



For Details, Contact:

Patrick Kelly, VP Sales and Marketing
Coastal Environmental Systems
820 – 1st Avenue S
Seattle, WA
Pkelly@coastalenvironmental.com
www.coastalenvironmental.com
206.682.6048

COASTAL ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEMS

RAF Fairford, United Kingdom, FMQ-19 Installation Complete

Seattle, WA: Coastal Environmental Systems, Inc. completed another FMQ-19 installation this month for the U.S. Air Force. FMQ-19 (previously referred to as OS-21/FBS) is the latest in weather monitoring systems that will automate collection of the Air Force's weather data at air bases worldwide. The data will be used for air traffic control. Coastal was awarded the contract to manufacture and install the fixed base weather systems, as well as provide training and logistics support at 200 air bases throughout the globe. The site of the newest FMQ-19 system is RAF Fairford, United Kingdom.

"RAF Fairford posed new challenges for the Coastal FMQ-19 installation team. The existing communications infrastructure on the RAF base is multimode fiber optic cable and 240 VAC 50 Hz, however, FMQ-19 adapted very easily to the existing fiber optic cable and native power provided. Even though the installation teams' tools and equipment were held up in Customs, in transit from Seattle to RAF Fairford, the installation continued with the purchase of the necessary hand tools, along with ongoing support of RAF Fairford's METNAV department. Soon after the installation and site acceptance test were performed, FMQ-19 training started, maintaining a timely installation." ----Steven Clark, Field Engineer

The FMQ-19 system is a fixed-base system in Coastal's defense meteorology line of weather stations – a Commercial-Off-the-Shelf (COTS) product. Data from its sensors are collected by the ZENO[®] 3200, a 32-bit data acquisition system designed especially for environmental monitoring. ZENOSOFT[®] data, (the operating system for the ZENO[®]), automatically obtains and disseminates weather data. The FMQ-19 system has an extensive list of sensors.



RAF Fairford, set-up of primary sensor suite

A complete sensor suite (calculated values in parenthesis) is: wind speed and direction (wind gust), relative humidity, (dew point), temperature, visibility, present weather (answering the question – is it rain or snow, and falling at what rate), total precipitation, cloud height (several layers), presence of ice, detection of lightning and direction (nearby or approaching), (obscuration reporting), (Runway Visual Range (RVR)), barometric pressure and (altimeter setting). Other parameters will be calculated concerning the pressure and winds.

For Immediate Release

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