



*International Civil Aviation Organization*

**FOURTH MEETING OF THE SURVEILLANCE  
IMPLEMENTATION COORDINATION GROUP  
(SURICG/4)**



Nanjing, China, 10 – 12 April 2019

**Agenda Item 4: Review of regional requirements for Surveillance in the e-ANP, Seamless ATM Plan, 13th Air Navigation Conference and the reported implementation status**

**UPDATE ON ATC SURVEILLANCE ACTIVITIES IN AUSTRALIA**

(Presented by Secretariat on behalf of Australia)

**SUMMARY**

This paper provides information on air traffic control surveillance activities in Australia. The paper is an update of the reports previously provided.

**1 Introduction**

This paper provides information on air traffic management surveillance activities in Australia.

**2 Surveillance Projects**

Since the mid 2000's, Airservices Australia has established a large capital program to deliver new surveillance infrastructure. The status of the surveillance projects has been reported in various Asia-Pacific regional meetings over a number of years, including SURICG/3. The current status of the program is:

*Radar Replacement*

- All terminal area radars have been replaced with new primary and co-mounted Thales Mode S (AMSTAR project).
- The Enroute Radar Replacement Project (ERRP) deployed new Indra Mode S radars to replace nine of eleven existing en-route Mode A/C radars (SSR only). The last site as part of this project was commissioned in December 2016.
- 2 radars were decommissioned during 2017 with surveillance in these areas replaced by ADS-B. There were:
  - Paraburdoo (North-west Australia) – now ADS-B surveillance only.
  - Mt Boyce (near Sydney) – now surveillance by combination of radar from other nearby sites, and additional ADS-B coverage.
- Data transport from the radar sites to the ATC centres will migrate from dedicated serial lines to an IP based network design over the next 3 to 5 years, with this already underway for some of the new radars

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- In addition to the above works being undertaken by Airservices (Civil ATC), the Royal Australian Air Force will be upgrading their ATC radars to new Airbus Defence and Space MSSR 2000I Mode S radars. This upgrade is expected to be deployed through to 2021, with the first upgrade to be commissioned in mid-2019. These radars will be integrated into the current Airservices ATM system, as well as the proposed joint civil-military ATM system. These radars will support both civilian and Defence surveillance requirements.

*WAM*

- Saab-Sensis WAM in Tasmania (TASWAM) has been operational since early 2010 supporting enroute services. A work program is underway in 2019 to upgrade TASWAM remote communication links and provide network diversity to the tracking processors in Melbourne. Near end-of-life, TASWAM may be converted to an ADS-B receive system only, allowing the removal of several RU's.
- Saab-Sensis WAM in Sydney (SYDWAM) is operational in the terminal area supporting a 3NM separation standard and for Precision Runway Monitor (PRM) for the closely spaced parallel runways. Work is proposed to replace aging processors and to update the Remote communication links due to equipment obsolescence.
- WAM will output Asterix CAT 20 data to the new joint civil-military ATM system in lieu of Asterix Cat 34/48.
- Currently there are no plans to deploy further WAM systems.
- ADS-B Version 2 / DO-260B is supported by both WAM systems following an upgrade in 2014.

*A-SMGCS*

- Operational in Melbourne since December 2009, Sydney since May 2010, Brisbane since January 2014 and Perth since April 2015. Surface surveillance capability (A-SMGCS) is being extended for new runway management programs, including the current Brisbane New Parallel Runway, and upcoming new runways in Melbourne and Perth.
- Airservices is investigating various options in technology stacks to meet specific aerodrome service requirements at airports. We are examining whether A-SMGCS can be deployed using MLAT and ADS-B only, removing the requirement for the primary surface movement radar. This requires that all vehicles operate with serviceable transponders/vehicle locators and procedures in place in the event of transponder unserviceability.
- In Melbourne, Brisbane and Perth, the ground display is integrated into the tower automation system and operates as a “fused display” with the associated terminal area radar, ADS-B and multilateration data. This new architecture will also be rolled out in Sydney as the tower is upgraded.

*ADS-B*

- A total of 50 Thales ADS-B sites are currently operational, plus ADS-B is received from the two operational WAM systems. This results in ADS-B data being used operationally from over 70 domestic receiver sites.
- ADS-B ground stations support DO-260, DO-260A, and DO-260B.
- A business case is proposed to deploy a further 10 ADS-B ground stations in regional Australia and an ADS-B repeater at Lord Howe Island. The project, which is presently in the development phase, will include ADS-B ground stations to support enroute controlled airspace at additional regional airports. These next generation ADS-B ground stations will support ASTERIX Category 21 Version 2.x (as well as Version 0.23). The ground stations selected by this project



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ADS-B data is converted to a radar Cat 48 radar data stream. It is acknowledged that this methodology is sub-optimal but it has been chosen as a viable lower cost alternative during the interim period before the arrival of our new ATC automation system. This provides an additional layer of surveillance in the terminal areas to supplement existing radar, or in the case of Perth, will allow for the decommissioning of an existing, obsolescent, Mode A/C radar. Through this project, Airservices now uses ADS-B data in the terminal area using a minimum 2.5 NM separation standard.

