



Korea agency equips firefighting helicopters with autonomous imaging technology from Overwatch Imaging

Korea Forest Aviation sees immediate results after deploying TK-8 Smart Sensor.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HOOD RIVER, Oregon, March 2026 — In preparation for wildfire season, Korea Forest Aviation (KFA) made an investment to equip firefighting helicopters with three Overwatch Imaging TK-8 Smart Sensors. Just a few months after initial deployment, the real-time multispectral intelligence delivered by these autonomous imaging systems played a decisive role in a successful response effort.

During a wildfire in South Jeolla Province, integrating the TK-8 Smart Sensors enabled crews to conduct aerial intelligence missions at night, accurately assess the wildfire, and improve firefighting efficiency.

“The footage clearly showed where embers remained and where the fire was burning most intensely,” a news report from Korea-based [MBC News stated](#). “This allowed specialized wildfire response teams climbing the mountain to conduct faster and more efficient suppression operations.”

The TK-8 Smart Sensor is an autonomous, multispectral imaging system that enables wide area intelligence collection, real-time detection of wildfires and hot spots, precise high-resolution mapping, and monitoring of evolving disaster conditions without the delays of downstream data processing and analysis.

These results come at a critical time. With wildfires, floods and other disasters increasing in severity and frequency in the region, the mission-ready capabilities delivered by Overwatch Imaging will empower KFA with rapidly-deployable, on-demand intelligence and wide-area situational awareness during wildfires and broader disaster events such as floods, landslides, earthquakes, and storm damage.

“Korea Forest Aviation is actively adopting advanced technologies to strengthen its disaster response capabilities,” Manjoo Kim, Director General of the Korea Forest Aviation Headquarters, said at the time of the announcement. “The TK-8 will elevate our airborne situational awareness to a new level, enabling data-driven decision-making powered by advanced AI analysis. With the adoption of the TK-8, faster detection and real-time mapping will make it possible to take immediate action to protect lives, property, and our forests.”

The deployment of these systems by KFA was made possible through a partnership between Overwatch Imaging and South Korea-based OQ Solution. By combining Overwatch Imaging’s proven Smart Sensor and AI capabilities with OQ Solution’s deep local expertise and relationships, regional customers will gain faster access to cutting-edge solutions ideally suited for their mission requirements.

“We are proud to support the important missions Korea Forest Aviation is tasked with and are excited to partner with OQ Solution to bring our technology to the forefront of intelligence agencies in the APAC region,” said Greg Davis, Overwatch Imaging Founder and CEO. “We’re confident the TK-8 will provide a critical advantage for the agency’s important airborne response, assessment and analysis missions.”

The partnership reflects a broader commitment to bringing advanced automated sensing technologies to agencies and end users throughout the region.

To meet the Overwatch Imaging team and learn more about the company’s autonomous airborne imagery intelligence capabilities, visit Verticon Booth B7705.

About Overwatch Imaging

Overwatch Imaging develops advanced airborne imaging systems and AI-enabled automation software for time-critical intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) missions. Founded in 2016 and based in Hood River, Oregon, the company’s flagship product, Automated Sensor Operator (ASO) software, brings intelligent autonomy to EO/IR imaging systems, enabling real-time detection, mapping, and mission-specific outputs with reduced operator workload. Overwatch Imaging technology is deployed globally on crewed and uncrewed aircraft, supporting a wide range of defense, civil, and commercial missions.

More at overwatchimaging.com

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About OQ Solution

OQ Solution specializes in providing advanced sensor, surveillance, and reconnaissance solutions tailored to government and defense applications. Their client base spans a range of sectors, including military, law enforcement, police and fire, aerospace, utilities and infrastructure.

More at <https://oqsolution-en.imweb.me>

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About Korea Forest Aviation

Korea Forest Aviation is part of the Korea Forest Service and is the national aerial firefighting and forest-disaster response arm of the Republic of Korea. It operates a nationwide fleet of aircraft to prevent and suppress forest fires and to support search and rescue, pest/disease control, and other forest-protection missions.

More at <https://english.forest.go.kr>