

Secure Land Communications

Airbus supports Europe's largest motocross event in France

The Enduropale du Touquet Pas-de-Calais uses Airbus communication systems to secure the beach racing circuit for motorbikes and quads

Elancourt, 24 January 2018 – For the first time, Airbus will provide communications solutions to support Europe's largest motocross event, the 44th Enduropale du Touquet Pas-de-Calais. The race, which takes place about 250 kilometres to the north of Paris, on a beach on the Channel, will be covered by a mission-critical communications network. Thanks to this technology, the local firefighters will be in a position to better protect the expected 500,000 visitors during the 3-day-event which starts on the 1st of February 2019.

Since the topography of the racing site and the large number of visitors do not allow for the reliable use of commercial 4G mobile networks, Airbus has partnered with the local fire department to find a customised communications solution. As a result, Airbus will provide a tactical cell BLR (Boucle Locale Radio) which the firefighters can use to communicate.

This tactical cell has stood the test for over ten years in the French Army. It is designed for use in extreme environments and offers secure 4G/LTE mobility service for user applications. Its high performance is based on the connectivity with various communication channels, such as Tetrapol, WiFi, satellite, or Wide Area Network operators.

In addition, the system includes all the necessary functions that the rescue services will need each event day: the Tactilon Dabat, a Professional Mobile Radio and smartphone in one; the collaboration tool Agnet 900, an app for smart gadgets and radios; and geolocation. The tactical cell is interoperable with the INPT (Infrastructure Nationale Partageable des Transmissions – nationwide shared radio communications network) Tetrapol network, which is France's official communications network for firefighters, police and paramedics.

“When hundreds of motorbikes and quads tear up the sandy tracks during the Enduropale, thousands of people need to be protected. The firefighters have to communicate quickly to make the event a great success,” explains Olivier Koczan, Head of Secure Land Communications at Airbus. “Airbus has all the tools facilitating large contest management. Our solutions gather, process, and deploy intelligence.”

Every year, since 1975, the Enduropale takes place on the beaches of Touquet-Paris-Plages southwest of the city of Calais. The event has a circuit of around 13 kilometres – the longest sand track in the world for such competitions. Among other motor vehicles, 1,200 motorcycles, 400 quads, and 200 junior motorcycles are registered for 2019.

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Airbus

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