

The Smith Myers' ARTEMIS Mobile Phone Detection Location System was chosen to be a key component of the upgrade.

The company fielded a strong exec team in Austria, featuring MD Andrew Munro, who presented at the conference on ARTEMIS mobile phone detection for SAR and law enforcement, in addition to co-founding director Peter Myers and training manager Ewan MacDonald, who was a key member of the instructor team at the FlySight-sponsored (ASOG) Airborne Sensor Operators Group inaugural two-day Airborne Mission Management Systems Course.

*World class! What a great line-up - all aircraft fitted with Smith Myers ARTEMIS airborne solutions on board at PAvCon Europe 2024 in the Wiener Neustadt, sunshine: Diamond Aircraft D62 MPP Guardian, Schiebel S100 Camcopter UAV and Airborne Technologies GmbH, Austria De Havilland Aircraft of Canada Limited Special Missions Twin Otter.*

### Recognising Continuing Innovation

Recently selected for several major UK, European and North American SAR and Coast Guard Programs, ARTEMIS provides a new and mission critical capability to aircrew/first responders and is deployed around the world in Maritime Patrol, Border Control, Aerial Firefighting and Natural Disasters.

### Norway flightpath to Canadian win

Smith Myers, announcement that it has been selected to be integrated on the RCAF Cormorant upgrade comes on the back of earlier announcements of the equipment being selected for fitting to the Norwegian EH101 programme and on a range of Bristow led Coast Guard contracts across the globe.

Smith Myers' ARTEMIS Mobile Phone Detection Location System is a critical addition to the CMLU, contributing to the overall effectiveness of search and rescue operations. This innovative technology enables precise mobile phone detection, enhancing location accuracy and reducing search times. The result is a more efficient and focused rescue effort, enabling

ARTEMIS has been in active service saving lives around the world since 2017. The growing global customer base includes multiple programmes in the UK, Europe, North America, South America, Southeast Asia, Australia and The Middle East.



## EVOLVING EO/IR TECHNOLOGY FOR ADVANCED MISSIONS

Supporting global airborne law enforcement agencies with 45 years of product evolution and flight-proven technologies.

Missions are longer, more complex and need to be executed faster. More is expected of you and your crew each and every time you fly. L3Harris' electro-optical and infrared systems are designed with the latest technologies to address changing mission requirements. Delivering robust performance and ease-of-use, WESCAM MX™-Series sensor systems enable operators to see more, operate easier and analyze live video intelligence with confidence. When minutes count, trust WESCAM MX-Series systems to help you see first and act first.



Scan to learn more.  
L3Harris.com





RMCI was exhibiting for the first time at PAVCon Europe. Making the occasion extra special, RMCI has just gained EASA STC approval for all MD helicopters for the installation of integrated health and usage monitoring systems (HUMS).

RMCI already has vast experience in aviation health monitoring. RMCI's customers include the U.S. Navy, U.S. Army Aviation Engineering Directorate and Aviation and Missile Command Headquarters, the U.S. Coast Guard, the Missile Defense Agency, NASA, U.S. Air Force and the Aerospace Industries Association.

RMCI also has a growing civil aviation customer base. EASA STC approval will expand RMCI's operations into Europe and Africa, led from its UK-based office in Derbyshire, England.

RMCI Inc. and Dr. Lesley Brealey from the UK office are currently exhibiting at PAVCOM Europe in Austria and can be found on stand number 21.

## CUSTOMIZE YOUR MISSION



The P139-HD Digital Audio System is the industry's *smallest, lightest, and most capable digital audio system.*



Individual  
Volume Control



Supports 6, 12  
or 18 Headsets



Multicast and  
Repeater



Remote  
Transmit Select

Manufactured and supported by a global leader of specialty aviation solutions.

