



Unmanned CAMCOPTER S-100 Proves SAR Capabilities



You can run, but you can't hide. The CAMCOPTER S-100 scored a first for the UAS world when it was used to search for a homicide suspect in Austria late last year. (Photo: Schiebel)

Late last year Schiebel's CAMCOPTER S-100 UAS proved its suitability for search and rescue (SAR) missions as part of an ongoing homicide investigation in Stiwwoll, Austria.

In the first operation of its kind, Schiebel provided Austrian law enforcement with an S-100 and operating personnel to assist in the search for a double homicide suspect assumed to be hiding in a forest region. Compared to manned helicopters, the S-100 offers a more cost- and mission-effective solution for conducting exploration tasks. Its endurance of up to six hours within a 200km radius provides the S-100 with an enhanced operational capability that enables substantially extended search mission, permitting operatives to systematically cover larger areas and gather crucial intelligence in the form of real-time day and night EO/IR footage in less time.

The ability to collect and analyse imagery simultaneously in a controlled environment on the ground presents another mission-critical advantage. Such a setting is far more conducive to effective analysis and target pick-up than on board a helicopter and considerably improves the probability of successful detection. The S-100's small logistical footprint as well as its rapid deployment capability and ease of operation further add to the suitability of the UAS for the SAR role.

"This is a prime example for the potential civil use of a UAS such as the S-100," commented Hans Georg Schiebel, Chairman of the Schiebel Group. "Of course we gave our full support to the special investigative team in its efforts to conduct a rapid and efficient search of wide rural areas and bring this case to a successful conclusion."