



French-Spanish collaboration allows an optimized air traffic management at cross-border

- ENAIRe and DSNA put a solution into practice to speed up air traffic flow between Spain and France

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ENAIRe and DSNA, SESAR's Joint Undertaking alliance partners and respective air navigation operators in Spain and France, have successfully deployed a cross-border solution allowing for better air traffic coordination between both countries that helps minimise organisational delay in air traffic flow. The project put into practice brought together operational staff from the Bordeaux and Madrid Air Control Centres as part of the Network Collaborative Management (NCM - PJ.24) project, as well as technicians from Iberia, Air Nostrum, Air Europa and Iberia Express.

During 2017 and 2018, the project's partners tested the use of a joint advanced planning tool to improve short-term Air Traffic Flow and Capacity Management (ATFCM) for different flight levels and pave the way for improved synchronisation with the EUROCONTROL network manager.

This location-based solution to increase network efficiency allows local traffic operators and airlines to mitigate the impact of heavily congested airspace by offering aircraft alternative routes for flights at their short-term planning phase. The solution is part of the measures taken to balance demand and capacity. This line of action shows that the adopted solution has contributed to better air traffic distribution across sectors and has increased network predictability.

The solution, which is easy to implement, also improved situational awareness between control centres and airline communications, while reducing the time it takes air traffic flow operators to monitor, analyse, coordinate and implement measures.

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These latest lines of action help to create a more standardised, comprehensive cross-border collaborative process, where proposed flight paths may be backed by B2B services provided by the EUROCONTROL network manager.

Further information about the project can be found at:

<http://www.eurocontrol.int/articles/network-collaborative-management-sesar-2020-project-pj24>

<http://www.sesarju.eu/projects/ncm>

The PJ.24 project has received funding from SESAR Joint Undertaking, the public-private partnership that seeks to streamline European air traffic control within the framework of the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme, under grant Agreement No 733021.

About ENAIRE

ENAIRE is the company belonging to the Public Works Department that handles air navigation in Spain. It renders aerodrome control services at 21 airports, including those with the most traffic.

All aircraft crossing the airspace assigned to our country receive communications, navigation and surveillance services using ENAIRE's modern network of facilities, consisting of:

5 control centres, 2 terminal area control centres, 237 radio aids providing en-route airport guidance and approach support, 54 en-route, approach and surface surveillance systems, 90 communications centres (combining transmitter/receiver centres and control towers), 100 REDAN voice and data communication nodes for air navigation applications, 126 control tower posts, and 153 control centre posts.

In 2017, ENAIRE operated 1.99 million flights to and from four continents (Europe, America, Asia and Africa), transporting 284 million passengers.

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