

AWOS for 67 airbases, Indian Air Force

MicroStep-MIS Success Story

Tender:	67 airports
Client:	Indian Air Force
Contractor:	Nelco Limited
ICAO category:	military airbases

After winning the tender for delivery of meteorological system for 67 Indian military airports for the Indian Air Force, a big challenge and busy months started for MicroStep-MIS employees. The Automated Weather Observation System for Indian Air Force was a challenging project not only in number of deliverables. MicroStep-MIS has managed to deliver the results in a very short time as well. All delivered systems have been operating reliably since installation in 2008.

As for the military use of the delivered system, its reliability and durability is essential for ensuring the safety of the Indian population. MicroStep-MIS alone would not be able to ensure leading the whole project to the achieved success by itself; the comprehensive help of the local partner Nelco has been quite important. Nelco is a member of the Tata Group, a large company comprising over 100 operating companies in several business fields.

Seemingly, the doors are opening for further cooperation on the extensive market of India, bringing new opportunities both to us and our partners.



Indian Air Force
Indian Air Force (IAF; Bhartiya Vāyu Senā), the flying wing of the Indian armed forces, is responsible for the security of Indian airspace.



Map: Locations of 67 airports

Tender

The tender was held in two rounds; the technical one, including installation of two demo AWS at Gwalior airbase and Leh Airport, was executed in February and May, 2006. The non-technical round, based on price negotiations, was also won by MicroStep-MIS, as a company always providing highly competitive pricing for our customers.

„5 years of reliable operation in 3256 m above mean sea level“



Inauguration of the first AWS at Air Force Station, Hindon by Air Vice Marshal, Ajit Tyagi VSM, on January 30th, 2008.



Leh Kushok Bakula Rimpochee Airport (ICAO: VILH, IATA: IXL), state Jammu and Kashmir (Himalayas) - one of the highest airports in the world at 3,256 m (10,682 ft) above mean sea level.

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System manufacturing and assembly was performed after signing of the contract in May, 2007. Deliverables were expedited till the December 2007 and inspected in Nelco till January 10th, 2008. The inspections were executed by a responsible army expert and MicroStep-MIS was represented by Martin Gazak, Senior Airport Systems Product Manager.

Celebratory inauguration of the first successfully installed & operating AWS at Hindon Air Force Station, was led by Air Vice Marshal, Ajit Tyagi VSM, on January 30th, 2008.

Due to the fact that the service was a crucial issue in critical systems delivery, MicroStep-MIS has provided complex training programs and educational programs for the purchaser. As for the modularity and expandability of the system, additional ceilometers have been installed on the airports.

Customer experience

Nevertheless, the positive feedback from our customers is the most valuable experience for us. In December 2011 we received an official thank you letter, after five years of reliable operation of the system. This assures MicroStep-MIS employees that their work is considered top-quality and it is fully recognized, which is giving us further enthusiasm for other projects in execution.

Challenge

- Systems required to operate reliably in the Himalayas as well as in the tropic climate
- Highly competitive Indian market
- Delivery in a very short time
- Easy deployment - to be performed by local personnel only

Our solution

- Each airport includes 2x AMS 111 Automatic Weather Station with variety of meteorological sensors
- Highly reliable communication network based on radio modems, collecting data from the runway fields sensors, as well as enabling the Control Tower data distribution
- IMS 4 AWOS application software with IMS 4 Observer PC and two backup displays with the autonomous data processing. Screen layout customized as per IAF requirements.

Achievements

- 5 years of reliable operation confirmed by letter AHQ/17327/1/121/MET/SO/022/2010 of AK Kulshreshta, Wing Commander, Joint Director Met (Eqpt), Air HQ, New Delhi -110106
- Successful integration of ceilometers in 2009 at 50 airbases
- Delivery of additional 26 wind measurement systems in 2010/2011