



**GROUNDMARKER**



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### **Axis Electronics' Ground Marker getting ready for Take Off.**

Axis Electronics' Ground Marker runway incursion prevention aid, which provides clear voice positional advisories and warnings directly to the cockpit, is about to start operational trials at Manchester Airport. This follows on from the success of the 'proof of concept' trial phase, which demonstrated successful message transmission direct to the cockpits of a range of different aircraft.

Ground Marker detects the presence of an aircraft as it approaches a safety critical area and automatically transmits a user programmable voice message directly to the pilots. The system has been recognised as having great potential for enhancing runway safety. A unique feature of the system is that no change to aircraft equipment is required as Ground Marker operates directly through the aircraft's existing equipment. Additionally, through a simple in-cab receiver, all airport vehicle drivers may receive voice warning messages.



Phil Inness of Axis Electronics and Simon Butterworth, Manchester Airport.

Simon Butterworth, Head of Airfield Strategy at Manchester Airport said: "The safety of aircraft and passengers is always a top priority and we are constantly monitoring potential new technology that can further improve important aspects such as runway incursion prevention."

The operational capability trials will last about 2 months and obtain feedback from pilots on the message received and the overall performance of the equipment. This puts Manchester Airport in the unique position of influencing the final design of the product to make sure it meets the need of a busy modern, airport. A previous trial led to modifications to the range of power inputs needed and computer interface changes, both of which are currently being implemented in the final product design.

'We are delighted that such an important airfield as Manchester has put so much effort into this trial. It is a credit to the progressive approach of the management team', comments Phil Inness, Managing Director of Axis Electronics.