

Press Release

Inventory-taking drone: Hardis Group launches real-life prototype testing phase

Eyesee, the result of a technological partnership with Squadrone System, will be tested in FM Logistic warehouses to:

- **see how well the solution designed in the lab translates to real life in the warehouse so it can be fine-tuned to meet logistics providers' requirements as closely as possible;**
- **measure the benefits in productivity, safety and quality in a real-life situation.**

Grenoble, July 5, 2016 - Hardis Group, a digital services company and software publisher, has announced the launch of real-life testing of its drone solution designed to automate inventory-taking and inventory control in warehouses. The software publisher teamed up with Squadrone System to develop a fully assisted indoor drone, and international warehousing, transport and packaging leader FM Logistic to test the solution in real-life conditions in its warehouses.

A fully autonomous industrial drone

Aware of the logistics-related opportunities offered by the physical and technical characteristics of drones, Hardis Group filed a patent in 2015 for an inventory-taking drone to automate inventories and simplify and optimize inventory management in warehouses. Following a technological exploration phase, Hardis Group partnered with Squadrone System, which specializes in pilotless drones in extreme conditions and is well known for its consumer product Hexo+, to develop an initial prototype of an industrial indoor drone, called Eyesee.

The drone is equipped with sensors, enabling it to move around the warehouse autonomously, controlled by an operator. Its on-board camera identifies and captures inventory data which can be transmitted to any WMS on the market. The aim is to save time and increase productivity and safety in inventory and stock control operations.

Real-life testing with FM Logistic

Hardis Group recently signed an agreement with FM Logistic to test the solution at its logistics sites to check the system's ability to meet the sector's requirements. Innovation, which drives productivity, performance and flexibility, is a key value for FM Logistic, which has a committee of international experts dedicated to it. The aim is to imagine, design and deploy innovative solutions to improve working conditions for its employees and quality of service to its customers. So it was no surprise that the company agreed to get involved with the inventory-taking drone project.

FM Logistic opened up its warehouse in Satolas (France) to Hardis Group teams to conduct tests relating to flight conditions (site mapping, geolocation, lighting configurations, surfaces encountered by the drone, etc.) and the collection of information required for inventory-taking (label reading for example). In September, FM Logistic business teams will start testing the drone and the collection and processing of information by their tools.

Testing with FM Logistic will continue until the end of 2016. Hardis Group plans to commence production of the solution with Squadrone System in 2017.

About FM Logistic

Since its creation in 1967, FM Logistic has become an international leader in warehousing, transport and packaging. The independent family-run group is recognized as an expert in FMCG, distribution, perfume/beauty, industry and health markets.

Present in Asia, Eastern Europe, Central Europe, Western Europe and Latin America with over 20,000 employees, FM Logistic has a turnover of over a billion euros.

In addition to its international expansion, FM Logistic's development is focused on a strong policy of innovation, while respecting the environment. The group has pioneered 'pooling' (shared management of transport and logistics resources), for which it has received numerous professional awards.

Environmentally responsible by design, FM Logistic is a member of the Green Freight Europe program, an initiative aimed at improving the environmental performance of freight transport in Europe.

In 2015, the company developed CityLogin, an environmentally friendly solution to address logistics requirements for the final part of the journey in European cities.

www.fmlogistic.fr

About Squadrone System

The Squadrone System team, created in 2013, launched a Kickstarter campaign for the Hexo+ project, a fully autonomous drone that follows and films the user, raising over 1.3 million dollars. In a year, the company has transitioned from concept to reality and now has over 3000 users throughout the world. Based in Grenoble, France, and San Francisco, California, Squadrone System is conquering the industrial market with its autonomous indoor and outdoor flight technologies.

www.hexoplus.com/fr/

About Hardis Group

Hardis Group, a digital services company and software publisher, assists its customers in the transformation of their business model, their Supply Chain and their Information system. The company helps them become more competitive and increase their operational performance, creating and integrating business, technological and digital solutions tailored to their needs and issues.

With its dual positioning, Hardis Group has developed expertise in the areas of banking, insurance and e-health, distribution (CPG and luxury goods), industry and energy, logistics and transport services. This expertise now allows it to provide global responses, in an agile approach characterized by co-construction, innovation and continuous improvement.

Since its creation in 1984, the company has built its growth on a pragmatic approach and values of efficiency and firm commitment both to its 2,500 clients and its 730 employees (25% of whom are also shareholders). In 2015, Hardis Group achieved a turnover of € 68.8 million. The Group has five offices in France: Grenoble (head office), Lyon, Paris, Lille and Nantes.

www.hardis-group.com

Press contacts

Anjuna
Elodie Cassar
elodie.cassar@anjuna.fr
Tel: +33 9 64 15 31 27
Cell: +33 6 80 53 82 94

Hardis Group:
Hélène Leclercq
helene.leclercq@hardis.fr
Tel: +33 4 76 70 98 41

FM Logistic
Véronique Pourel
vpourel@fmlogistic.com
Tel: + 33 3 87 23 11 50
Cell : +33 6 85 74 92 93

Squadron System
Eva Pagneux
eva.pagneux@squadron-system.com
Tel: +1 (415) 579 6577
Cell : +33 6 46 32 35 51