



# Korean Air and Pratt & Whitney to introduce IMSC breakthrough technologies to airline industry

## *Firms among the first IMSC Sponsors*

The Integrated Media Systems Center's (IMSC) breakthrough video and audio technology for the Internet will be introduced to the airline industry in a project by IMSC research Sponsors Korean Air and Pratt & Whitney, the airline's main jet engine supplier.

Korean Air and Pratt & Whitney will call on IMSC's Remote Media Immersion (RMI) technology to develop a cutting-edge wireless Internet communications system that will dramatically cut costs and save time in the expensive area of engine maintenance. The two companies are among the first IMSC Sponsors.



The project is being developed under the auspices of the Pratt & Whitney Institute for Collaborative Engineering (PWICE), established jointly at the University of Southern California (USC) and Inha University in South Korea. Korean Air Chairman Y.H. Cho was the catalyst responsible for organizing the creation of PWICE.

"With this project, we can potentially cut maintenance costs substantially while maintaining flight schedules," according to Y.S. Kang, Managing Vice President of Korean Air. "It's an outstanding example of cooperation among Pratt & Whitney, Korean Air, USC and Inha University."

Korean Air Chairman Cho was similarly impressed, commissioning an RMI installation at Inha University.

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"IMSC's Remote Media Immersion technology will be key to the success of the project in a practical application," said Bob Keady, Vice President, Asia/Pacific-Large Commercial Engines, for Pratt & Whitney.

With the system, Pratt & Whitney's engineers in the firm's East Hartford, CT, headquarters will enjoy unprecedented interaction with Korean Air mechanics working on the planes in the airline's maintenance facility in Seoul, nearly 7,000 miles away.

Through PWICE, Korean Air and Pratt & Whitney have already been experimenting with wireless Internet technology. One demonstration showed how P&W engineers and KAL mechanics could rely on the wireless Internet to transmit images from a borescope, a fiber-optic device with a tiny video camera able to peer deep inside an engine without the need to remove the power plant and take it apart. Now, IMSC's RMI technology will be incorporated into the project to dramatically extend capabilities and improve performance.

IMSC's Sponsor program aligns IMSC research interests with Sponsor research and development priorities, leading to a much faster diffusion of research results into company products and services in the marketplace.

IMSC is the National Science Foundation's exclusive engineering research center for multimedia and Internet research.

**To upgrade from IMSC Member to IMSC Sponsor or to join as an IMSC Sponsor, contact Dr. Isaac Maya at (213) 740-2592; [imaya@imsc.usc.edu](mailto:imaya@imsc.usc.edu)**

Photos courtesy of Korean Air and Pratt & Whitney