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# From Airport Collaborative Decision Making to Total Airport Management

*Presentation to the ICAO Regional Conference*

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EUROCONTROL

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NETWORK  
MANAGER



## Personal Introduction

- Joined EUROCONTROL in 1995 working on simulations focussing on automated controller tools and strip-less ATC systems
- Early 2000s, led the development of the European 5-year Capacity Planning cycle in close collaboration with the Member States.
- Detachment to Air France (2004/2005) supporting the CCO and early A-CDM implementation project in Paris CDG.
- More recently led EUROCONTROL's contribution to the Airport Operations Management concept in SESAR as well as EUROCONTROL's contribution to the Total Airport Management project (PJ04) in SESAR2020.
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## Proposed presentation content....



- Airport Collaborative Decision Making (A-CDM)
- Building blocks for Total Airport Management (TAM) and APOC
- Some examples of APOC tools and typical decision-making
- Questions

# The need for airport / network integration

*“... airports are key nodes of the European ATM network, an integral part of it and they must be **integrated into the network operations** to the extent possible. Airports should participate as equal partners in ATFM management at all levels. **Airport Operation Plans** should be developed together with Network Operations Plan as capacity on the ground needs to be connected to the capacity in the air. In order to achieve this integration into the network, digital solutions will surely play a very significant role.”*



Henrik Hololei, Director-General for Mobility and Transport speaking at the ACI-Europe / EUROCONTROL Digitally Connected airports conference, 27 Feb.

*“Airports are **complex operational ecosystems** and a crucial component of the European air traffic management network. **Their full integration into the network is paramount.** The **exchange of advanced information** and the **full cooperation among all operational stakeholders** will allow a true network approach and effective decision making, which is especially important in these times of crisis”*

Iacopo Prissinotti – Director Network Manager



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# Airport Collaborative Decision Making (A-CDM)



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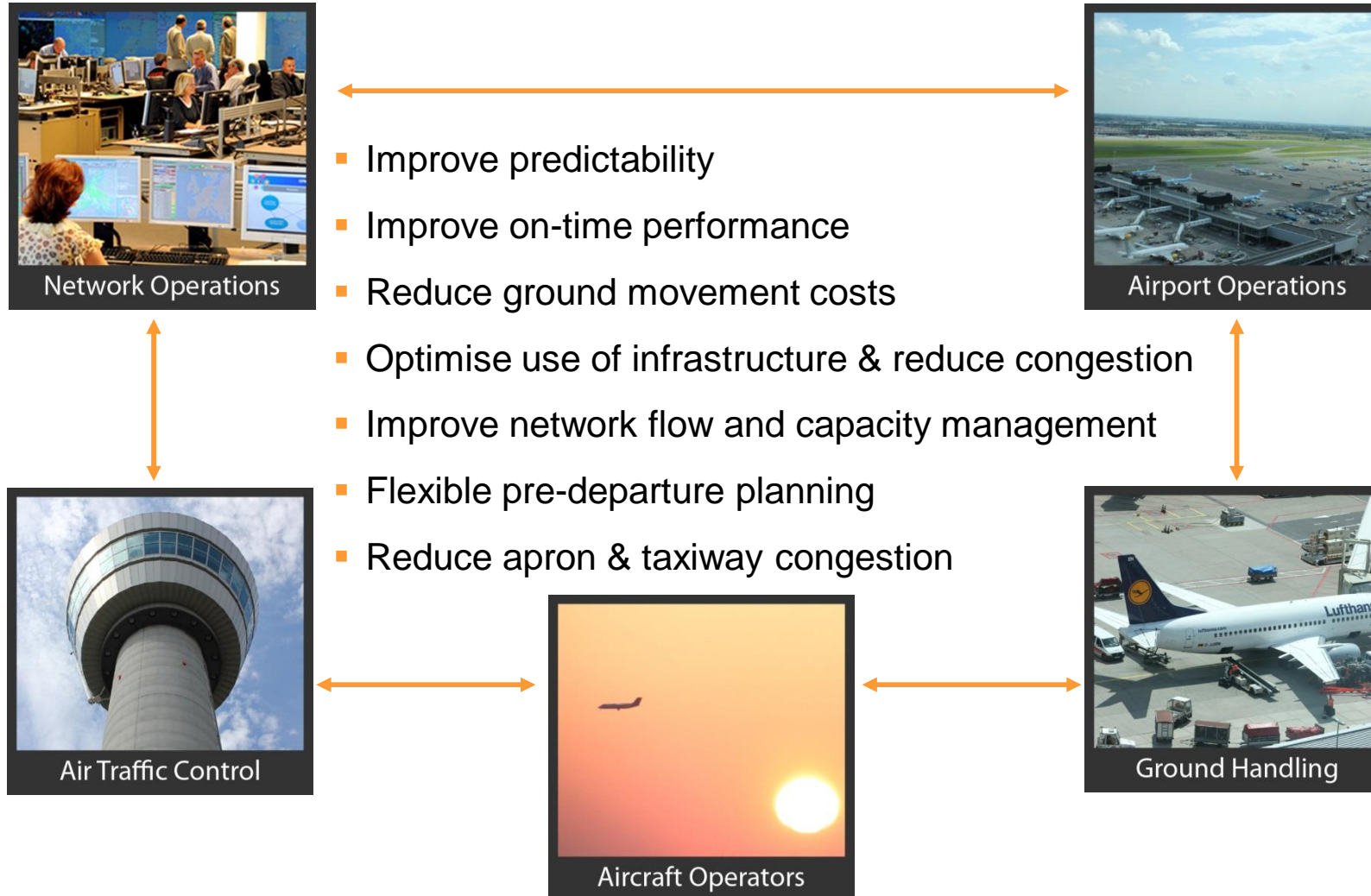
## Today's "Airport Operations Challenge" ....



