



# The role of KVM

## in the digital tower

**KVM technology** is helping the air traffic management industry achieve its goals in expanding flight operations and traffic targets

**D**igital, remote and virtual towers are prominent in the ongoing development of airports. Digitisation within visual towers offer controllers additional support tools; providing enhanced views in poor visual conditions, automated aircraft identity and rogue object discovery around the airfield. That digitisation enables duplicate controller workstations and back-up towers to be constructed, leading to fully virtual towers to manage operations at remote airports.

KVM (Keyboard, Video, Mouse) extenders and switches already provide significant benefits in existing visual towers; allowing heavy, noise- and heat-generating computers to be situated well away from controllers and allowing instant changeover between data sources as conditions change.

As the digital tower concept advances, KVM technology will be called upon even more: to deliver robust back-up and duplicate systems, new and improved visual and information aids (many under the SESAR programme) and connect visual and sensor information from several far-distant airfields to a centralised common virtual tower.

Computer-based resources are inevitably used more frequently within the air traffic sector. Managing, connecting to and switching between those signals is becoming more complex but absolutely necessary and one that can be achieved, with reliability and robustness by today's advanced KVM technology.