- An ADS-B repeater prototype has been acquired and testing is complete. This is a stand-alone unit that re-transmits ADS-B messages on 1090 MHz to nearby ground stations to provide additional coverage around obstacles like terrain without the need for an additional ground station. It is planned be used at Lord Howe Island.
- ADS-B data is now being displayed for situational awareness in 8 regional towers – Alice Springs, Coffs Harbour, Broome, Karratha, Hobart, Launceston, Tamworth and Albury. In five of these towers, this has been combined with the existing SSR (or WAM) display to provide extended coverage for ADS-B equipped aircraft outside/below radar coverage. This will be extended to other towers as additional ADS-B ground stations are deployed.
- The Royal Australian Air Force plans to install ADS-B ground stations at 5 sites to provide redundancy for radar coverage and to give them the option to operate their radars in military priority configurations that do not meet civil ATC requirements. It is anticipated the data from these ADS-B stations will be shared with Airservices.

*ADS-B data sharing*

- Australia and Indonesia continue to benefit from the sharing of ADS-B data. The parties updated the ADS-B Collaboration agreement in June 2014 such that if either nation has or installs a ground station that provides coverage within 150 NM of the shared FIR boundary, then the data will be offered to the other party. The agreement was reviewed and updated, and signed at a recent Aus-Indo meeting in August 2018. A total of 10 sites are currently shared between the 2 countries – 6 sites in Indonesia and 4 sites in Australia.
- Surveillance data from the ADS-B Ground Station planned for the Timor Sea will be shared with Indonesia.
- Discussions on ADS-B collaboration between Australia and PNG, and between Indonesia and PNG are ongoing, with consideration to the recent commissioning of PNG's new ATM system and ADS-B ground stations.

*Other Projects*

- Australia is considering a proposal to trial the deployment of an ADS-B only display in a control tower which has no A-SMGCS. The objective would be to examine the viability of an ADS-B only surface movement situational awareness display.
- Australia is exploring the opportunities that might be available via space-based ADS-B. Investigations into the economic and safety benefits of this technology are ongoing. An initial Market Survey ([ASA REOI 12895](#)) was conducted in 2018.
  - *Airservices Australia is seeking information from the market regarding Non-Terrestrial Based Aviation Surveillance Solution for Australian Flight Information Region (FIR).*
- Australia plans to consider using ADS-B only Precision Runway Monitoring for closely spaced parallel runway operations based only on ADS-B in future.

### 3 Activation of ADS-B mandates and ADS-B Equipage Rates

Australia has successfully transitioned to mandatory ADS-B use for all IFR aircraft, with some limited exemptions.

CASA have provided exemptions as follows:

- [CASA 113/16](#) – non Australian registered aircraft may operate in Oceanic Airspace at any level, or Continental Airspace below FL290. Until June 2020.
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- [CASA 114/16](#) – Australian registered aircraft may conduct **private** IFR operations below 10,000ft, in Class G airspace or transiting controlled airspace when arriving or departing a Class D aerodrome, subject to ATC clearance. Until January 2020.

Note – the above is a brief summary only of the exemptions – consult the CASA Website to view the full details.

The number of issues relating to ADS-B operations and the new mandates has steadily decreased as fitment of ADS-B has increased.

### 4 Transponder Regulations and Mandates

The following table provides a reference to all current and future requirements that are in current regulations relating to the carriage and use of surveillance transponders including Mode S and ADS-B. No further changes are being planned at this stage.