- Multiple stakeholders and systems
- Decisions based on insufficient or poor quality information
- No individual partner has the complete picture
- Airports can be seen as "black holes" from the network perspective
- Low level of pro-active management
- Expansion is very difficult – so need to optimise the efficiency of the existing infrastructure

With negative effects on :  
Punctuality, Predictability, Efficiency...and even  
Network Performance

# Airport CDM – who is involved ?



# Milestone Approach

## Key Definitions

- **Target Off-Block Time (TOBT)**

The time that an **Aircraft Operator or Ground Handler** estimates that an aircraft will be ready, all doors closed, boarding bridge removed, push back vehicle available and ready to start up / push back immediately upon reception of clearance from the Tower

- **Target Start up Approval Time (TSAT)**

The time provided by ATC taking into account TOBT, CTOT and / or the traffic situation that an aircraft can expect start up / push back approval



The notion of 'target' is vital.  
All stakeholders are working to achieve the target  
Need to update the target if compromised

## A-CDM Guidance Material

Principal European Guidance Material is  
“Airport CDM Implementation – The  
Manual”

It comprises :

- Descriptions of each concept element
- Guidance for setting up a CDM project
- Implementation Guidelines
- Risks and mitigation
- Success criteria
- Post implementation activities



Download the manual at :

[www.euro-cdm.org](http://www.euro-cdm.org)

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# Total Airport Management



# Our airspace is busy & complex with high traffic volumes



**Congestion**  
In Europe:  
30,000 flights per day  
5,000 aircraft

**Fragmentation**  
41 EUROCONTROL  
Member States

**Efficiency**  
Congestion & delay have  
an economic impact

**Environment**  
Aviation accounts for 3%  
of global emissions

**Old Technology**  
Radio invented in 1920s

**Safety First**

**Safety**  
Flight volume  
will double by 2030

# What are the problems for airports?



**!** Airport processes are mostly independent from the Network

**!** Poor predictability of operations

**!** Restrictions are needed to balance traffic flow

**!** Increasing block times

**!** Poor communication between stakeholders

**!** Decreasing efficiency of Airport resources

DELATED  
3:15 DELAYED  
3:20 DELAYED  
3:30 DELAYED

ORDER  
CHAOS

atlantic

# Total Airport Management – TAM



APOC

Manage performance

AOP

Monitor performance



MET

Integration of data

DCB

Arrive & depart to plan



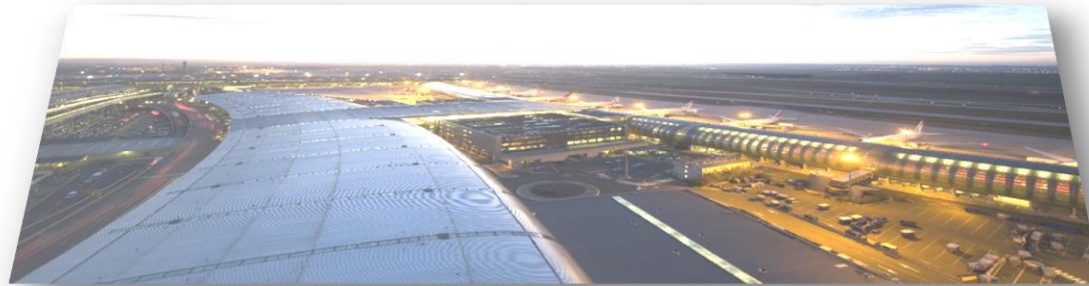
Integration of landside processes

Integration of de-icing processes



# Operational Context - “Total Airport Management”

A-CDM is the first building block



TAM means a more holistic view:

