

## **Star\$Tower**







#### Star<br/> ♦ Tower Delivers



- Affordable, persistent, overhead networking, communications, surveillance and sensing to enhance security and public safety
- Rapid alerting of security forces for smart incident response
- Situation Awareness for precise command & control
- Real-time dissemination of intelligence to responders
- Visible deterrent to reduce threats







## Mission Suitability



#### Star♦Tower offers:

- Superior mission performance:
  - Unmatched wind performance
  - Enhanced sensor performance
- Outstanding tactical agility & responsiveness:
  - Tailored system optimized for the mission
  - Easy to transport; fast and simple to relocate
  - System flexibility for field operations
- Survivability from small arms fire
- Simple, effective operations, maintenance & logistics



## Star<br/> ♦Tower Airfoil Shape

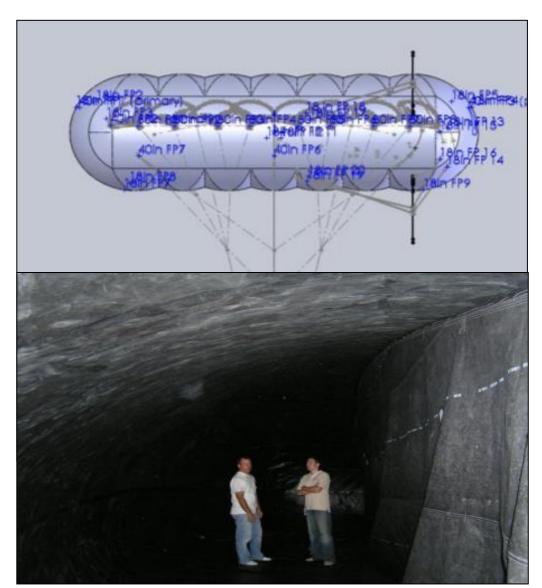






## **Envelope Configuration**





#### The Envelope:

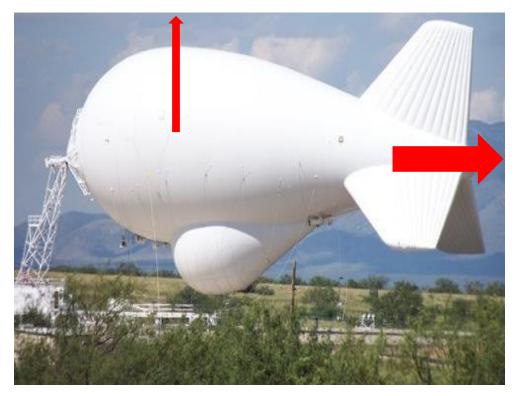
- Seven cell hull with porous fabric spars
- Five core cells of equal volume
- Two outer cells of larger volume
- Ballonet occupies the central three cells
- Internal fan patches for rigging lines

