The Advanced Surface Movement Guidance and Control System (A-SMGCS) supplied by HITT of The Netherlands officially became operational at Dublin Airport in the last week of October. The system ensures safe and efficient movement of vehicles and aircraft in all weathers.

Even in the current economic situation Dublin Airport frequently operates near capacity, averaging 22 flights per hour, with peak traffic almost twice as high. Over 90% of this traffic uses the same single runway. The system limits the reduction of runway capacity and prevents shutting down the airport due to poor weather. At Dublin airport low visibility occurs as frequently as 30 times a year.

The new A-SMGCS has been well received, it is understood, especially after some delay following extensive infrastructural investments in the airport. “We now have a system which has been accepted with great enthusiasm by all the controllers. I can say from experience that this is unique amongst all the equipment we have brought into service.” said Neil Branagan, Station Manager Tower Operations Support.

Recently Dublin Airport also started to use HITT Traffic’s new and innovative tool known as Airport Insight. By using the information of the A-SMGCS, Airport Insight provides real-time statistics on airport performance including runway occupancy and aircraft delays. It is a first step towards Airport Collaborative Decision Making, meaning a more efficient use of the airport by all the parties involved and with significant cost savings.

European regulations require co-ordinated airports such as Dublin to provide airport capacity evaluations every six months. With Airport Insight, Dublin instantly has all the necessary information available in an efficient and cost effective way.

HITT is a leading player in the worldwide markets for traffic management and navigation systems. The company develops technology aimed at safety enhancement and traffic flow improvement, whilst also enabling significant cost reductions in infrastructure and logistics. The core activities of HITT consist of developing, selling and maintenance of management and control systems and services for air and vessel traffic and hydrographic and navigation systems. In
2008 HITT achieved an operating income of €34 million and a net profit of €4.8 million (including a one-off €3.7 million). The number of staff at year-end 2008 was 166.