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COASTAL ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEMS, INC.

When the Next Shuttle Comes In, Coastal's Weather Stations Will Be There...

Seattle, WA: ITT Industries, Systems Division recently awarded Coastal Environmental Systems, Inc. a contract for an expanded FMQ-19 weather system (the weather station Coastal is currently building and installing at U.S. Air Bases worldwide), in order to measure and monitor weather at Cape Kennedy, FL – the Space Shuttle's landing site. The demand for weather information at this location is tremendous, and data must be sent to multiple users instantaneously, many of who have different operational reasons for looking at it.

The system is an "expanded FMQ-19" in several ways:

1. The Ceilometers (measuring Cloud Height) are remote from the sensor groups (one is in an inviting location called "Mosquito Lagoon"),
2. A special Wind sensor is being used to meet NASA requirements,
3. Wind Speed and Direction will be reported every second,
4. A longer (2 hour) battery back-up will be provided,
5. There are more interfaces for the data going out, and
6. There is complete redundancy at the main processor and data distribution levels. If the primary processor fails, a second one is running in tandem and the user can switch to it as a data source.

The weather station has three groups of sensors and two remote Cloud Height sensors. The primary sensor group has Wind Speed and Direction, Cloud Height, Visibility, Precipitation Identification, Freezing Rain Detection and Accumulation, Triple Redundant Pressure Sensors, Thunderstorm Detection (Lightning Direction and Distance), Air Temperature and Relative Humidity. There are two smaller sensor groups measuring Wind Speed and Direction, with one of the two also having a Visibility sensor. The two remote Cloud Height sensors are connected to the two smaller groups via short haul line drivers.

The Cape Kennedy system has been in planning stages for more than 2 years.

For Immediate Release