



Hidden Level

CASE STUDY

STEWART AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE OVERHAULS AIRSPACE SECURITY IN JUST 24 HOURS WITH HIDDEN LEVEL

Between November and December 2024, the United States faced an unprecedented surge in unauthorized drone activity, raising critical security concerns for military installations and airports. Stewart Air National Guard Base (ANGB) in New York found itself at the center of this crisis when a rogue drone operator breached restricted airspace at 1,500 feet—directly in the flight path of inbound commercial aircraft. This forced the temporary shutdown of Stewart International Airport, exposing significant vulnerabilities in airspace security.

In response, Stewart ANGB turned to Hidden Level. Within just 24 hours, the base went from having fragmented, outdated detection capabilities to a fully operational real-time drone tracking system, revolutionizing how security teams detect, track, and respond to aerial threats.

THE CHALLENGE

Like many military installations across the country, Stewart ANGB struggled with ineffective and outdated tools for tracking drone incursions. The security team faced several key issues:

- Reliance on visual tracking, which was nearly impossible—especially at night.
- Fragmented communication between agencies, causing delayed responses.
- No ability to identify the drone operator's location, making interdiction slow and inefficient.

With the rate of drone intrusions escalating, Stewart ANGB needed a solution immediately—one that could be deployed rapidly, required no complex setup, and would seamlessly integrate with existing security operations.



The United States Department of Defense (DoD) is an executive branch department of the federal government responsible for coordinating and supervising all agencies and functions related to national security and the United States Armed Forces. Its mission is to provide the military forces needed to deter war and ensure the nation's security.

THE SOLUTION

Hidden Level's AMS Deployed in Just 24 Hours

Hidden Level's Airspace Monitoring Service (AMS) was the ideal solution due to its plug and-play deployment model, passive RF sensing technology, and seamless integration with law enforcement networks.

Day 1: Rapid Deployment

- Hidden Level installed multiple Breaker passive RF sensors, establishing wide-area coverage over Stewart ANGB and surrounding airspace.
- Data was integrated into Palantir, enabling real-time threat visualization for local, state, and federal law enforcement.

Day 3: First Successful Interdiction

- A rogue drone was detected entering restricted airspace.
- AMS pinpointed the operator's exact location within just a few feet.
- State police apprehended the operator within 7 minutes.

Week 1: Multi-Agency Coordination

- Stewart ANGB, New York State Police, National Guard, FAA, and other federal agencies received live-streamed AMS data, eliminating communication gaps.
- Multiple unauthorized drone operators were identified and tracked for further enforcement actions.

Key Features of AMS at Stewart ANGB

- Instant Drone & Operator Detection: Identified unauthorized drones in real time.
- Pinpoint Operator Location: Located the drone operator within a few feet.
- Automated Alerts: Sent real-time notifications and data to law enforcement.
- Seamless Multi-Agency Integration: Data streamed into Palantir, allowing federal, state and local law enforcement to access live airspace monitoring.

Why Hidden Level Was Able to Deploy in Record Time

- Pre-Configured, Ready-to-Deploy Sensors – No custom modifications or installations were needed.
- As-a-Service Model – No on-site maintenance or training burden for military personnel.
- Passive RF Sensing Technology – No FCC approvals required, meaning instant activation.
- Title 18 Compliance – Fully legal and privacy-compliant airspace monitoring.

“The surge of unauthorized and unexplained drone activity in December 2024 was a complete wake-up call and exposed how woefully unprepared our government agencies and military are for the threat posed by Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS). The success of Hidden Level's AMS at Stewart ANGB, as well as their crucial partnership with the 105th Airlift Wing and local law enforcement, is not just a case study in technology— it's a case study in acquisition reform. The ability to deploy immediately, without costly delays, approvals, or training requirements, shows how the military and law enforcement can rapidly adopt cutting edge security solutions.”

— Pat Ryan, U.S. Representative, New York's 18th Congressional District

A New Model for Airspace Security

The success at Stewart ANGB is more than just a case study in cutting-edge technology—it's a blueprint for how military and law enforcement agencies can rapidly adopt next generation security solutions.

- Immediate Operational Impact: Detected and interdicted threats within minutes.
- Multi-Agency Coordination: Shared live data with federal and state security agencies.
- Scalability for Future Expansion: Can be rapidly extended to additional locations.

With drone threats escalating, Stewart ANGB has set a new standard for rapid, effective airspace security. Interested in securing your airspace? Contact Hidden Level today.

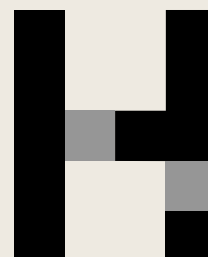
About Hidden Level

Hidden Level provides unmatched airspace awareness with real-time, long-range detection of drones and aircraft—including dark or RF-silent threats. Our passive, unspoofable sensors operate legally and silently, integrating with existing systems to enable rapid, multi-agency coordination. Trusted by national security agencies, our solutions deliver immediate decision advantage with full compliance.

For more information visit hiddenlevel.com



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