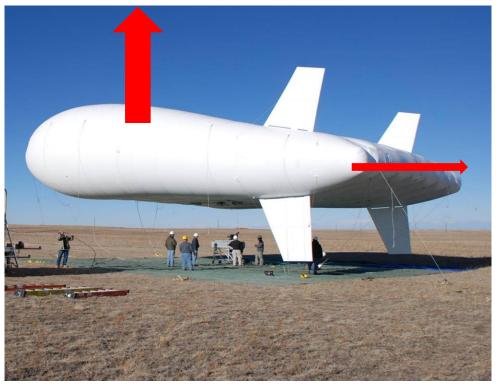




#### The Star♦Tower Difference







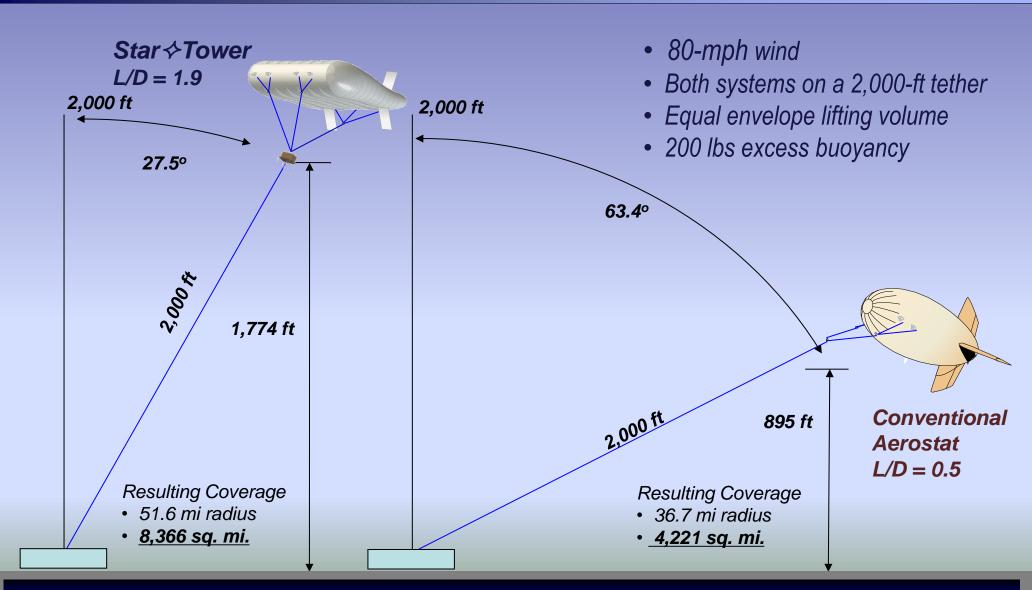
- A traditional aerostat generates <u>2x more</u> <u>aerodynamic **drag** than lift
  </u>
- Aerodynamic efficiency is not a primary design driver
- Result: aerostat is blown over, providing <u>less</u> sensor coverage in high winds

- A Star Tower aerostat generates <u>2x more</u> <u>aerodynamic lift than drag</u>
- Aerodynamic efficiency is the primary design driver
- Result: aerostat lifts more in the wind and does not get blown over, providing greater sensor coverage in high winds



