FREQUENTIS wins New Zealand's largest Digital Tower

- International studies predict market growth of up to 36% per year by 2026 for new tower technology in air navigation services
- Order from Airways New Zealand underpins Frequentis market leading position
- Significant references from German Air Navigation Service Provider DFS and the US Department of Defense

The Frequentis Digital Tower System at Auckland International Airport in New Zealand will initially act as a back-up contingency system, allowing air navigation service provider Airways New Zealand and its airline and airport customers to assess the viability of using the digital system as a full replacement for the existing tower in the future.

“The order from Airways is a proof of the confidence in the Frequentis experts, our way of working and our technology. Many of our customers are under great pressure to be efficient. This is where our Digital Tower solutions come in: They allow the operation of smaller airports that do not require full capacity utilization by air traffic controllers, and they support operations at large airports, which is an important issue given the current controller shortage in Europe. In addition, new airports do not require the construction of an expensive tower, and the air traffic controllers themselves can work more comfortably because all information is displayed simultaneously on the virtual tower screen,” says Frequentis CEO Norbert Haslacher.

Airways New Zealand has been interested in digital tower technology since 2012 and now wants to use it as a national alternative to conventional towers. The technology not only provides controllers with tools that assist them to do their job with an enhanced level of safety, it also offers better resiliency in poor weather and the opportunity to offer extended services to New Zealand's regions. Last year, Frequentis was awarded the contract to design and install the first digital tower at Invercargill Airport, a regional airport in the South Island. Invercargill digital tower is planned to go into operation in 2021 with Auckland Contingency following from 2022.

With the signing of the new contract, Frequentis confirms its position as market leader in the field of remote and digital tower technology. Frequentis has been implementing remote tower systems across the world and already has four operational systems, counting Austria, Germany, Iceland and Jersey in the UK. In April 2019 Jersey Airport became the first British airport to receive approval for the
operational use of a digital remote tower, and since December 2018 Saarbrücken Airport in Germany has been controlled from a remote air traffic control centre 450km away in Leipzig. Both use Frequentis technology. The German airports of Erfurt and Dresden are to follow in an expansion phase and will also be remotely managed from Leipzig. Additionally, Frequentis succeeded in winning several major orders from various countries and sectors in a short time frame, including Argentina and Brazil, and in October 2018 was awarded the first ever military remote tower order for the US Department of Defense.

Paradigm shift in air traffic control with new business opportunities

Remote tower technology implies a paradigm shift in air traffic control and new business opportunities. Recently, German Air Navigation Service Provider (DFS) announced that the lack of air traffic controllers was a considerable cause of the bottlenecks in European air traffic, which also lead to a significant increase in delays caused by air traffic control. In autumn 2018, together with DFS subsidiary, DFS Aviation Services, Frequentis founded Frequentis DFS Aerosense GmbH, in which Frequentis holds 70 per cent share. Aerosense is promoting remote tower technology and will manufacture and install turnkey remote tower solutions, including providing the necessary operating procedures.

The innovation developed by Frequentis is used in the remote management of smaller airports or as (visualization) support for an existing tower. The Remote Tower solution is based on a large number of sensors and cameras at the airport. The Remote Tower Centre and the responsible controller do not therefore have to be physically at the airport; the solution even allows several airports to be monitored from one facility. Numerous high-tech cameras with different capabilities enable the air traffic controller to see "clearly" even under difficult conditions - night, fog or heavy rain. Objects that endanger air traffic, such as birds, but increasingly also uncontrolled flying drones, can also be detected at an early stage.

About FREQUENTIS

The Austrian company Frequentis headquartered in Vienna is an international supplier of communication and information systems for control centres with safety-critical tasks. Such 'control centre solutions' are developed and marketed by Frequentis in the business sectors Air Traffic Management (civil and military air traffic control, air defence) and Public Safety & Transport (the police, fire brigade, ambulance services, shipping, railways). Frequentis operates a worldwide network of branches, subsidiaries and local representatives in more than 50 countries. Products and solutions from Frequentis can be found in over 25,000 operator working positions and in about 140 countries. Founded in 1947, Frequentis is, by its own estimation, the global market leader in voice communication systems for air traffic control with a market share of around 30%. Moreover, the Frequentis Group's systems are globally leading in AIM (aeronautical information management) and aeronautical message handling systems, as well as in GSM-R systems in the field of Public Transport.

The shares of Frequentis AG are traded on the prime market on the Vienna Stock Exchange and in the general standard on the Frankfurt Stock Exchange under the ticker symbol FQT (ISIN: ATFREQUENT09).

For more information, please visit www.frequentis.com
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