



## **IFIS 2012 to be held in Braunschweig, Germany**

Next year's biennial gathering for the flight inspection world

**Geneva, 8 September 2011.** The 17<sup>th</sup> International Flight Inspection Symposium (IFIS) will be held in Braunschweig, Germany from Monday 4 to Friday 8 June 2012. The biennial symposium is a broad-based gathering of the global flight inspection community which attracts more than 300 decision-makers from air navigation service providers (ANSPs), flight inspection companies, manufacturers and supervisory authorities drawn from some 40 countries for a presentation of the latest technologies, products and procedures and a discussion and exchange on current industry trends.

In addition to the dedicated technical forums and discussion sessions, IFIS 2012 will also offer an attractive social and cultural programme which will enable all participants to discover and find out more about the city of Braunschweig and its surrounding region.

The 2012 event marks a return to Braunschweig for the IFIS, which was previously hosted there in 1996. Next year's event will go under the banner of "Waypoints to New Horizons" – an allusion to the many areas within the flight inspection sector that are currently in a state of substantial flux, such as the adoption of new flight inspection technologies, flight procedure validations, new ground and flight inspection techniques, data management and regulatory issues.

The IFIS is co-organised and co-hosted by Austro Control, DFS Deutsche Flugsicherung GmbH and skyguide, the ANSPs of Austria, Germany and Switzerland respectively. The three partners are further linked by their Flight Calibration Services (FCS) joint venture. FCS performs flight calibrations in Austria, Germany and Switzerland for all three of its parents and their further military partners, and has established itself as a reliable and professional provider of all flight inspection services.

For further information on the 2012 International Flight Inspection Symposium, visit <http://www2.ifis2012.com>.

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**Skyguide** is responsible for providing air navigation services within Swiss airspace and in the airspace of certain adjoining regions in neighbouring countries. The company guides the civil and military aircraft entrusted to its care – around 3 170 flights a day or 1.16 million a year – through some of the busiest and most complex airspace in Europe. Skyguide is a non-profit limited company which has its head office in Geneva. The majority of its shares are held by the Swiss Confederation. The company generated total operating revenue of over CHF 365 million last year, and employs some 1 400 people at 14 locations in Switzerland. Skyguide is also a member, together with its partner organisations in Belgium, France, Germany, Luxembourg and the Netherlands, of the FABEC initiative to create a common functional airspace block that will bring greater efficiency to Central Europe's air traffic management services and activities.

**Austro Control** is responsible for the safe, punctual and ecofriendly handling of air traffic in Austria's airspace, 24 hours a day and every day of the year. Austria's air navigation service provider coordinates over a million flights a year, with daily peaks of up to 4 000 movements. The air traffic controllers at its area control centre in Vienna and its air traffic control centres at all the country's civil airports guide their aircraft safely and efficiently through the airspace concerned. The company, which has a workforce of more than a thousand employees, is also responsible for installing and operating technical air navigation aids and air traffic management facilities, aeronautical weather services, aircraft certifications and inspections, issuing pilots' licences, search and rescue operations and the supervision of flying schools.

**DFS Deutsche Flugsicherung GmbH** is a German state-owned company under private law. With its workforce of 6 000 employees, DFS ensures safe and punctual air traffic flows in German airspace, handling up to 10 000 flight movements a day or almost three million every year, making Germany Europe's busiest country in air traffic terms. DFS maintains area control centres in Langen, Bremen, Karlsruhe and Munich. The company is also represented at Eurocontrol's Maastricht centre in the Netherlands and in the control towers at Germany's 16 international airports. DFS further provides consultancy and training services all over the world, as well as developing and distributing air traffic management systems. Flight-related data, aeronautical publications and aeronautical information services are also part of its remit. DFS is divided into four business units: Area Control Centres, Towers, Aeronautical Solutions and Aeronautical Information Management.