

**International
Federation of
Air Traffic Safety
Electronics Associations**



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IFATSEA welcomes political will in SES, SESAR and FABEC

SES and SESAR benefits

The International Federation of Air Traffic Safety Electronic Associations is supporting the introduction of European Community Single European Sky and the related SESAR technology programme. IFATSEA, as an international organization, shares a great deal of the enthusiasm of the Member States of the European Community to see the benefits of the SES proposals in safety, capacity, efficiency and the environment.

Technology will play an essential role in the future of Air Traffic Management (ATM) both globally as seen in the FAA Next Gen project and in Europe as demonstrated during the SESAR definition phase. On her address to the 38th IFATSEA general Assembly held last October, Mrs. Nancy Graham, ICAO Air Navigation Bureau Director, raised the global shortage of Air Traffic Safety Electronics Personnel (ATSEP) as a barrier to implementing such significant technology programmes. IFATSEA has already taken steps to address this challenge: ATSEP Qualification and Training standardisation and our proposals for harmonisation of the ATSEP License.

The final objective of the SES legislation is a single European airspace. To achieve this, with the rapid and constant evolution of technologies, ATSEP qualifications and training must be adequate and applied consistently throughout the European Community. As lead safety regulator for the European ATM and CNS systems, EASA shall have the responsibilities for oversight of this technology and the people (ATSEP) who operate and maintain this infrastructure for the entire European airspace. The safety regulation shall include all core components of the ATM/CNS safety chain including ATSEP. The only way to successfully ensure the standardisation of ATSEP qualifications and training throughout the EU is the introduction of a community wide ATSEP license, similar to the Pilot and ATCO licenses.

FABEC

On 18 November, at the Bordeaux Aviation Summit, 6 States (Belgium, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Germany, France and Switzerland) signed a "declaration of intent" to jointly build up a common functional airspace block (FAB Europe Central) with an objective to set up an institutional framework for FABEC by 2010. A FABEC feasibility study suggests important benefits to customers in terms of fewer delays, reduced route extensions, reduced CO2 emission and cost savings while increasing levels of safety.



IFATSEA is offering its support to the FABEC as we will do for other FABs also, and is ready to bring both its expertise in ATM/CNS operations and its concrete experience of Air Traffic Safety. Specifically attractive to IFATSEA is the potential for co-operation in 21 areas outlined by the FABEC Study Technical Working group.

To meet the target of a Single European Sky, there is a true need to ensure the co-ordination of all FAB initiatives. We have to be involved from the start of the project and for that reason; we call for a true collaborative process. Otherwise, the result of the FABEC process would be deeply compromised.

Conclusion

The creation of a Single European Sky, the development and deployment of SESAR technology and the restructuring of European airspace into functional blocks of airspace are some of the most challenging initiatives of the past decades in aviation.

IFATSEA covering and representing ATSEP professionals worldwide, will be a major asset in delivering the success for all the European FAB proposals.

IFATSEA is offering its full support for delivering a new global ATM and CNS system that will increase safety, capacity and effectiveness.

Collaboration and cooperation are the keys of success. Let's work together!

IFATSEA represents more than 20,000 ATSEP (Air Traffic Safety Electronics Personnel) worldwide. The prime objectives of IFATSEA are aviation safety, security and efficiency.

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