

Federal Minister for Economic Affairs Schramböck visits FREQUENTIS: “Artificial intelligence improves safety and generates additional economic growth”

As a leading provider of communication and information systems for control centres in the safety-critical sector, Frequentis works with international partners on solutions for the future. Margarete Schramböck, Federal Minister for Digital and Economic Affairs, visited the company to gain a better insight and was impressed by the expertise of this leading Austrian company.

In the coming years, airspace will become increasingly busy – despite the present pandemic-related downturn. Scheduled and charter flights and the rising use of drones are greatly increasing the challenges for safety and communication systems. It is currently estimated that drone traffic will grow by 14% a year. In order to manage the entire airspace, conventional towers operated by air traffic controllers need to be supplemented by remote towers, which use artificial intelligence to manage air traffic at airports from a different location.

Frequentis is one of the world's leading providers in the digital transformation of this key growth segment and is working intensively with international alliances and associations on a variety of projects to develop standards for the future. Harmonisation and global compatibility are vital for safe air traffic around the world.

“The enormous economic opportunities offered by the use of artificial intelligence are particularly evident. The extensive know-how and high reputation built up by Frequentis over decades are impressive,” said Margarete Schramböck, Federal Minister for Digital and Economic Affairs, during a tour through the research and development facilities at the company's headquarters in Vienna. “This leading position also makes it clear that we have to see the challenges of digitalisation as an opportunity to play a part in shaping the emerging business areas and participate in their success. Artificial intelligence improves safety, increases productivity, and generates additional economic growth,” said Schramböck.

The minister was accompanied by Henrietta Egerth, Managing Director of the Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG), who stressed: “Business-related research and development is a key element in Frequentis' successful positioning as one of the world's leaders. FFG is particularly happy when it

can offer support for the development and implementation of innovative ideas in order to drive forward Austria's role as a research base."

Frequentis is also among the world leaders in communication solutions for railways and shipping. The armed forces, police, fire brigades, and emergency rescue services in many countries rely on Frequentis' know-how to coordinate complex disaster-relief operations and the rising number of emergency calls. A glance at the headlines shows that the challenges faced by the emergency services are increasing and how important it is to have good technical solutions that ensure a rapid and efficient response.

Hannes Bardach, Frequentis' majority shareholder and chairman of the Supervisory Board, who showed the visitors round the company with CFO Peter Skerlan, is pleased that politicians are interested in the current challenges facing the company: "Ms. Schramböck was ready to listen to the issues concerning us in the current context of globalisation. We are happy to accept the support of the ministry in our global activities."



Caption: Margarete Schramböck, Federal Minister for Digital and Economic Affairs, with Frequentis CFO Peter Skerlan, majority shareholder Hannes Bardach, and Henrietta Egerth, Managing Director of the Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG)

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About FREQUENTIS

Frequentis, headquartered in Vienna, is a global 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 (police, fire brigade, ambulance services, shipping, railways). As a global player, 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 35,000 operator working positions and in approximately 150 countries.

Founded in 1947, Frequentis considers itself to be the global market leader in voice communication systems for air traffic control with a market share of around 30%. In addition, the Frequentis Group's AIM (aeronautical information management) and AMHS (aeronautical message handling) systems, as well as GSM-R dispatcher working positions for Public Transport are industry leading solutions. The shares of Frequentis AG are traded on the Vienna and Frankfurt Stock Exchange under the ticker symbol FQT (ISIN: ATFREQUENT09). In 2020, the Frequentis Group generated revenues of EUR 299.4 million and EBIT of EUR 26.8 million. Following the transaction with L3Harris, the number of employees is around 2,100.

For more information, please visit www.frequentis.com

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