#### The Star♦Tower Difference







#### ST 500 Base Station





Power Distribution Unit

**Data Power Box** 

**GCS Junction Box** 

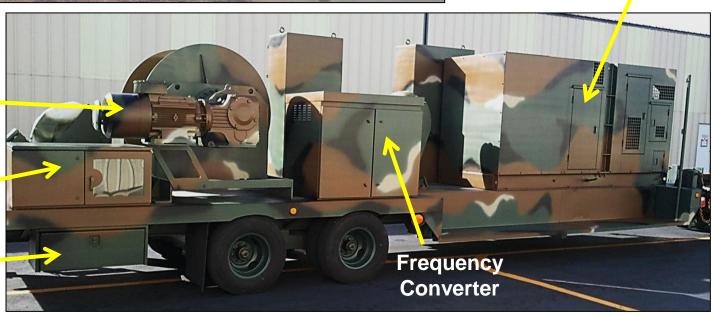
200 kVA Diesel Generator

Winch Variable Frequency Drive

Main Tether Winch

**Power Rectifier** 

Tool, Support — Equipment Storage

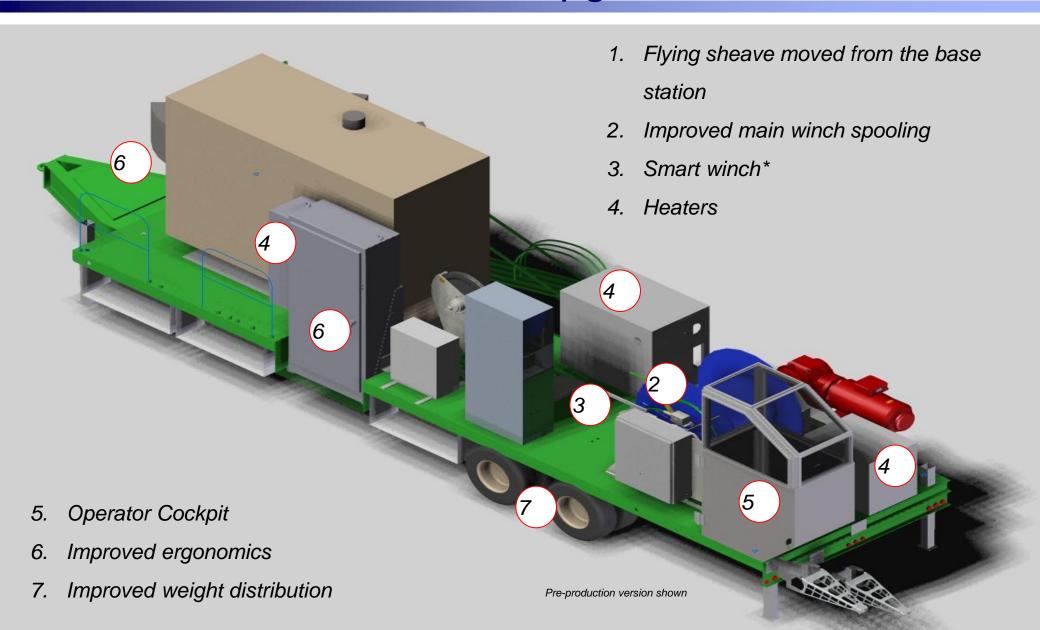






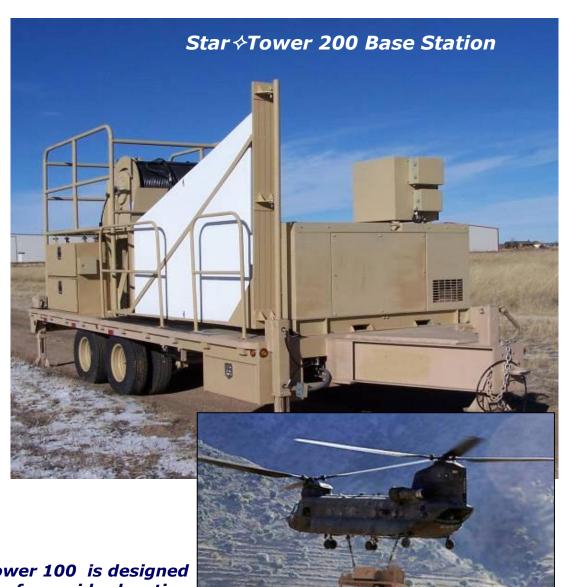
## Base Station Upgrades







- Fully self-contained, selfsupporting base station
- Trailer, truck-mount or fixed site options
- Highway and off-road capable
- Airlift up to ST-500 (80,000 cu. ft.)
- Helo-lift ST-100 (<30,000 cu. ft.)



Star **♦**Tower 100 Base Station

Star & Tower 100 is designed for rapid relocation

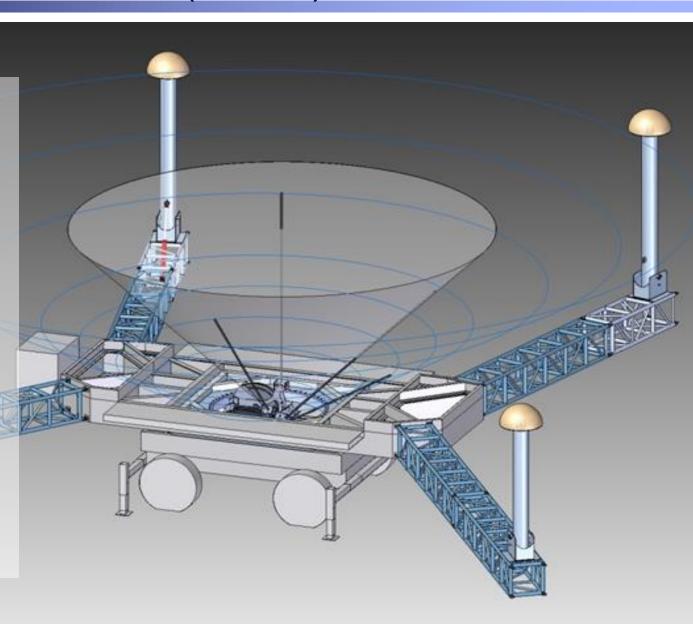


## X-Rotator (XRTR)



#### XRTR Upgrades

- 1. Flying sheave moved from the base station
- 2. Hydraulic mooring posts
- 3. Upgraded central bearing
- 4. Reduced rear truss lengths
- 5. Lighting
- 6. Trusses no longer used for towing
- 7. Improved Mooring pads
- 8. Confluence ASSY capture
- 9. Shorter recovery lines