- Move away from purely aircraft view :
  - Consider various processes contributing to efficiency and punctuality including the passenger process.
  - (Arrival -> Turnaround -> Departure) link to (check-in -> Security -> Boarding)
- **Reinforce information sharing (single ‘Airport Operations Plan’)**
- **Enhance the collaborative processes (APOC / AOCC) based on traditional management cycle of plan, execute, monitor, act;**
- Performance based predictive management rather than reactive management;

# Airport Operation Centres - APOC

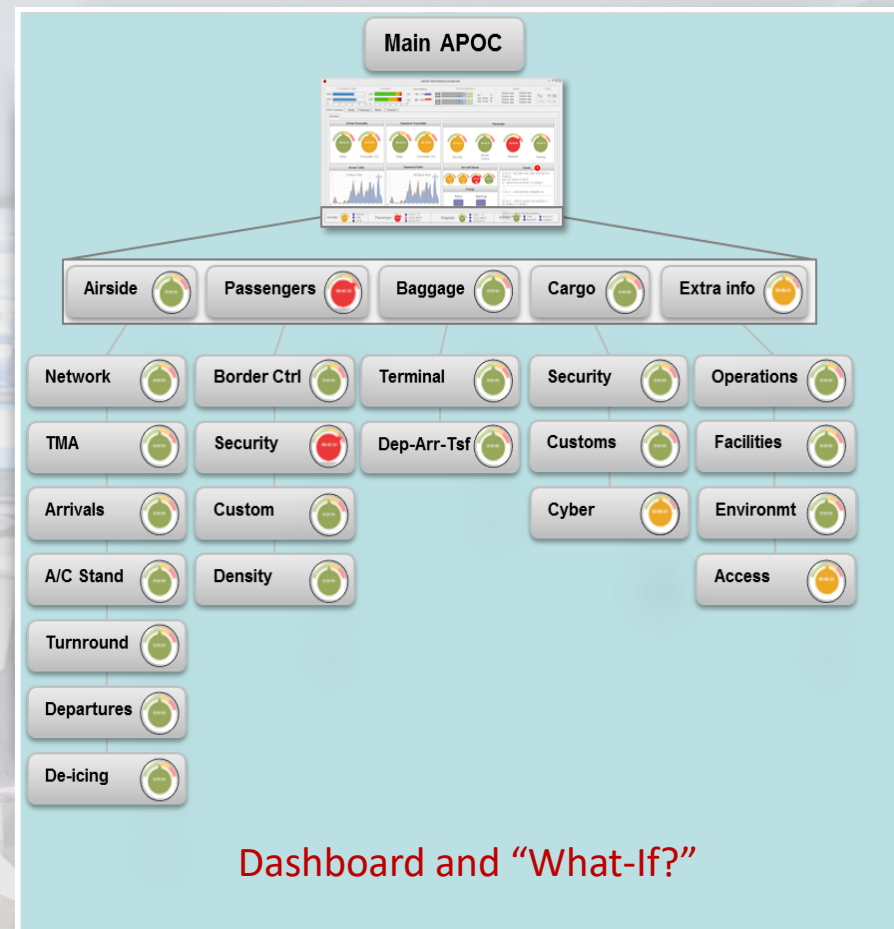
Airport stakeholders and their data: integrated processes

Holistic view – Airside / Landside / Network

Predictive, analytics, machine learning, optimisation

Performance - Less delay & disruption, better punctuality

Drives passenger satisfaction and quality of service



# Heathrow has a very limited “capacity reserve”

- LHR functions almost at full capacity, all of the day and every day of the year
- The UK Government forbids night flying at the airport
- As a consequence, there is very limited capacity if there is a need to recover from a degraded situation



