



Press Release

DeTect Announces Next Generation of Advanced MERLIN[™] Bird Radar Systems for Airport Birdstrike Risk Management

2009 MERLIN Aircraft Birdstrike Avoidance Radars provide all weather bird detection, upgraded birdstrike risk alerts and ultra-high resolution displays.

Panama City, Florida, USA – March 24, 2009:

DeTect, Inc. today announced its next generation of MERLIN Aircraft Birdstrike Avoidance Radars. “All 2009 MERLIN units include full capability to detect and track birds in fog and weather using new solid state radars”, said Gary Andrews, DeTect’s CEO. “Birds do fly in weather, particularly when they are migrating. Magnetron-based, X-band systems are completely blinded by heavy fog and light rain which is the most high risk period for aircraft birdstrikes as the pilots can’t see the birds and the birds can’t see the aircraft”, he continued. Other enhancements to the MERLIN technology include decreased long-term operating costs through state-of-the-art solid state radar sensors; continuous, automated bird strike risk monitoring and alerting in both PPI and PAR displays; and, ultra-high resolution user displays that provide an expanded level of detail for bird activity on and around the airport.



The MERLIN Aircraft Birdstrike Avoidance Radar System provides real-time detection and tracking of hazardous bird activity with automatic birdstrike risk warnings.

Panama City, Florida based DeTect is the world leader in development of advanced avian radar systems for detection, tracking and alerting of bird-aircraft strike risk at military airfields and commercial airports. The company originally developed the MERLIN Aircraft Birdstrike Avoidance Radar system for the U.S. Air Force (USAF) as a low costs system for continuous automated detection, tracking and alerting of bird aircraft strike risk. MERLIN is the only production model avian radar technology in operational use with over 45 systems delivered worldwide to date in aviation safety and environmental applications. The USAF currently has five MERLIN systems at USAF installations that provide automated alerting of current birdstrike risk in runway approach and departure corridors where 85% of airfield birdstrikes occur. The U.S. space agency, NASA, also owns two systems that are used to prevent bird strikes during space shuttle launches. MERLIN systems are also installed at several US and foreign airports including the La Mercy International Airport in Durban, South Africa which is the world’s first use of bird radar technology to provide real-time risk warnings and data in the air traffic control tower.