## Remote Operations





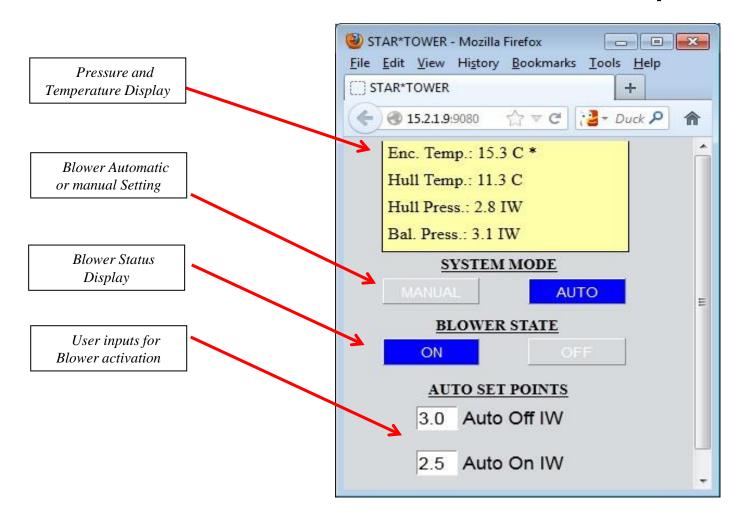


#### Flight Data Monitoring and Recording Display



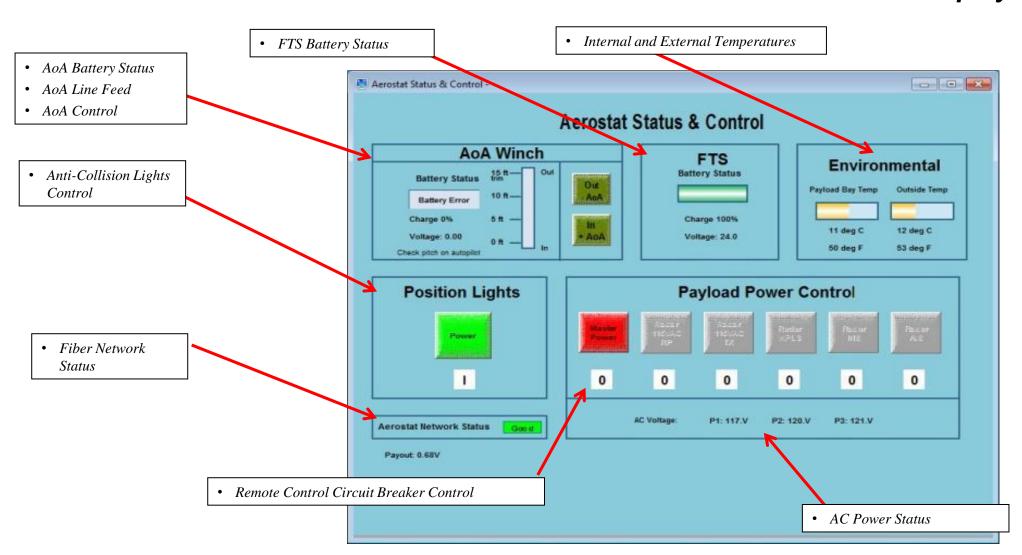


#### Gas Envelope Instrumentation Display





#### Aerostat Control Functions Display





## Payload Configuration

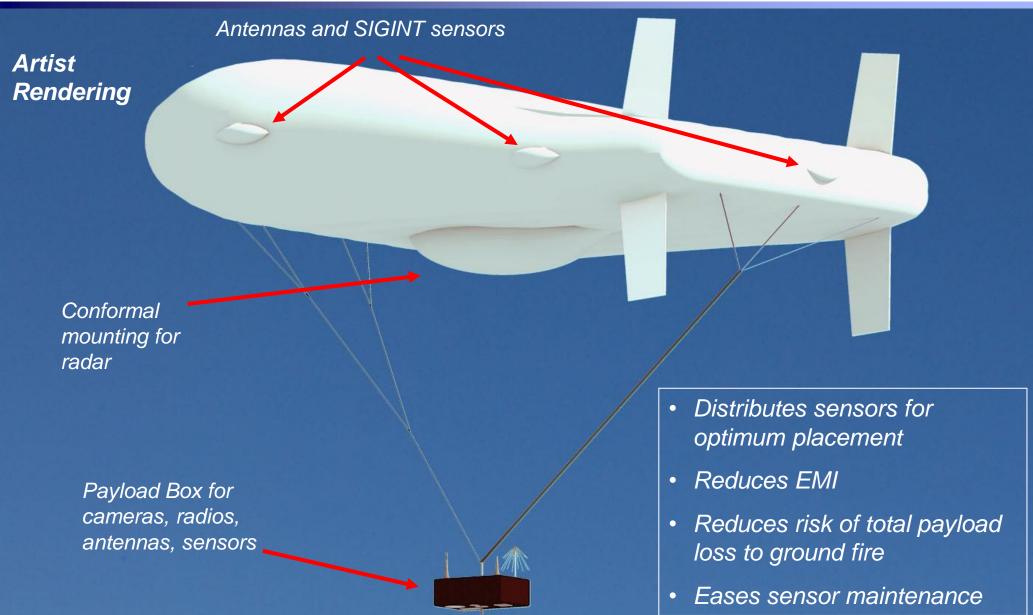






## Distributed Payload System







## Sensor Types



EO/IR Cameras	<ul> <li>High Definition (HD), full-motion video, day/night cameras w/ geo-ref and range finder</li> <li>Up to 6 sensors, with multiple field of views</li> <li>Image enhancing processor for poor visibility conditions (haze, smoke, moisture)</li> <li>Full stabilization and ultra-accurate geo-referencing</li> </ul>
Multi-Mode Radar	<ul> <li>Modes include: Ground Moving Target Indicator, air, maritime, AIS and ground map</li> <li>Day, night and weather detection capabilities; target identification in some modes</li> <li>Abilities to detect dismounts (walkers), vehicles, aircraft, ships, oil spills</li> <li>Features that include auto target classification, geo-locating, data recording</li> </ul>
Radio & Broadband	<ul> <li>Dedicated, secure radio and broadband networks for assured communication and data transfer beyond line-of-sight</li> <li>Trunked radio network to support legacy radios</li> <li>Geo-locating and tracking of all radios in the network</li> </ul>
