

CANSO NEWS

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G&D: High End KVM - The Link Between ATCOs and ATSEPs

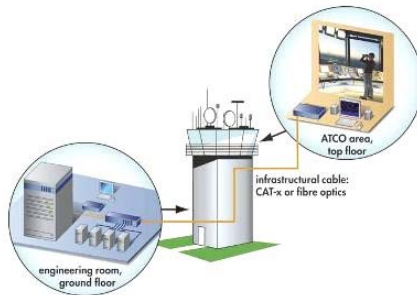
Earlier this year CANSO's Director General, Graham Lake welcomed **Guntermann & Drunck** saying: "I am thrilled to welcome G&D as our newest Associate Member. They are a well established provider of IT solutions and I look forward to the contribution they will make to CANSO's activities."



Guntermann & Drunck are proud to be a Member of the CANSO family. For more than 25 years, the owner-managed company from the heart of Germany worked with extending, switching and distributing computer signals – in short with "KVM". Various Air Navigation Service Providers (ANSPs) from across the globe are already benefiting from G&D's experience and expertise in this field.

The Link Between ATCOs, ATSEPs and KVM

Guntermann & Drunck always pay close attention to the needs of the users – the ATCOs and ATSEPs – when developing new technologies for the air traffic management industry. Being a regular participant in the major trade shows the people behind G&D's KVM products are always willing to answer questions from technical staff and ATCOs.



Using a KVM system to remove computers from the control centre

G&D's products allow for the efficient and resource-friendly storage of computers, which is especially important when it comes to health and safety management. ATCOs are now able to work at ergonomic desks thanks to the reduced IT requirements (think: "slim-line consoles"). By freeing up space in the control tower KVM technology can also lower ANSPs' operating costs by reducing the need to build new control centres.

High-end KVM products like the ones from G&D provide ATCOs with a safer workplace. Their concentration is also improved thanks to a more ergonomically designed workplace and the removal of distracting computer hardware. ATSEPs also benefit from G&D's products seeing as they can now perform maintenance on the computers in the server room without being distracted by the users.

The meaning of KVM

KVM is an abbreviation for the core signals of computer terminals: "K" for keyboard, "V" for video, and "M" for mouse, but it also includes the transmission of signals such as USB, RS232. There are numerous variations in the types of signals that are classified under KVM – especially when it comes to video where everything from VGA to DVI and dual-link DVI for huge radar displays in air traffic control rooms are included.

G&D products enable extended access to computers placed in a cool server room instead of distracting the staff with their noise and heat in the tower or Upper Area Control Centre. They also allow users to quickly switch between redundant computer systems in case of maintenance or a system failure.

G&D's products also offer features that might be atypical for the KVM sector, but extremely important for the ATM market such as the "Screen-Freeze Function". G&D devices detect if a video source or a computer system has failed and show the last available image framed by a red warning signal. ATCOs can therefore see the last known position of an aircraft even as they switch to another system.

Provided with monitoring functions and SNMP, Guntermann & Drunck's KVM products are constantly monitoring the health of the system thus facilitating the ATSEP's maintenance work and improving safety as ATCOs can more easily switch to a working system in case of a failure.

Who trusts in G&D?

Pressing developments in the ATM industry such as increased flight movements, consolidated control centres and the Single European Sky initiative require more ATCOs in the control centres.



Roland Ollik, Head of Sales and Marketing & Annette Häbel, Editor

G&D are dedicated to addressing these challenges and can rely on its long tradition and expertise in the field of control centres.

ANSPs such as **DFS**, Eurocontrol, **Belgocontrol**, **Austro Control**, **Finavia**, **Aena** and many more already trust in the products of the German manufacturer. And also large integrators in the ATC sector deploy G&D products for their projects.

For more information on G&D's products please visit [their website](#).

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