NERC AIRBORNE RESEARCH & SURVEY FACILITY (ARSF)
http://www.nerc.ac.uk/arsf/home.htm

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF OPPORTUNITY

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH COUNCIL

2010 FLYING SEASON: GREECE & EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN
CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIPT OF PROPOSALS: FRIDAY 9 OCTOBER 2009

The Airborne Research & Survey Facility (ARSF) invites applications for flying during special deployments in 2010 to Greece and the Eastern Mediterranean.

Two 14-day deployments are planned in 2010: 17 May to 30 May; and 13 September to 26 September.

The Natural Environment Research Council will provide flying time and data processing for approved projects, at no cost to the applicant ***(applicants will need to provide their own resources for fieldwork and data analysis).***
Although activities will be concentrated in Greece and E Mediterranean, it may be possible to support applications whilst en-route. Applications involving local collaboration are particularly welcomed, and specific contact with the Remote Sensing Laboratory of the National Technical University of Athens (NTUA) is encouraged.

Eligible persons (see wishing to participate in this opportunity are invited to submit a full proposal including a supporting science case by 9 October 2009. The ARSF Steering Committee will review the applications using standard NERC criteria: successful applicants will be notified by January 2010 of their inclusion in the flying campaign. Eligibility information is available via http://arsf.nerc.ac.uk/howtoapply/eligibility.asp .

Applicants MUST contact the ARSF Operations Manager (01452 859945/ cjos@nerc.ac.uk) or Science/Operations Coordinator (01452 859945/ gaew@nerc.ac.uk) to discuss requirements, feasibility and scheduling before the Application Form will be issued.

The ARSF supports environmental research, training, survey and monitoring in many areas, including:

- ***Terrestrial, Freshwater and Earth sciences, and science-based Archaeology*** through provision of multispectral high-resolution digital and analogue imagery and by the use of the aircraft for geophysical surveys;
- ***Marine sciences,*** through the extension of existing remote sensing observations over coastal and oceanic waters with a ~5 hour endurance/r ~1000km range; and
- ***Atmospheric science,*** through the provision of atmospheric measurements over urban areas and other smaller targets and continuous aerosol sampling/profiling, thus complementing the capabilities of larger atmospheric science platforms.

Instrumentation (further information at http://arsf.nerc.ac.uk/instruments/)

The core remote sensing instrument suite includes the following:
Specim AISA Eagle/Hawk Hyperspectral Imaging System - full data cube with ~500 spectral bands over wavelengths 400-2400nm, and ~1000 spatial pixels VIS/NIR and ~300 spatial pixels NIR/SWIR; a dedicated processing line provides radiometrically and geometrically corrected digital multispectral data.
Leica ALS50-II lidar system - 1064nm; hit rate > 1/m^2; ~15cm in Z, potentially simultaneous with the hyperspectral system.
RCD105 39Mpx medium format digital frame camera, integrated with the lidar navigation system.

In addition, the following remote sensing instruments can be made available for special applications:
Thermal Broadband Imager *(TABI-320* – single channel, 8-12 microns, 320 spatial pixels)
Large-format RC-10 aerial survey camera, with images being supplied in scanned digital form.

Atmospheric instrumentation
A ***Rosemount probe***, an ***isokinetic air/aerosol intake*** and an ***AIMMS-20 probe*** (measuring basic atmospheric parameters - temperature, humidity, wind speed and turbulence data) are available. PMS equipment can be made available by arrangement with the Facility for Airborne Atmospheric Measurements and deployed in the underwing pods. User-provided instruments can be accommodated internally in the cabin and potentially via the underwing pods/pylons and fuselage hardpoints.

Potential users are encouraged to contact:			**For additional information, contact:**
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