

High tech device lost by US company near Collingwood spotted floating near Highway 400

Tuesday, March 08, 2005 – Octave Systems, based in San Jose, California is hopeful that its high-tech device lost Sunday during testing in the Collingwood area will be found now that it's been spotted near Highway 400.

“It's still out there somewhere and we would really like to get it back,” said Octave marketing manager Paul Avery.

The lipstick-sized Multipod, which is a video camera, digital camera, 128 MB storage, web cam, and voice recorder was attached to a bunch of brightly colored, helium-filled, party balloons when the string broke and the balloons and the Multipod floated off.

A Rock 95.7 FM listener called this morning to say he spotted it Monday evening floating very low over fields in the area west of Horseshoe Valley Road and Highway 400, said Avery.

“When he went back this morning, there was no sign of it, but it was floating so low that it's unlikely to have gone much farther,” said Avery.

Avery, has been testing the Multipod in the Collingwood area to see how it performs in cold weather to coincide with its recent launch into the Canadian marketplace. He has attached it to a skier's goggles and filmed a run down the slopes at Blue Mountain and attached to front of a radio controlled plane and flew it at Collingwood's Fisher's field.

The videos can be found here:

http://www.octave.com/cgi-bin/shop/shop.cgi/choice/html_multipodvideos

“It has performed really well, there has been no problem with the cold at all,” he said.

On Sunday, Avery wanting to see how the Multipod would perform, not only in cool temperature, but also at an elevation, taped it to the balloons.

“I did manage to send it up a couple of times and bring it back down. The final time it got caught on the gutter of a house and must have hit some sharp metal,” he said.

While the Multipod's retail value is only \$150 US, Avery is hoping to retrieve some hard-to-replace data stored on the device.

“That's if the data survived Monday's horrendous rain storm,” said Avery.

Avery is asking anyone who finds the balloons and the gray-coloured, lipstick sized device to call him at 1-800-626-8539 X 230 or 705 444 1046 or e-mail paul@octave.com. A reward of \$75.00 is being offered.

**<http://www.octave.com/multipod>
<http://www.multipod5in1.com/>**