User Devices for Two- Way Video and Data Relay	<ul> <li>Mobile laptops, 9-inch Android tablets, Android smart phones that provides secure, real-time 2-way comm., video/metadata transfer between users, command center Provides LAN, shared intelligence, network-centric collaboration</li> <li>Provides geo-referenced moving map</li> <li>Provides tracking of all personnel carrying the Android tablet</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Ground Sensors are available in a wide range of form and function to detect motion, heat, chemicals, unique agents, etc.</li> <li>Unattended ground sensors provide RF alerting when they detect their intended target</li> </ul>

- RF tracking of tagged objects of interest



#### 



- High-performance airfoil shaped envelope
- Rigid, non-inflatable tails improves flight performance and reduces gas loss
- Smart winch, reflex camber and envelope shape negate downdrafts, greatly reducing chance of breakaways
- Active AoA control optimizes flight performance
- Automated features reduce crew size and lowers operating costs
- Remote operations from GCS reduces outside exposure
- Distributed payload system to optimize sensor performance
- Fully scalable design is tailored precisely to meet customer requirements and operating location







Consolidated Winch Controller



# International Aerostat Competitors











Traditional Design, Many Weaknesses

> Aeros, Russia











# International Aerostat Weaknesses



All international aerostat manufacturers <u>except GNSS</u>, use the same traditional (old) aerostat envelope shape and all have the same weaknesses:

