

Home > Industry News > [New Magnetic Guidance Technology Unveiled](#)

## NEW MAGNETIC GUIDANCE TECHNOLOGY UNVEILED

25 January 2008 15:25

Researchers at Saarland University in Germany have developed a novel system to improve airport safety.

Sensors monitoring fluctuations in the Earth's magnetic field caused by passing aircraft provide a 'magnetic fingerprint' of a plane, which helps air traffic controllers monitor an aircraft's position on the tarmac.

The unique system is operating on an experimental basis at Frankfurt and Saarbruecken airports in Germany and in Thessaloniki in Greece, according to website Physorg.com.

All passing aircraft have been detected in tests and 75% of aircraft locations on the ground can be pinpointed to within 7.5m, researchers say.

The system, developed under the EU-funded Ismael project, can see through obstacles, such as buildings and the fingers of airliner parking bays – structures that can create dangerous areas of shadow for radar systems.

The sensor units, currently the size of a PC graphics card and likely to shrink further, cost several hundred euros each.

*By Adrian McBreen*

[» Email this link to a friend](#)

### Latest News

- > **Huelva Airport Given Green Light**  
Wed 06 February 2008 14:34
- > **Jomo Kenyatta Airport Expansion Delayed**  
Wed 06 February 2008 14:19
- > **European Airports Bemoan Lack of Security Innovation**  
Tue 05 February 2008 16:57
- > **Polish Resort Unveils Airport Plans**  
Tue 05 February 2008 12:50
- > **Delhi Feels The Pressure With Runway Cleaning System**  
Mon 04 February 2008 16:51
- > **T-Rays Could Improve Airport Security**  
Mon 04 February 2008 15:36

[» Click here to view archive](#)