

Denmark, Ireland and Sweden sign co-operative agreement with Thales ATM

3 April 2006: The Irish Aviation Authority (IAA), the LFV Group (Sweden) and Naviair (Denmark) have today signed a contract with Thales ATM to mark the initiation of a purchasing agreement known as COOPANS. Each of these air navigation service providers (ANSPs) has previously procured, under separate contracts, the Thales Eurocat ATM System and the objective of this agreement is to facilitate the joint procurement of upgrades to their existing common ATM systems.

Joint procurement under the COOPANS agreement will facilitate upgrades to each ATM system to meet new operational needs, ensure supportability and reduce life cycle costs. The risks associated with the introduction of completely new ATM systems are also reduced through this new incremental approach.

The COOPANS agreement will cater for any essential requirements necessitated by the Single European Sky initiative. It also demonstrates the intent of IAA, Naviair and the LFV Group to collaborate in a way which will bring real benefits to airlines whilst embracing the spirit of the Single European Sky move towards common systems. In addition, the agreement is based on an open door concept whereby other ANSPs will be able to join at a later date.

Speaking on behalf of the COOPANS members, Mr. Eamonn Brennan, Chief Executive of the IAA said; "This agreement represents the best way of achieving commonality and interoperability of systems, risk reduction and economies of scale in the future ATM market, all of which will bring real benefits to our customers."

Alexander de Juniac, Senior Vice President Air Systems Division, Thales ATM, stated; "Thales is proud to be part of this unique agreement which paves the way for the future organisation of ATM systems."

Naviair

- Naviair is a State Enterprise under the Danish Ministry of Transport and Energy.
- Provision of air navigation services is Naviair's first priority, i.e. to provide its services in an efficient and expeditious way, guiding aircraft safely through Danish Airspace with minimum delays.
- Naviair has a staff of approximately 700 persons of which the main part consists of Air Traffic Controllers and technical staff, and is running a business of approximately DKK 750m a year.
- The Single European Sky is an EU initiative aimed at creating a more efficient and harmonised air traffic management system.
- Further information about Naviair can be found at www.naviair.dk



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