- 1. Low lift/high drag envelope coefficients <u>limit mission performance</u>:
  - Low wind limits reduce mission availability
  - Greater "blow-down" of blimp envelope reduces sensor coverage in all wind conditions
- 2. Old design is highly susceptible to downdrafts (slack tethers) and other mountain wind effects:
  - Significantly higher occurrences of breakaway and loss of aerostat
  - 35% of traditional aerostats flown in Afghanistan by US were lost to weather
- 3. Envelope shape requires continuous wind alignment when moored:
  - Complex mooring structure; significant weight and footprint penalties; limits mobility and responsiveness; more dangerous for ground crew
- 4. Old design requires more manpower to operate and maintain



#### The Star *♦* Tower Difference



## Star Tower overcomes all the weaknesses of our international competitors:

- Higher mission availability due to twice the operating wind limits (70 kts for Star Tower vs. 35 kts for other aerostats)
- Greater sensor coverage in all wind conditions because Star Tower has less tether lean in winds
- Much lower risk of breakaways and loss of system with new ST technologies (high L/D, reflex camber, smart winch)
- Distributed payload system and envelope stability improve sensors performance, especially at long ranges
- Automated features that reduce operating crew size and workload, and improves safety





## Security & Defense



- Maritime and Airspace Surveillance
- Maritime
- Border/Port/Critical Infrastructure Security
- Command & Control of Forces
- Security Force Movements
- Emergency Response







Critical Infrastructure







Ports, Points of Entry



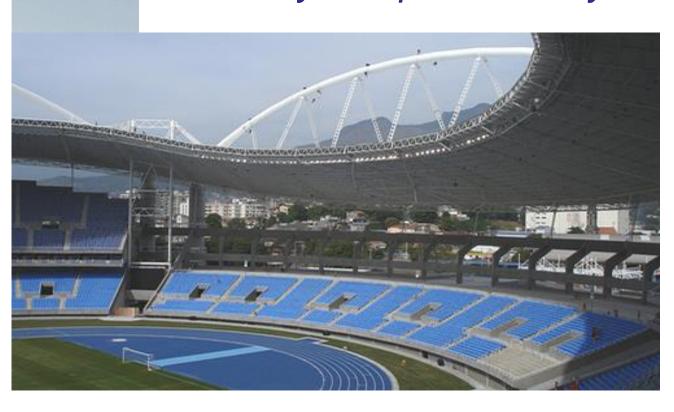




## Major Event & Public Safety



A relocatable Star & Tower
Aerostat can be placed at
public events localized
security and public safety



#### On-Site Security:

- Day/Night Surveillance
- Secure Communications Network
- Airborne CBRNE Sensors
- Integrated Ground Sensors
- Response Force Tracking
- Continuous Presence



#### Oil & Gas Infrastructure



Pipeline <u>security</u> and <u>leak</u> detection technologies have matured significantly over the last few years to the point of now delivering:

High Probability of Detection
Very Low Probability of False Alarm
Pinpoint Location of the Incident





#### Star<br/> ♦ Tower for Defense



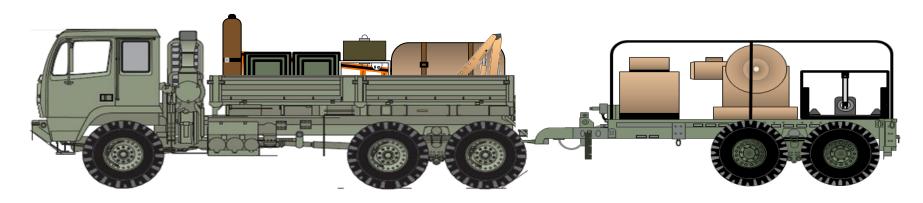
- All Star Towers offers:
  - Superior Mission Performance:
    - Unmatched wind performance
    - Enhanced sensor performance
  - Outstanding Tactical Agility & Responsiveness:
    - Tailored system optimized for the mission
    - Easy to transport; fast and simple to relocate
    - System flexibility for field operations
  - Survivability
  - Simple, Effective Operations, Maintenance & Logistics



