

Camcopter Supporting Winter Games, Italian Navy



Camcopter's Schiebel is being used in Europe both in the Italian navy and for the Sochi Winter Olympics and Paralympics. Photo courtesy Schiebel.

Schiebel's Camcopter S-100 unmanned aircraft system, in cooperation with JSC Gorizont Russia, was used for surveillance during the entire XXII Winter Olympics Games in Sochi and, as of press time, was to continue its surveillance support through the March Paralympic Winter Games.

Designed to fly in restricted spaces, such as in mountainous areas and at sea like the terrain in Sochi, the S-100 surveyed the 50-kilometer area around the Olympic village.

All the information from the S-100 was received in real time because of the interfacing of the UAS combined with the unified safety control system of the Olympic Winter Games and Paralympic Games.

Schiebel also announced that the Italian navy has selected its Camcopter S-100 to support its fleet, making it the first European navy to put the system to operational use.

The Italian navy has done previous work with the system — it was the first

UAS to ever fly from an Italian ship. The system took off of the ITS Bersagliere frigate in April 2012.

The helicopter the navy will use has a Wescam MX-10 and a Shine Micro automatic identification system and can collect data for up to six hours at a time. It will also be mounted with a Schiebel-made harpoon system, which allows for takeoffs and landings in sea state five.

"The Camcopter S-100 continues to be a proven and highly sought after asset in maritime operations," says Hans Georg Schiebel, chairman of the company. "Its ability to extend a ship commander's visible and electronic horizon to beyond what is conventionally possible is a powerful instrument that helps to counter possible threats, secure routes and control recourses at less operational cost. This quality has already garnered the interest of several global navies, where the S-100's robust nature has proven effective, particularly in the unforgiving maritime environment."