# There's no business like snow business

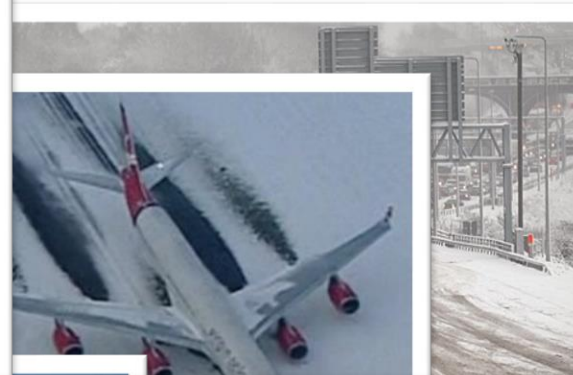
-27C in Munich, but still every plane flies... meanwhile, despite £32m on new snowploughs, Heathrow cancels flights BEFORE a flake of snow falls

## IT'S SNOW-GO HEATHROW!

AIRPORT bosses came under fire last night after cancelling a flight

By Christopher Leake

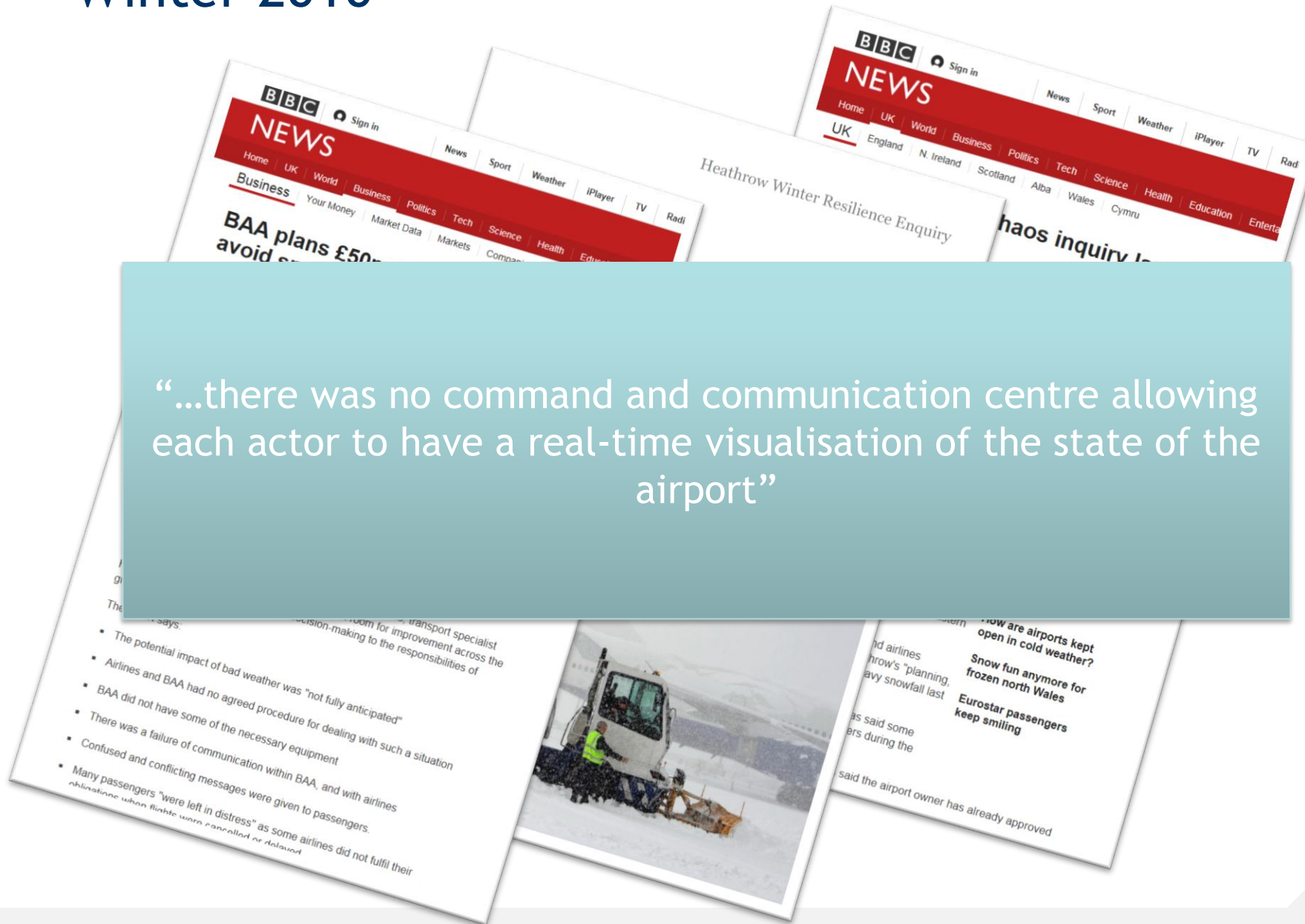
Has Heathrow...