[LEARN MORE](#)

### NORTH WEALD AIRFIELD MUSEUM

Ad Astra House, Hurricane Way, North Weald,  
Epping, Essex CM16 6AA



Home base of the Norwegian Air Force 1941-5

This document is  
sponsored by



**PARACLETE**  
AVIATION LIFE SUPPORT

**MISSION  
READY**

FIRST IN  
**COMFORTABLE  
PROTECTION**



- Light weight - 1.36 kg
- Adjustable to all head sizes
- ANR Headphones
- CEP Installation
- NVG mounts
- Yellow tinted visors
- Laser Protection visor
- Maxillofacial Shield
- GoPro Adapter
- Flashlight Mounts with Flashlight
- Custom Color
- Rails



— **safety**  
— **comfort**  
— **service**

**FAST  
DELIVERY**

**FAST  
REPAIR  
SERVICE**

**kg  
LIGHT  
WEIGHT**

**PARACLETE**  
AVIATION LIFE SUPPORT  
authorized distributor  
certified service center  
europe

**CHS**  
CONTACT@chs-helicopter.de  
+49 4271 9554245

[chs-helicopter.de](http://chs-helicopter.de)

## WIENER NEUSTADT



A guide to Wiener Neustadt (pronunciation: 'vi:nə 'nɔɪʃtat); which translates into English as 'Newtown in the land of Vienna.'

Aviation in the locality dates back to around 1910 and included a factory that produced Messerschmitt Bf109 aircraft. Wiener Neustadt East Airport is a modern landing ground serving Wiener Neustadt, for business and general aviation but doesn't feature commercial scheduled services. Separate from the East Airport is a military landing ground off to the west where the Austrian Police are building a new aviation facility designed to replace a base they have in their Headquarters in the centre of Vienna.

The modern East Airport is the home of several Internationally important aviation entities including manufacturers Diamond Aircraft and Schiebel and the event hosts — Airborne Technologies. All three exhibited at this years event.

Founded in 1951 in Vienna, the globally operating Schiebel Group focuses on the development, design and production of the revolutionary CAMCOPTER® S-100 Unmanned Air System (UAS). Certified to meet AS/EN 9100 standards, Schiebel has built an international reputation for producing high-tech military, commercial and humanitarian products. The current factory, opened in September 2006, is just a few hundred metres from the PAvCon Europe venue. Schiebel also has facilities in Vienna, Manassas, Virginia (USA), Abu Dhabi (UAE), and Shoalhaven (Australia). A new facility opened recently in France.

Diamond Aircraft Industries GmbH, was founded in 1981. The aircraft are produced in state of the art facilities located across the runway in Wiener Neustadt, and London, Ontario, Canada, as well as in third party license facilities to serve their respective markets. Originally an Austrian entity Diamond is now under Chinese ownership with a headquarters in Zhejiang Province, P.R. China.

From design through prototyping, production of tooling, the production of "real time pre-preg" composite materials, to the manufacture of complete airframes, welded metal components, electrical harnesses, instrument panels, systems and assemblies, all of this work is performed in-house. The engines for most of their aircraft are produced at the Austro Engine GmbH plant also located on the airport. Diamond invite prospective customers to visit their facilities to see how they craft the most advanced, most efficient and safest piston aircraft available.



Diamond hosted the first PAvCon event at Wiener Neustadt East Airport using an adjoining air museum in 2013 to ensure that the show was on neutral territory.

Airborne Technologies was founded on the airport in 2008 to offer innovative and flexible customization solutions to governments, police, military and many sectors of industry. They offer an aircraft type agnostic service to integrate equipment from almost any source to produce a range of customer led ISR Turn-key Solutions and to provide a worldwide service and on-site support. Back in 2013 their facility was modest but subsequent site development has allowed them to provide a temporary home for the PAvCon Europe in both 2022 and this year. [A version of this text, based on Wikipedia, appeared in the programme published for the event].

# WWW.POLICEAVIATIONNEWS.COM

*Keeping up with Emergency Services News*







# Proven Platforms. Prioritizing Operational Readiness. Industry-leading Support.

As mission partners since 1948, our team focuses on priority one: aircraft readiness. Our platforms are proven and trusted by operators around the globe – and our support team is there 24/7/365.

Explore our public safety solutions at [bell.co/publicsafety](https://bell.co/publicsafety)





CENTUM released data covering the past year showing how Lifeseeker, its airborne phone location system, is helping Search and Rescue (SAR) teams around the world. With the number of successful missions increasing every year, it is becoming clear that Lifeseeker is an important part of SAR teams' arsenal, particularly for rescues in urban and rural areas.

Lifeseeker is now used by nearly 40 SAR operators in over 20 countries across four continents. In the past year, 70% of missions were conducted in Europe, 20% in North America, and the remaining 10% were split between Oceania and Asia. It enables SAR operators to locate people quickly and accurately, saving lives and optimizing operational costs. It does so by treating their mobile phones as beacons, meaning the only requirement is that the phone is turned on. There is no need for the phone to be connected to a network, or for the owner to be able to use it.

