

AIRBORNE TECHNOLOGIES

Uniting Aviation with Data

The Austrian company Airborne Technologies is specialised in two business fields: sensor integration/aircraft modification, and data acquisition/data processing. With its own fleet of multi-mission aircraft and data processing systems, Airborne Technologies unites the competences of aviation, data capturing and data processing all under one roof.

Airborne Technologies (ABT) is a private limited company based at the Wiener Neustadt Airport near Vienna, Austria. The underlying business idea that led to the company being established was based upon two findings. The first of these was the shift of remote sensing technology from simple photogrammetric film cameras to a wide range of advanced digital sensors acquiring far more complex information. This trend has been accompanied by ongoing miniaturisation in the electronic industry. Sensors and storing devices have become smaller and lighter enabling even small aircraft to be deployed for multi-sensor missions. This is making it possible to capture more information more efficiently, and the market demand is continuously increasing as a result. The second of the two findings was the lack of a company in the market with expertise in all three disciplines required to cover the entire workflow, from the integration of sensors in the aircraft up to data acquisition and data processing.

Wolfgang Grumeth, CEO of Airborne Technologies, recalls setting up the company: "I found financial and operational partners who shared my vision to unite interdisciplinary skills under one roof and within one team. The company was founded by seven leading experts in the field of aerial sensing, aviation, geodesy, data capturing and data processing, and it started operation in 2008. In times of economic crisis, these activities were observed with scepticism but the team didn't lose heart." Today, Airborne Technologies employs 35 people. It has doubled its turnover each year since the start, and further growth is forecast for the next two years. The management team now consists of Wolfgang Grumeth (CEO), Kristof Nagl (CFO), Marcus Gurtner (CSO) and Mario Rathmanner (COO).

Airborne Technologies is an Aviation Authority-approved design organisation and owns and operates a fleet of four multi-mission aircraft carrying a wide range of sensors. The company operates independently of specific manufacturers but in close partnership with various established aircraft and sensor manufacturers (e.g. TECNAM, VULCANAIR, RIEGL, VEXCEL, IGI, L-3 WESCAM, FLIR Systems, EURONAV, CHURCHILL Navigation).

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