

This FCC license application is to allow for the use of standard X-band maritime search radars (Furuno 2157BB and FAR-2127) on aerostat test platforms at the designated land based location of operation. These aerostats will be launched up to 900 m elevation above the ground where the radar will be controlled and powered through the tether that links and anchors the aerostat to the ground. The intended use of this complete system is for persistent surveillance applications over water or land.

The use of active radars on the aerostats is to facilitate the testing, improvement and integration onto the aerostat platforms (Pointing, stability control, and communication). This testing will also be used for further design and testing of the radar control and processing systems. In addition these tests will allow for the development and testing of training procedures for system users.

Persistent surveillance aerostat systems have typically been used with cameras that only have a very small field of view capability. Adding search radars like the Vista Research system brings a 360 degree wide area search capability to these systems and provides the cameras targets that might otherwise not be interrogated.

This work is being done in conjunction with NEANY, Inc. (Aubrey Taylor, 410-231-8619).