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PENS - Pan European collaboration, a successful Co-Operation

In view of the ongoing European ATM initiatives and actions, I, as chairman, on behalf of the PENS Community, would like to take this opportunity to inform you of the actions which the Pan European Network Service Steering Group (PSSG) has initiated.

The existing operational Pan European Network and its services (PENS) are currently thriving. The success of the existing Pan European Network is due to the preparatory work that needed to take place to ensure the success for which we are now reaping the benefits. Amongst the benefits we can count governance, cost savings and further improvements.

To date, we are counting 22, soon to be many more, Pan European Users (ANSPs and EUROCONTROL), which are cooperating under the umbrella and governance of the contractually agreed PSSG. In support of this collaboration, a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) has been signed by the majority of the existing PENS users, thereby further strengthening the willingness and collaboration with the strategic aim of supporting the goals set forth by the Single European Sky.

PENS currently provides the following services: Flight Data Exchange, Surveillance, EAD Services, Silent Coordination and Voice. A part of a first real joint effort, there is also the possibility for a Pan European Datalink Service in support of CPDLC, through which the PENS users can now connect via PENS to ARINC and SITA (both as external stakeholders) on a pan European scale. The ANSPs of Sweden (LFV) and Hungary (HungaroControl), as first movers, have already adopted this approach as part of their long-term strategy and support of PENS.

Furthermore it is the responsibility of the PSSG to make sure that existing users are able to continue Pan European Network Services beyond the existing service contract, which ends in 2018. Hence the PSSG has noted with great satisfaction the successful cooperation between the European parties forming the *NewPENS* structure, which kicked off in June this year. It has initiated the move towards a new PENS contract including further improvements like governance, further accession of external service stakeholders which include airspace users, airport users, military and other relevant ATM service support, all depending on the need and operational ATM applicable use.

By now several attempts have been made to challenge our success. I encourage you to note the existing achievements and to ensure that our current collaboration is supported on a Pan European scale.

Yours sincerely

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