



PRESS RELEASE

PO BOX 527
BURLINGTON, VT USA 05402
www.ascension-tech.com

MEDIA CONTACT
Anna Wisniewska
awisniewska@ascension-tech.com
802.893.6657 x 10

trakSTAR Adds Versatility to Ascension's New Product Line



Desktop Model Joins driveBAY Tracker for Fast Guidance of Miniaturized Sensors

BURLINGTON, VERMONT; April 7, 2008: Ascension Technology Corporation announces the addition of **3D Guidance trakSTAR™** to its family of ultra-fast trackers of small magnetic sensors. Users can select update rates as high as 420 times a second for each of four miniaturized sensors.

For unobtrusiveness and ease of use, sensors range in size from 8 mm to just 1.5 mm in diameter. In addition to Ascension's mid-range transmitter, trakSTAR supports a new lightweight (230 grams) DC magnetic field generator for easy mounting on humans as well as objects.

trakSTAR is powered by a desktop electronics unit with an onboard power supply and offers users high-speed USB as well as an industry standard RS-232 interfaces to a host computer.

"trakSTAR along with driveBAY give our customers two new options for fast tracking of miniaturized sensors," says Vice President Jack Scully. "They join a third 3D Guidance tracker -- medSAFE -- that is used for navigating medical instruments."

trakSTAR employs Ascension's proprietary pulsed-DC tracking technology to control the distorting effects of non-magnetic metals in the immediate working area. The 3D Guidance line of Ascension's DC magnetic trackers are unaffected by common nearby non-magnetic metals, such as stainless steel (300 series),

titanium, and, with user selectable frequency adjustment, aluminum.

trakSTAR's advanced control techniques provide high signal-to-noise performance for stable, quiet tracking of position and orientation (six degrees-of-freedom) measurements. trakSTAR also eliminates jitter in measurements caused by "power-line" noise sources -- without reducing its fast, dynamic tracking.

Chuck Stevens, Ascension's Engineering Manager, states "Like driveBAY, trakSTAR incorporates the latest advances in digital signal processing and Kalman Filtering." As a result, it carries "the computational horsepower of larger magnetic tracking systems, but now in a slim desktop model. It also contains extensive onboard diagnostics to detect abnormal conditions and make run-time corrections."

Environmentally friendly, trakSTAR is RoHS and WEEE compliant while meeting all pertinent electrical and safety standards.

About Ascension: Based in Burlington, Vermont, USA, Ascension is a world leader in magnetic and optical products for real-time tracking, navigation and guidance in virtual reality, biomechanical, simulation, animation, medical, and military applications. More information is available at www.ascension-tech.com. Contact us directly at 802-893-6657, ext 10, or sales@ascension-tech.com .

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