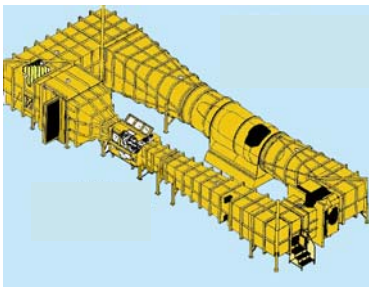


# WIND TUNNEL TESTING FOR IR SYSTEM



*The Star  
SAFIRE HD  
airborne  
thermal  
imaging  
system.*

-- FLIR Systems Inc..



*Subsonic Wind Tunnel*

-- Air Force Academy

***“FirstLink identified the wind tunnel at the Air Force Academy to answer our product testing needs. Now we can collect valuable performance data in environments frequently encountered during military operations, as well as gain insight from the U.S. Air Force’s best and brightest young scientists.”***

*Andrew Saxton  
Product Manager  
FLIR Systems Inc.*

Infrared (IR) imaging technology enables users to “see heat”. Though invisible to the naked eye, IR radiation is emitted by all objects and can be detected by cameras tuned to IR wavelengths. IR imagery is especially valuable in low or no light, and where heat is one of the few means to detect an object’s presence, especially from a distance.

FLIR Systems Inc. specializes in IR imaging technology for applications which range from surveillance, force protection, industrial inspection, materials analysis, navigation and safety. Researchers at the U.S. Air Force Academy (AFA) located in Colorado Springs, CO will perform testing on FLIR Systems’ new Star SAFIRE HD unit under a wide variety of environments to augment previous aerodynamics testing. The effort will make use of the Academy’s wind tunnel, which can expose objects to the extreme winds experienced in air flight. The effort will also provide the Academy’s students an opportunity to perform valuable research on state-of-the-art military technology. Work performed under this Cooperative Research and Development Agreement, which was arranged with the support of FirstLink and Michael Crane of AFA’s Office of Research and Technology Applications, is expected to influence future product design and further validate the device’s wind performance parameters.

Future FLIR products, which may incorporate lessons learned during this venture, will improve the Government’s capabilities in such applications as search and rescue, reconnaissance, force protection, drug interdiction, maritime patrol, environmental monitoring, target acquisition and surveillance

The Air Force Academy mission is to educate, train and inspire men and women to become officers of character, motivated to lead the United States Air Force in service to our nation. As part of the academic program, faculty and cadets conduct research and consulting for Air Force agencies.

FirstLink is the Department of Defense’s National Center of Excellence for First Responder Technologies, supporting first responder needs through the development of commercial pathways between Department of Defense Science & Technology, private industry and universities.

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