

Press release

Zeppelin NT to make atmospheric measurements

Further flight testing successfully accomplished on Tuesday

Friedrichshafen, 13th March 2007 – On Tuesday over Friedrichshafen further flight testing was successfully completed for the deployment of the Zeppelin NT for ten days in July 2007 as a measuring platform in co-operation with the Institute of Chemistry and Dynamics of the Geosphere in Jülich.

The aim of this mission in the summer is to carry out for the first time investigations into the distribution of trace elements and free radicals in the lowest layers of the atmosphere. The Zeppelin NT has been equipped with a top platform which has been designed especially for this climate research project and on which various measuring instruments are mounted.



The platform is carried by the inner rigid structure of the airship. During flight testing, equipment weighing a total of approx. 600 kg and an additional electrical power generation system providing approx. eight kilowatts was installed in the Zeppelin NT.



"Together with the Jülich research institute, we are entering not just technical new land but also new areas in climate research. Our test flights have shown that the airship is the ideal platform offering an appropriate infrastructure for these and other

complex aspects. The preparations for the July mission are well on course," Robert Gritzbach, Head of Development at Zeppelin Luftschifftechnik GmbH & Co KG, said. The investigations are part of the project "Transport and Chemical Conversion in Convective Systems" (TRACKS). For further information go to:
<http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-ii/forschung/tracks/>

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