



Press Release

Brussels, 19 July 2010

More partners join the SESAR family

Brussels, 19 July 2010. **Partnership with all relevant aviation players in the modernisation of the European air traffic management is the key principle of SESAR (Single European Sky ATM Research). As a consequence, the SESAR Joint Undertaking (SJU) endorsed 13 associate partners to contribute to the SESAR work programme. Among others, the Boeing company, Thales Australia, the Polish Air Navigation Services Agency and the Moroccan Airports Authority (ONDA) will from now on participate in the work programme. Associate partners were proposed by SJU members which will remain their primary point of contact.**

SESAR's aim is to bring about an evolution in air traffic management systems, eliminating the fragmented approach of European air traffic management (ATM), bringing both public and private stakeholders together. Since its set-up, the SJU secured the additional involvement of airspace users, staff associations, air forces and the scientific world. With this latest enrichment, the SJU not only broadens the number of stakeholders but includes more organisations from third countries in Europe's ambitious ATM modernisation programme.

"Our new associate partners will bring in their specific experience and know-how. We now have 21 air navigation service providers participating in the EU ATM modernisation programme. We are particularly delighted to also welcome non-EU members on board of the SESAR ship; this demonstrates our commitment to developing interoperable solutions", says Patrick Ky, Executive Director of the SESAR Joint Undertaking.

SJU members were invited to propose candidate associate partners to assist in the execution of the member's tasks. The creation of this new category of stakeholders in the SESAR work programme answers to the need to secure the additional input and added value of critical partners in the ATM research and development activities.

Out of the 13 selected associate partners, seven are air navigation service providers and five industry partners; one is an airport operator:

Associate Partners	Fostered by
NAV Portugal	AENA
AVTECH Sweden	AIRBUS
The BOEING Company	AIRBUS
Consortium LVNL	DFS, DSNA, ENAV
SKYGUIDE	DFS, DSNA

ONDA (Moroccan Airports Authority)	DSNA
BELGOCONTROL	DSNA
LOCKHEED MARTIN UK LIMITED (UK)	Indra
POLISH AIR NAVIGATION SERVICES AGENCY (PANSO)	Indra
NATS SERVICES	NATS En Route
SEA Aeroporti di Milano S.p.A.	SELEX
THALES AUSTRALIA	THALES
THALES RAYTHEON Systems (TRS)	THALES

The acceptance of the proposed associate members by the SJU is the first step towards the conclusion of an agreement between the interested member and its respective associate partner(s). This process is expected to be finalised during the last quarter of 2010.

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The SESAR programme is the operational and technological answer to the major challenges of European air traffic growth. The aim of the SESAR Joint Undertaking is to ensure the modernisation of the European air traffic management system by coordinating and concentrating all relevant research and development efforts in the Community. Partnership, sustainability and user-drive are key concepts of the SESAR Joint Undertaking approach. Founded by the European Commission and by Eurocontrol, fifteen companies are members of the SJU: AENA, Airbus, Alenia Aeronautica, the DFS, the DSNA, ENAV, Frequentis, Honeywell, Indra, NATMIG, NATS (En Route) Limited, NORACON, SEAC, SELEX Sistemi Integrati and Thales.

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