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International Bird Strike Committee  
**Bird Avoidance Modelling Working Group Newsletter**  
January 30, 2007

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On July 8, 2003, the first EuroBAM research network meeting was held at the Universiteit van Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Participants of the first meeting joined from Belgium, England, Germany, The Netherlands, Norway and Sweden.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> EuroBAM Network meeting and workshop was held at the Universiteit van Amsterdam from November 8 –12, 2004. Participants from Belgium, Denmark, England, Germany, The Netherlands, Switzerland and the United States of America attended this meeting.

During the 27<sup>th</sup> International Bird Strike Committee (IBSC) meeting held in Athens, Greece in May 2005, the Bird Avoidance Modelling (BAM) working group held a round table discussion. In order to promote the exchange of knowledge, expertise and perhaps even promote international cooperation, it was clear from the discussion and previous EuroBAM meetings that working group meetings were beneficial and should be held at approximately annual intervals.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting and workshop was held at Traben-Trarbach, Germany from October 22-25, 2006. Originally the aim of these meetings was to create an informal research network. However, there is a clear need for communication and exchange between researchers, system developers and operations and therefore these meetings and workshops are now considered part of the IBSC Bird Avoidance Modelling Working Group.

**The main objective of these meeting is the transfer of knowledge relevant to Bird Avoidance Modelling for improved flight safety; this includes modeling techniques and results, data handling and communications as well as the use of different sensors needed for bird detection.**

***Summary of the Traben-Trarbach meeting***

This meeting focused mainly on discussions and presentations about bird detection sensors and data interpretation including several field demonstrations. Many technical advances have been made in the field of sensors, detection algorithms, data storage and visualization in Germany, Belgium, The Netherlands and Switzerland since the 27<sup>th</sup> IBSC meeting. Since prior meetings, the Netherlands Bird Avoidance Model has been completed with a spatial distribution model and a migration forecast model in operational use (<http://ecogrid.sara.nl/bambas>). From an operational perspective, it was clear from this meeting that closer cooperation was needed between countries. Furthermore, models can (and in some cases do) play a central role in improving interpretation of data, understanding of visible patterns and filling in the temporal and spatial gaps in data.

Recently the European Space Agency has designated the Flight Safety, (Bird Migration), System of Systems as one of the pilot project candidates within the Integrated Application Programmes (IAP) initiative. Developers of this initiative were present at this meeting to discuss flight safety as a central issue in the IAP. The IBSC Bird

Avoidance Modelling Working Group endorses ESA's interest in initiating a program which aims at developing sustainable services to improve flight safety. The working group hopes to be centrally involved in formulating and executing such a project.

The meeting agenda, participants list and presentations are available online at:  
[http://staff.science.uva.nl/~shamoun/BAMBAS/IBSC\\_BAM/IBSC\\_2006/index.html](http://staff.science.uva.nl/~shamoun/BAMBAS/IBSC_BAM/IBSC_2006/index.html)

Information about the working group activities are posted at:  
[http://staff.science.uva.nl/~shamoun/BAMBAS/IBSC\\_BAM](http://staff.science.uva.nl/~shamoun/BAMBAS/IBSC_BAM)

**Aims of the working group meetings:**

1. Exchange information on local research and future initiatives
2. Coordination of activities and exchange of research modules
3. Exchange of knowledge and data
4. Connection between operational systems and researchers
5. Standardization or common consensus
6. Search for opportunities for future international collaboration

This working group is in open to anyone interested in actively participating.

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