#### Optimized for Defense



- All mobile Star Tower aerostat systems are <u>self-contained</u> and <u>highly</u> transportable; all can be relocated and operating again in hours after arrival at a new site, not days
- Each Star → Tower aerostat system is <u>tailored</u> to the customer and the mission. GNSS aerostats can be configured on a <u>trailer</u>, <u>pallet</u>, <u>truck bed</u> or <u>fixed site</u> to meet the widest range of employment requirements
- The Star → Tower's transportable ground system can fly different size envelopes without modification, thereby allowing the same system to be employed at sea level or at higher elevations





## Tactical Agility

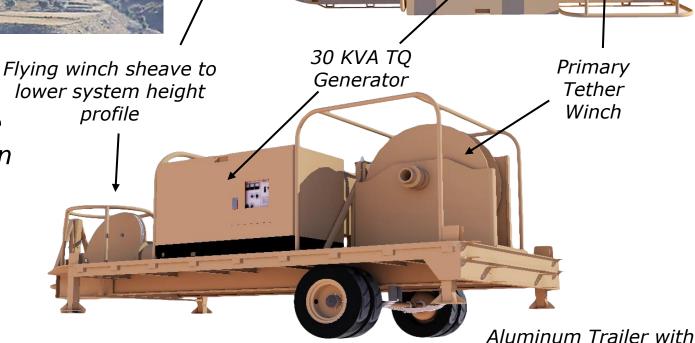


Helo Sling Points





- Star → Tower aerostats with envelopes as large as 30,000 cubic feet can be slung by CH-47
- Provides maximum flexibility to locate and re-locate aerostat





#### Mobile Command & Control



### Chandler/May Inc.:

- ISO 9001:2008, Huntsville AL
- Already delivered over 300 Army "One System Ground Control Stations" to DoD
- Meets or exceeds all PM-RUS RFI requirements for the GCS
- Currently supporting the Army's Shadow and Gray Eagle UASs
- Chandler May manufactures all racks, cables, components, subassemblies, computers, monitors and recording systems





## **Enhancing All Missions**



 Secure broadband/wireless service for all responders to ensure connectivity



Wireless network for off-shore oil & gas

operations

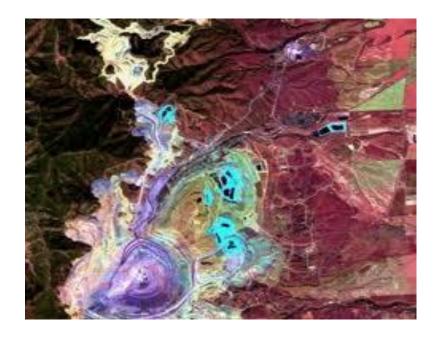




## **Environmental Monitoring**



 Airborne and ground-based environmental sensors can collect and disseminate data to help environmental and agricultural engineers conduct research and analyses on a wide range of topics (soils, drainage patterns, contamination, etc.)



- Collected data can baseline the habitat, natural resource footprints to manage and prioritize government and commercial activities
- Collected data over time enables effective environmental management of land and sea resources to benefit the country and citizens

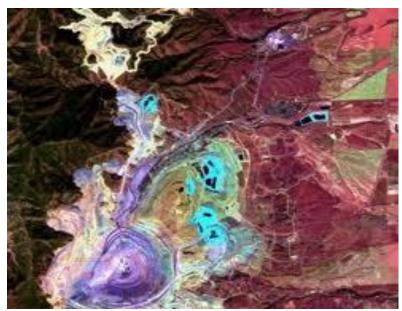


## **Environmental Engineering**



- Airborne environmental sensors can feed collected data to help environmental and agricultural engineers conduct research and analyses on a wide range of topics (soils, drainage patterns, contamination, etc.)
- Collected data can baseline the habitat, natural resource footprints, then data collected over the years enables effective environmental management of land and sea







## Security



Maritime and Airspace Surveillance

- Maritime
- Border/Port/Critical Infrastructure Security
- Command & Control of Forces
- Security Force Movements
- Emergency Response







