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SYSTEMS INTERFACE to deploy navigation systems across multiple airports in Northern Scotland

13th May 2025

In a multi-year contract signed with HIAL (Highlands and Islands Airports Ltd), Systems Interface will deploy Distance Measuring Equipment (DME) at 8 airports across the Highlands and Islands of Scotland. These airports provide critical transport services to some of the UK's remotest communities. Dependable navigation systems that work day and night and in all weather conditions are therefore crucial to maintaining these key links.

Under the terms of the contract 4 systems will be deployed in 2025, with the remaining 4 systems deployed in the following year. Systems Interface will be responsible for the turn-key operation of the systems including the support to achieve the necessary regulatory approval from the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA).

David Chandler, Sales and Business Development Director at Systems Interface commented: *"These systems will be deployed at some of the most challenging airport locations in Europe. Through previous deliveries to HIAL, the Systems Interface project delivery team fully understand the complexities of the programme and are committed to achieving the agreed in-service delivery targets on schedule."*

The DME systems will be deployed at Benbecula, Campbeltown, Dundee, Inverness, Islay, Kirkwall, Stornoway and Sumburgh.

Distance Measuring Equipment (DME) uses the propagation delay of radio signals between an aircraft and a corresponding ground station to calculate the line-of-sight distance. The aircraft sends a signal to the ground station, the ground station responds with a signal back to the aircraft, the aircraft measures how long it takes for the signal to return and using the propagation delay, calculates its distance to the ground station

About HIAL – Highlands and Islands Airport Limited
Highlands and Islands Airports Limited (HIAL) is a private limited company wholly owned by the Scottish Ministers and responsible for the management and operation of 11 regional airports located at Barra, Benbecula, Campbeltown, Dundee, Inverness, Islay, Kirkwall, Stornoway, Sumburgh, Tiree and Wick. Working with our stakeholders, HIAL is committed to supporting the essential socio-economic role of aviation in Scotland by maintaining and developing the airports and the connections they provide for some of our country's more remote communities.

About Systems Interface | Member of the Frequentis Group

Systems Interface is UK based Global Air Traffic Management (ATM) systems integrator providing full Air Traffic Management (ATM) capabilities encompassing the delivery of turnkey solutions in the domains of navigation, ATC towers, communication, surveillance, meteorology, solar airfield lighting and technical design consultancy.

Based in Bordon, Hampshire, Systems Interface is a member of the Frequentis group, headquartered in Vienna. In 2024, the company received the prestigious Kings Award for Enterprise in the International Trade category.

Systems Interface has an established reputation for delivering Total Airport Solutions to the highest quality standards with an unwavering commitment to excellence and customer satisfaction.

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