11:40 Glasgow AA6682 Cancelled

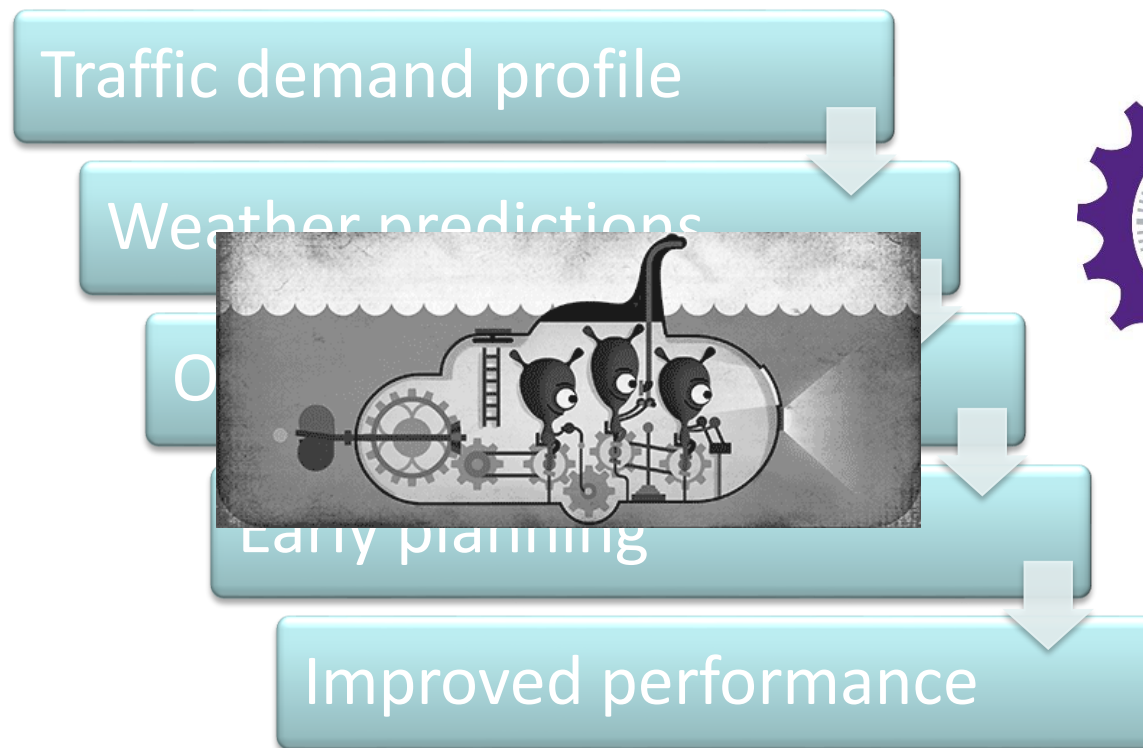
# Winter 2010

“...there was no command and communication centre allowing each actor to have a real-time visualisation of the state of the airport”



To efficiently manage operations, there is a need to establish a detailed daily plan.

Daily operational mode =



Accurate information is essential

# Developing the daily Plan

- Initial Plan (baseline) can be generated as soon as the traffic schedule is known (D-6months).
  - At this stage, there is no assessment of how the airport will be operated (resource availability, runway configurations etc)
- As the day of operations approaches (D-2) a more accurate plan is developed taking into account the likely runway configurations and all automatic updates to the demand profile.
- Many different 'parallel plans' can exist.
- At D-1, update the AOP with the selected plan for D day, agreed by the airport and ANSP and share with all APOC stakeholders.



