



## SwissCopter focuses on forest fire detection and monitoring

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Forest fires cause a constant threat to ecological systems, infrastructure and human lives. According to prognoses, forest fires will half the world's forest stand by the year 2030. In Europe alone, up to 10,000 km<sup>2</sup> of vegetation are destroyed by fire every year, and up to 100,000 km<sup>2</sup> in Russia and North America. Furthermore 20% of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions into the atmosphere are caused by forest fires. SwissCopter specializes in agronomical research, border patrol, pipeline inspection and now additionally focuses on forest fire control, by developing their UASystems fire detecting and monitoring equipment.

The efficiency of fire suppression primarily depends on the information available regarding the affected area. Fire services need instant, dependable and correct data about the fire perimeters, the threatened infrastructures, endangered human lives and any other facts and figures that influence the effective intervention. Is the fire widespread or the territory untamed and difficult to access rapid and efficient reconnaissance is limited. Fire fighters often face aerial reconnaissance tasks which are time consuming and expensive and very often lack the required aircraft support.

Focusing on forest fires, SwissCopter has adopted its advanced UAS technology, which includes the UAVision software in order to suit the special fire fighting requirements. This UAV technology supports decision makers with high-performance digital video imagery, in real time, supplying quick and correct information of the fire progress. The SwissCopter technology is user friendly and cost effective. It is essential in assisting fire fighting endeavors and helps to save lives and sustain nature. SwissCopter developed a backpack and head seat serving as portable ground control station in order to support the UAV's up to 10 km range.

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