

Gatwick Airport Hobbled by Hobby Drone Intrusion

From 9 pm to 3 am last evening Gatwick Airport, Europe's 8th busiest, was shut down due to the presence of two rogue drones flying over its runway. The drones reappeared this morning, leaving tens of thousands of travelers stranded with no reopen time in sight for the moment. Hobby drones are tiny but pose an enormous collision risk to aircraft which could provoke catastrophic damage. And shutdowns are incredibly expensive – a similar shutdown in Dubai in 2017 ended up costing the airport authority as much as \$1 million US per minute.

Lucas Le Bell, founder of CerbAir anti-drone solutions knows how dangerous a drone in a no-fly zone can be. CerbAir has extensive experience in anti-drone protection over international airports such as Paris' Charles de Gaulle – Roissy International Airport.

« This is proof that stricter legislation is not enough to eliminate the threat hobby drones pose to aviation, even at major airports like Gatwick. If you want to stop this sort of incident, you need to find the people responsible and bring them to justice to discourage others from doing the same thing, which is why it's so important to be able to locate the pilot. »

“Why not just shoot the drone out of the sky?” you may ask

Police at Gatwick were reluctant to do so out of fear that stray bullets could possibly damage aircraft or injure passengers and crew. Drones are also incredibly fast (some going up to 140mph or 225kph) and difficult to target, even for the best sharpshooters.

Radio-frequency based anti-drone detection systems like CerbAir's are able to locate not only the drone but its remote control from the moment the remote is activated.

This allows airport authorities to find and apprehend rogue drone pilots and neutralize the threat straight away without using ammunition or jamming which can be dangerous in a crowded urban environment.

About CerbAir

CerbAir is a French defense and security company that was launched in 2015 after the increasing number of drone incidents entailed the need to protect all sensitive sites from this new airborne threat. Strongly convinced that airspace security is a shared concern, CerbAir offers the most cost-effective solutions on the market. For the first time, security has become three-dimensional and CerbAir has the answer: Detect, Identify and Neutralize all malicious drones. Find out more on our website: <https://www.cerbair.com/>

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