### Plan Comparison

EA (updated at 17/09/2020 07:54)

✕	+	!	🔄	🌙	🕒	🚨	👍
0	97	9	91	0	0	1	100

A (updated at 15/09/2020 06:24)

✕	+	!	🔄	🌙	🕒	🚨	👍
0	86	0	84	2	0	0	100

EB (updated at 17/09/2020 07:54)

✕	+	!	🔄	🌙	🕒	🚨	👍
0	97	9	91	0	0	1	100

B (updated at 15/09/2020 06:24)

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0	86	0	84	1	0	0	100

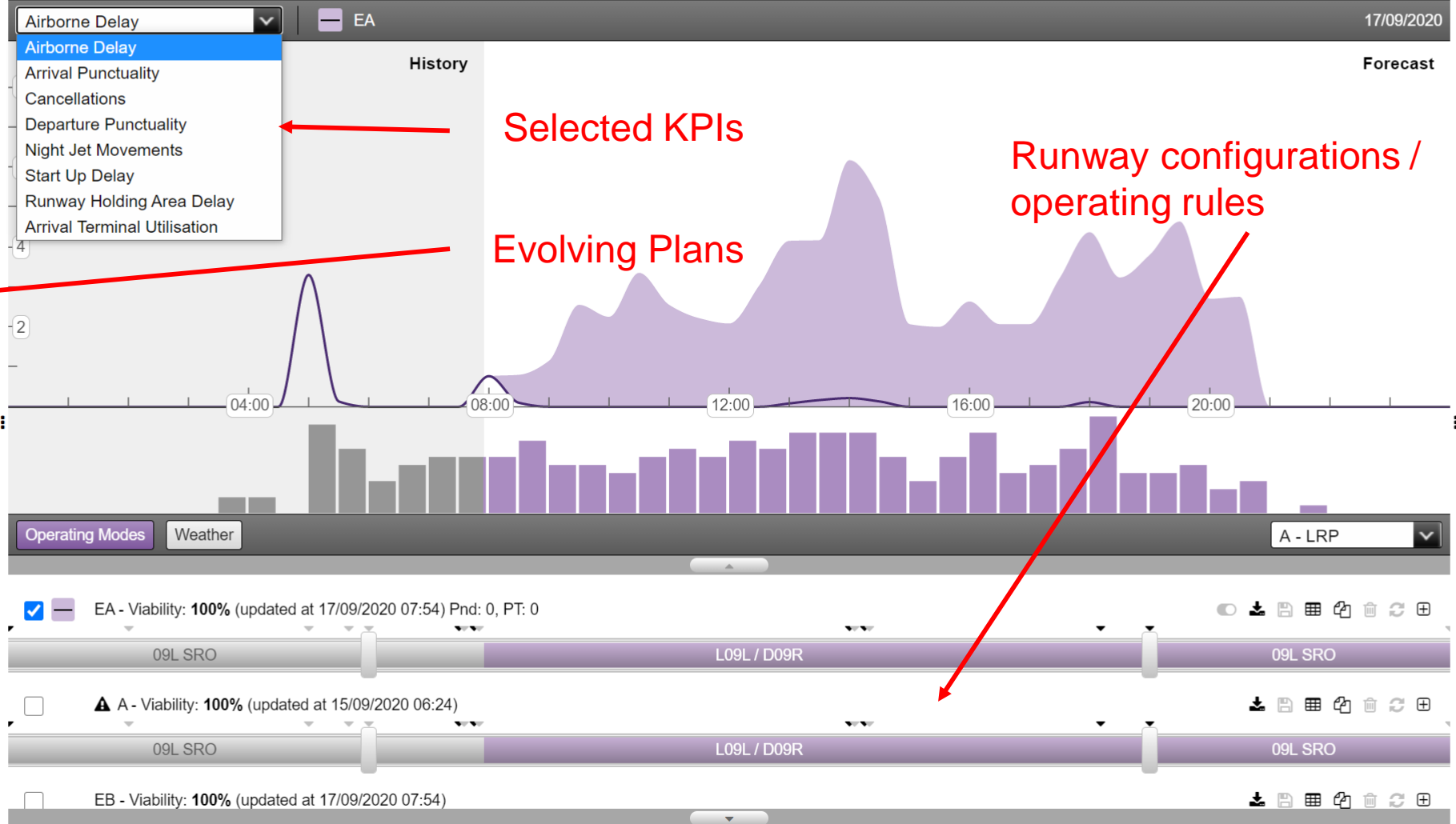
S1 (updated by Alex D Brown at 10/09/2020 07:27)

