

MAV 08

10-15 March 2008
Agra, India



**1st US-Asian Demonstration and Assessment of
Micro Aerial Vehicle (MAV) and
Unmanned Ground Vehicle (UGV) Technology**



Organised By
National Aerospace Laboratories
Aerial Delivery Research & Development Establishment
US Army RDECOM(International Technology Center - Pacific)

**National Aerospace Laboratories, Bangalore
Aerial Delivery Research and Development Establishment, Agra
U. S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command's
International Technology Center – Pacific**

PRESS RELEASE

Historic Conference on Micro Aerial Vehicle and Unmanned Ground Vehicle Technologies

The National Aerospace Laboratories, Bangalore and the Aerial Delivery Research and Development Establishment, Agra, have partnered with the U. S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command (RDECOM)'s International Technology Center – Pacific to host the first U.S. - Asian Demonstration and Assessment of Micro Aerial and Unmanned Ground Vehicle Technologies March 10 – 15, 2008, at the Jaypee Palace Hotel, Agra, India.

The event is sponsored by the US Department of Defense, in particular the international R&D offices of US Army RDECOM, US Navy Office of Naval Research – Global (ONR-G), US Air Force Asian Office of Aerospace Research and Development (AOARD) and the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency(DARPA).

The event has been extended full support by the Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO), Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and the Indo-US Science and Technology Forum (IUSSTF).

The purpose of the Conference is (i) to showcase next-generation , COTS enabled prototype systems of Micro Air Vehicles(MAV) and Unmanned Ground Vehicles(UGV) that are almost ready for end-use , thus hasten their induction into the Forces (ii) identify areas for further development of critical technologies. It is expected to give a major fillip to the current developmental efforts in India in the area of MAVs and UGVs by presenting the state-of-the- art in technologies and indicating the future trends in research and development in the area. The event also sets favorable conditions for future collaborative research between India and the international MAV community.

The subject is highly relevant as the Defense Services need systems appropriate to Military Operations in Urban Terrain (MOUT), Light-Combat Survivability and Force Protection (FP). Presently such support is being given by a larger class of UAVs, but MAVs definitely enjoy greater advantage. The systems are also important for civilian applications such as disaster management, urban traffic monitoring, search and rescue operations etc.

It may be noted here that two previous editions of the event were held in Germany in the years 2003 and 2005. These events mainly concentrated on proving platform technology, but mission capability and adaptability is now the major goal.

Twelve international teams from academia, government and industry (two from the US, one from Germany, France, Spain, Netherlands, Japan, and Australia and four from India) will conduct briefings, display technology and demonstrate capability during the five day technology event. An International Judging Panel will evaluate the entries on their performance. A three day specialist's conference will be held concurrently to address research and development critical to the next generation of micro air vehicle systems.

An International Organizing Committee (IOC) is planning and coordinating the overall organizational efforts in association with NAL, Bangalore, ADRDE, Agra and RDECOM's International Technology Centre-Pacific. A National Advisory Committee consisting of eminent personalities from the R&D and user communities in India in the area is advising the Organizers. The local organizational effort at Agra is being led and coordinated by ADRDE, Agra with full assistance from and active participation of Air Force Station and Para Brigade at Agra.

It is expected that the event will benefit the MAV community in the country and spur speedy developments in this strategically important area.

The conference web site can be found at: <http://www.nal.res.in/mav08/>.

Members of the Indian media desiring access to the various events are asked to contact either of the following press officers to coordinate coverage. Opportunities for coverage include the opening ceremony, static judging displays and one day at the flight demonstration site.

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