

Rohde & Schwarz protects AirPower, Europe's largest air show, against threats from drones with R&S ARDRONIS

Rohde & Schwarz safeguarded Austria's AirPower 2016 air show against the security risk of commercial drones encroaching on the show's airspace. This was accomplished using the R&S ARDRONIS radiomonitoring solution that enables users to identify drone control signals early on, to locate and even stop the drone.

Munich, January 17, 2017 — Remote control microdrones are constantly invading the privacy of individuals and violating the boundaries of protected areas. These flying objects pose a safety risk at airports where they interfere with air traffic flow and a security risk at major events. At an air show, both of these are a factor, as any disruption of the closely timed take-offs and landings can represent a danger to event participants and spectators alike. To counteract such a risk, the Austrian Armed Forces relied on the R&S ARDRONIS radiomonitoring system. Working in cooperation with Rohde & Schwarz, AirPower 2016 was the first event to operate a test setup tailored to these special requirements.

R&S ARDRONIS enables users to locate the operator of a remote controlled microdrone and intervene in a timely manner. Remote controls for microdrones usually operate in the 2.4 GHz or 5.8 GHz ISM band, but also in other frequency bands such as 433 MHz or 4.3 GHz. The R&S ARDRONIS solution monitors the signals in the relevant frequency bands. It maintains an extensive library of drone control signal profiles in order to detect and classify these types of signals. R&S ARDRONIS reliably and automatically detects the remote control of a commercial drone within a 1 km radius.

The R&S ARDRONIS system used at AirPower 2016 was additionally equipped with direction finding functionality. The direction information obtained can be used to find the person with the remote control. If the drone transmits a video downlink, this signal will also be located. The information is clearly shown on a map on the display.

Other options are available for R&S ARDRONIS. For example, it can disrupt specific drone control signals to prevent the drone from performing a maneuver that poses a safety threat. Only the signals for controlling the drones are disrupted. Other signals in the vicinity are not affected. In contrast to broadband interferers that affect the entire frequency band, the ISM

band continues to be available for other services such as Bluetooth® or WLAN, or to control private drones.

Press contacts:

Europe (headquarters): Simone Kneifl, Phone: +49 89 4129 16510, E-mail: press@rohde-schwarz.com

North America: Pam Sanders, Phone: +1 410 910 7908, E-mail: pam.sanders@rsa.rohde-schwarz.com

Asia Pacific: Wen Shi Tong, Phone: +65 6 307-0029, E-mail: press.apac@rohde-schwarz.com

Contacts for readers:

Customer Support Europe, Africa, Middle East: +49 89 4129 12345
customersupport@rohde-schwarz.com

Customer Support North America: +1 888 TEST RSA (+1 888 837 87 72)
customer.support@rsa.rohde-schwarz.com

Customer Support Latin America: +1 410 910 79 88
customersupport.la@rohde-schwarz.com

Customer Support Asia Pacific: +65 65 13 04 88
customersupport.asia@rohde-schwarz.com

Customer Support China: +86 800 810 8228 or +86 400 650 5896
customersupport.china@rohde-schwarz.com

Rohde & Schwarz

The Rohde & Schwarz electronics group offers innovative solutions in all fields of wireless communications as well as in IT security. Founded more than 80 years ago, the independent company has an extensive sales and service network with subsidiaries and representatives in more than 70 countries. On June 30, 2016, Rohde & Schwarz had approximately 10,000 employees. The group achieved a net revenue of approximately EUR 1.92 billion in the 2015/2016 fiscal year (July to June). The company is headquartered in Munich, Germany, and also has strong regional hubs in Asia and the USA.

R&S® is a registered trademark of Rohde & Schwarz GmbH & Co. KG.

All press releases, including photos for downloading, are available on the Internet at <http://www.press.rohde-schwarz.com>.