✕	+	!	🔄	🌙	🕒	🚨	👍
0	86	0	84	1	0	0	100

Submit to ACM

Submit Baseline Plan

Submit Actioned Plan



### Operating Modes

L27R / D27L

L27L / D27R

L09L / D09R

27L EMT

27R EMT

09R EMT

27L SRO

27R SRO

09R SRO

09L SRO

### Pre-Defined Rules

Strategy Templates

# An intense focus on passenger service quality

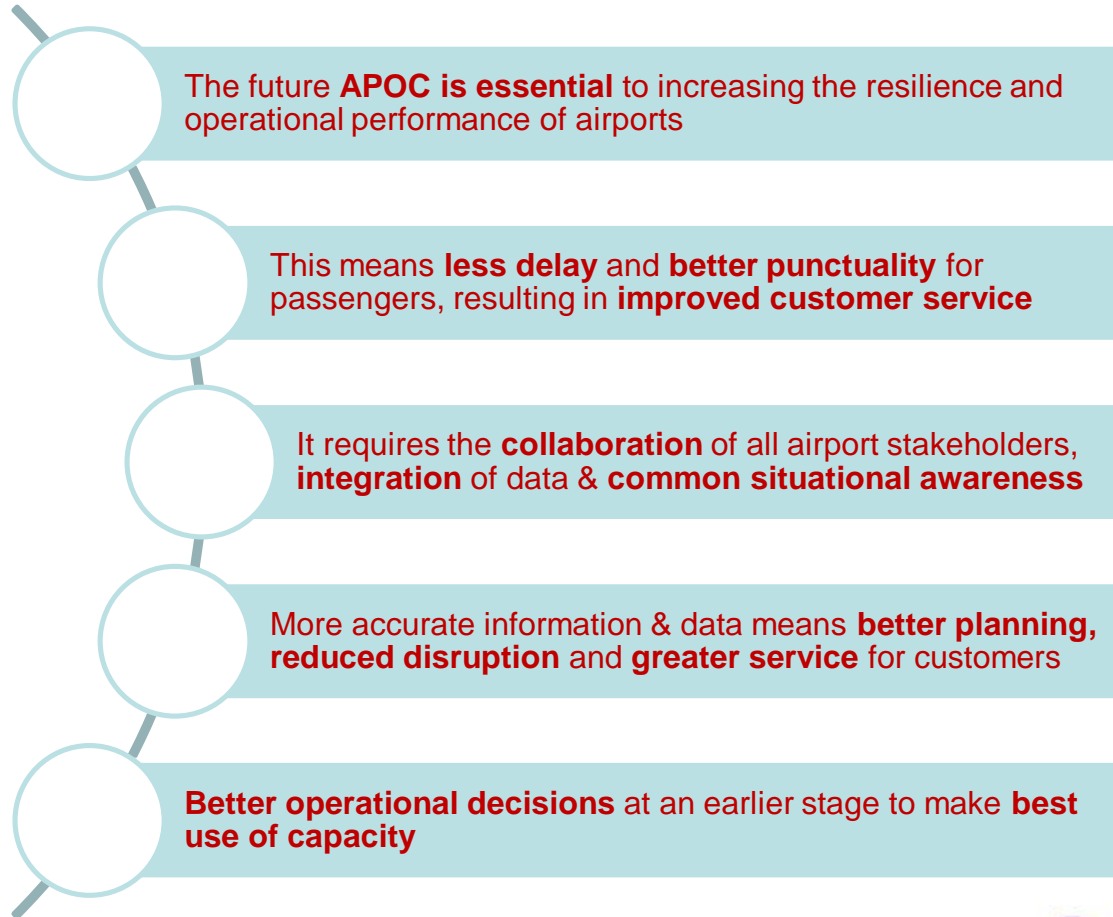
## **Immigration Flow**

Rather than base predicted load at the immigration desks, it is possible to use the predicted arrival time from the DCB tool and parameters such as walking time to predict accurately the real load at the immigration desks. Allows for more efficient resource allocation

## **Tight and Missed Connections**

Again, using the predicted arrival times for flights and the minimum connecting times, it is possible to identify flights where passengers will have tight or missed connections. This leads to the possibility to assist the passengers in their connections (tight) or assist in re-booking etc in the event of missed connections.

# In summary:



*“...the single piece of technology within our operation that has had the biggest impact on the passenger”*

Heathrow Objective



Happy passengers, travelling with their bags, on time.

# SUPPORTING EUROPEAN AVIATION



Thank you  
[alan.marsden@eurocontrol.int](mailto:alan.marsden@eurocontrol.int)