Critical Infrastructure







Ports, Points of Entry







# Air Traffic Control at Remote Airfields



- Elevated radar, surveillance cameras and communications to transmit airfield conditions to all incoming and outgoing aircraft
- Air traffic radar that identifies all aircraft in the area
- Camera surveillance of runway environment for safety and security
- Radar and Camera images relayed directly to cockpit
- Direct communications between aircraft





#### Star *♦* Tower Delivers



- Affordable, persistent, overhead networking, communications, surveillance and sensing
- Real-time alerting, situation awareness and beyondline-of-sight communications for emergency response
- Real-time dissemination of intelligence to responders
- Visible deterrent to reduce threats
- Overhead surveillance for public safety, traffic management, police/fire/rescue, etc.
- Geo-rectified sensing for environmental and exploration services
- Broadband and wireless for commercial services



## Summary

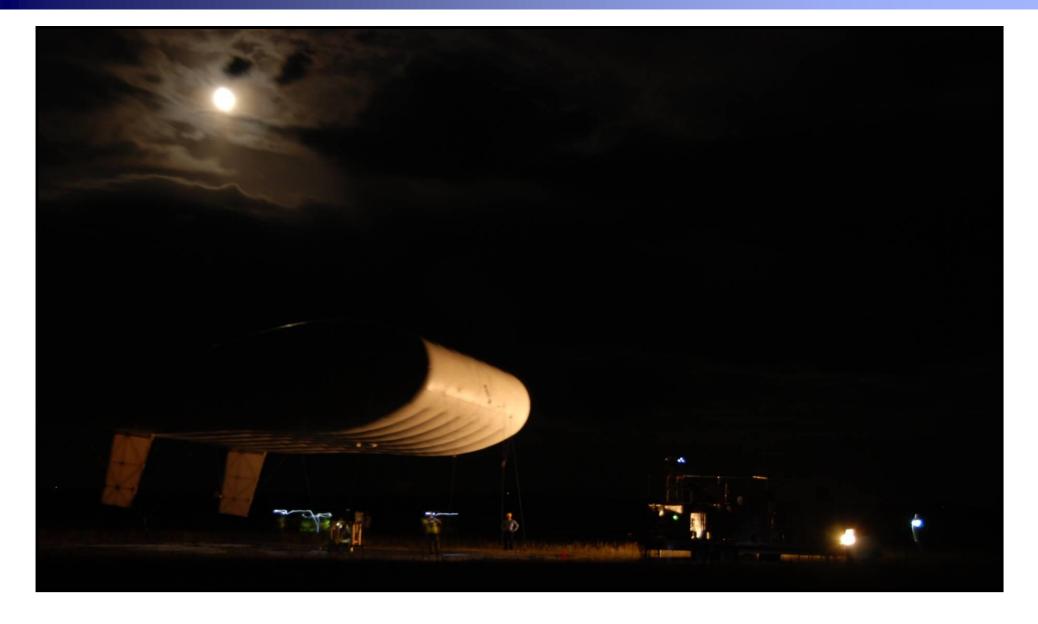


- Star Tower is the newest, most technically advanced and the best performing C3ISR aerostat system on the worldwide market
- Ideally configured for deployed operations in remote areas
- NSS can provide a "turn-key" system with incountry training and logistics support
- Our aerostat systems and payload suites are tailored precisely to fit mission requirements



## **Night Operations**







## Security Technology Comparison STAR-TOWER



	Attribute	Aerostat	UAS	Fixed Wg Aircraft	Helicopter
MISSION PERFORMANCE	Loiter / Persistence	10	4	3	2
	Noise Signature	10	5	6	4
	Data Feed Reliability	10	5	5	5
	Fixed Point Security	10	4	6	6
	Border Security	10	5	3	7
	Oil & Gas Infrastructure Security	8	4	3	3
	Detecting and Defeating Poaching	9	3	4	5
	Comm Relay (Persistence)	10	6	4	3
	Payload Flexibility	10	3	2	4
	Launch/Recovery Winds	5	4	10	6
	Winds at Altitude	9	5	10	7
	Weather	8	6	10	8
	Total Score (High is Best):	109	54	66	60