



PRESS RELEASE

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Ascension's Flock of Birds® Pivotal to Success of Gunnery Simulators for Blackhawk and Chinook Helicopters

BURLINGTON, VERMONT; October 28, 2008: **Ascension Technology Corporation's** Flock of Birds head tracker has been chosen by the **Raydon Corporation** for its new line of military training simulators. The DC magnetic tracker is being incorporated into Raydon's **Virtual Door Gunner Trainer** (VDGT), for the UH-60 Blackhawk and CH-47 Chinook helicopters.



Ascension's popular DC magnetic tracker, "The Flock", is used in Raydon's *Virtual Door Gunnery Trainer* for Blackhawk and Chinook helicopters. The Flock's real-time position and orientation tracking synchronizes head direction with computer-generated imagery that accurately mimics the outside world. The trainer provides realistic aircrew training prior to deployment in war zones, such as Afghanistan and Iraq.

Raydon's VDGT trainer provides realistic virtual door gunnery and crew-coordination training during simulated missions. It is designed to sharpen target acquisition, target identification, and target engagement skills. A VDGT simulator is made up of a pilot station, a left door gunner station, and a right door gunner station. Students wear a head-mounted display (HMD) that encompasses a 360-degree virtual world, full of accurate geographical terrain and visual obstacles, such as may be encountered in war zones. The Flock tracker is mounted on the HMD and synchronizes head position and orientation with computer-generated imagery, weapon aiming, and interactive instruction data presented in real time on the HMD's visor.

Click here to watch a video of a live training session. (http://www.raydon.com/video_fox.html)

Raydon selected Ascension's Flock of Birds for its six-degrees-of-freedom outputs, low cost, and stability. Raydon's Tim Lankford, Vice President of R&D, notes that Raydon's "target environment has a spatial requirement of less than four feet, which makes the Flock ideal for our application. In addition, it is not nearly as susceptible as inertial and hybrid tracking devices to electronic and audio noise."

Jack Scully, Ascension's Vice President for New Product Development, notes: "Ascension is proud to play a vital role in Raydon's advances in virtual training technology for the military. It enables our armed services to have affordable access to the state-of-the-art training devices and to prepare our soldiers and marines for ever adapting enemy tactics."

Raydon Corporation, based in Daytona Beach, Florida, USA, is the top provider of convoy trainers to the United States Armed Services and is a leader in innovative simulation training products and solutions. Raydon strives to bring affordable simulation training solutions to a variety of audiences: corporate, government, education and military. For more information about Raydon, visit www.raydon.com or call Toni Henry at 386-267-2936.

Ascension Technology Corporation, based in Burlington, Vermont, USA, is a world leader in magnetic and optical motion tracking solutions for real-time visualization and simulator applications. More than 7,000 of its Flock trackers have been sold worldwide for commercial and industrial applications, like the one described here. Additional information about Ascension trackers is available at www.ascension-tech.com or from Joanna Harrington at 802-893-6657, ext 44.

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