A large advertisement for Teledyne FLIR Defense. The background is a photograph of a black and gold Sheriff's helicopter (N977ME) flying over a dry, hilly landscape. The helicopter has 'SHERIFF' and 'MARICOPA COUNTY' written on its side. Below the helicopter, a white car is parked on a dirt road with its doors open, and a person is standing nearby. In the bottom left corner, a dark SUV is also visible. The Teledyne FLIR logo is in the top left, and 'Teledyne FLIR Defense' is in the top right. The main headline 'COMPACT CLARITY FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT' is centered in large white letters. Below it, a paragraph describes the Star SAFIRE 380-HDc camera. At the bottom, a link to 'FLIR.COM/PAN23' is provided.

**TELEDYNE FLIR**

Teledyne FLIR  
Defense

**COMPACT CLARITY  
FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT**

The Star SAFIRE® 380-HDc delivers unparalleled stabilized HD multi-spectral imaging in a compact, low-profile package. Designed to maximize ground clearance in rotary aircraft without sacrificing capability and performance

LEARN MORE AT [FLIR.COM/PAN23](https://www.flir.com/PAN23)

An advertisement for Able and Rush (People Solutions) Ltd. The background is a photograph of several people in business suits, with their arms crossed and hands clasped together in a supportive gesture. The company name is written in white text at the bottom.

**Able and Rush  
(People Solutions) Ltd**



## FINALLY

The question has been raised - *Where do we go from here?* - and the answer frankly lies with the younger generation and those that follow them.

With the able assistance of numerous older cops and aviators the basis of PAvCon Europe has been put in place over the last decade or so and all that it needs is for a newer generation garnered from across Europe (and that includes such as the recalcitrant British police aviators who think they are above learning anything from others, whether old or new) to ensure that it is kept as an active option for international cooperation and discussion.

It is worth noting that some of the most active promoters of cross border cooperation are the police in the Netherlands. They regularly invite other countries to swell their training events in Amsterdam and are also among the most active promoters of the PAvCon formula.

The event is designed to reflect the ideals that the police wish to see. The proportions of training, marketing and leisure each event contains is a direct reflection of the wishes of those that provide verbal (or written) input. If no one expresses an opinion that cannot expect their views to be evident at the event.

Importantly, this event is not the place for senior officers to propose content exclusively, it has long been assumed that most of them do not have any up to date and clear operational experience in a high technology arena enabled by industry but undertaken by trained and experienced junior ranks.

**Finally, it should be clearly understood that the last place that clear operational knowledge reposes is in the brain of the President of PAvCon Europe, or even less so in his alter ego the Editor of Police Aviation News! The future lies in the endeavours of a younger generation not someone approaching eighty years old.**



*Copyright Notice: The content of this publication includes items that are the copyright of others. Where the information is available the source of words and images will usually be indicated together with the source of additional information that seeks to enhance the original information.*

*Police Aviation News includes materials produced for it by Ian J Commin of Insight Design of North Burnham, Slough SL1 6DS. This includes the banner titles and the PAvCon logo. In addition from time to times images specifically altered by Insight Design and others but originally produced for McAlpine Helicopters [now Airbus Helicopters UK], Oxford, will appear with permission of the original owner. In some cases it may not be possible to indicate the source of this material directly associated with the images used, or such information may have been lost. Such images may be marked 'File' or 'PAR Collection'.*

# EQUIPPED FOR MISSION SUCCESS



*The integrated systems you need for mission success: TrakkaBeam®, TrakkaCam®, TrakkaMaps®, TrakkaStream®.*

## TOTAL MISSION SOLUTIONS

Equip your crew for mission success with the world's first and only family of **Total Mission Solutions** — the result of Trakka Systems' two decades of relentless focus on innovation and critical vision technologies. We design our versatile products to perform individually or collectively for seamless integration as a complete package. Enhance safety, improve situational awareness, and unify your vision with Trakka Total Mission Solutions.

[trakkasystems.com/total-mission-solutions](https://trakkasystems.com/total-mission-solutions) | +1 813 815 4321



*See. Save. Protect.*