Effective Date	Surveillance	Mandate	Status
9 Feb 2012 ✓	Mode S	Forward Fit – Mode S capable aircraft must support Flight ID Applies to –aircraft manufactured from 9 Feb 2012. If DAPS are transmitted they must be in accordance with Annex 10	Regulation (CAO 20.18)  <b>IN EFFECT NOW</b>
12 Dec 2013 ✓	ADS-B	All aircraft operating at FL290 and above must be fitted with ADS-B OUT  <b><i>Exemptions have not been granted by CASA for operations across the continent outside of radar coverage.</i></b>	Regulation (CAO 20.18) (CAO 82.1/3/5)  <b>IN EFFECT NOW</b>
6 Feb 2014 ✓	Mode S	Forward Fit – Aircraft with transponder requirement (operations in Class A,B,C,E and G above 10,000ft) must be fitted with Mode S transponder with ADS-B capability (not necessarily the GNSS position source)  Applies to – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• aircraft manufactured from 6 Feb 2014 and</li> <li>• new transponder installations in existing aircraft requiring a transponder after 6 Feb 2014</li> </ul>	Regulation (CAO 20.18)  <b>IN EFFECT NOW</b>

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Effective Date	Surveillance	Mandate	Status
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<b>4 Feb 2016</b> ✓	Mode S	All aircraft operating at Melbourne, Sydney, Perth & Brisbane aerodromes must be fitted with Mode S transponder with ADS-B capability – but not necessary to have ADS-B Out enabled (to support ASMGCS)	<b>Regulation</b> <b>(CAO 20.18)</b> <b>IN EFFECT NOW</b>
	ADS-B	All IFR aircraft operating within 500 NM East/North of Perth must be fitted with ADS-B OUT	<b>Regulation</b> <b>(CAO 20.18)</b> <b>IN EFFECT NOW</b>
<b>2 Feb 2017</b>	ADS-B	All IFR aircraft must be fitted with ADS-B OUT  (Applies to domestic and foreign registered aircraft)  Limited exemptions available.	<b>Regulation</b> <b>(CAO 20.18)</b> <b>(CAO 82.1/3/5)</b> <b>IN EFFECT NOW</b>

The Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) is currently developing updates to Civil Aviation Safety Regulations (CASR) Part 91 – General operating and flight rules – which will consolidate a substantial number of existing Civil Aviation Regulations and Civil Aviation Orders into Part 91 and its supporting Manual of Standards. Of note for the surveillance domain, the provisions of CAO 20.18 (which currently regulates transponder and ADS-B requirements amongst others) will be incorporated into the new Part 91 Manual of Standards.

### **5 Lower cost ADS-B avionics for VFR**

Work has commenced on proposals to support General aviation (GA) use of ADS-B by using lower cost ADS-B avionics with reduced capability and reduced certification requirements. The main target is ADS-B IN use by GA, for regional RPT operations into Class G aerodromes with a high number of VFR flights, and use by ATC for situational awareness, rather than for separation. A Discussion Paper was issued by CASA in December 2017. Pending the CASR Part 91 review (see above), provisions for lower cost ADS-B in VFR aircraft, including acceptance of FAA TSO-C199 and UK CAA Electronic Conspicuity standards, will be incorporated into CAO 20.18.

### **6 Operational Use of Flight ID from radar**

Flight ID from surveillance is provided to the ATC system from ADS-B ground stations and the WAM systems in Sydney and Tasmania. The ATC system performs flight plan coupling using this identification.

While Mode S radars are configured to extract this information from aircraft, it is not yet distributed to the ATC system due to processing issues within the Eurocat system.

During an initial transition to the widespread use of Flight ID, which was trialled in Adelaide (February 2014), processing issues with VFR traffic were observed that generated nuisance alarms for controllers so the use of Flight ID in these sectors was put on hold. At this stage these issues have not yet been resolved. The transition to full operational use of Flight ID will be resumed as soon as this issue is resolved.

## **7 SkySafe Enhancements and use of DAPS**

A special taskforce called SkySafe was convened to look at Loss of Separation (LOS) events in Australia and has made a number of recommendations to enhance ATM in Australia.

The following features are now implemented in the current ATC system:

- Improvements to safety net conflict alerts, including a 5 minute look-ahead time conflict alert – generally in non-surveillance airspace.
- Selected Altitude Mismatch – use of Mode S DAPS & ADS-B “Selected Altitude” to provide an alert when this is mismatched with Cleared Flight Level (CFL). This became operational late 2015. While the Mode S radars and ADS-B ground stations support this function, the WAM Systems require an upgrade to process and distribute this information. This upgrade is currently being planned with support from the vendor.

## **8 OneSky and Future use of DAPS**

The future joint Civilian/Military Australia wide ATM system, called CMATS, will provide a “Multi Sensor” surveillance tracking function, incorporating ADS-B, radar and WAM inputs, and will make greater use of Mode S DAPs for safety net alerting and for display to the controller. Planning for the implementation of this new system continues with the selected vendor (Thales).

## **9 Conclusion**

Australia continues to make greater use of ADS-B and Mode S following investment by airspace users and the air navigation service providers.

## **10 Action by the meeting**

The meeting is invited to

- a) note the information contained in this paper; and
- b) discuss any relevant matters as appropriate.

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