



# EXPERIENCE SHARING ON IMPLEMENTATION OF E-WTS FOR ARRIVALS

HONG KONG CHINA

# BACKGROUND

Hong Kong International Airport has implemented ICAO e-WTS for Arrivals on 5 November 2020 (effective date of Amendment 9 to Doc 4444 PANS-ATM)



# PROJECT TIMELINE

For Hong Kong e-WTS (Arrival)

**Jun 2017**

Hong Kong  
Incremental  
Capacity  
Study  
findings

**Jun 2018**

Hong Kong  
RECAT-EU  
Project  
commences

**Apr 2019**

ICAO State  
Letter  
introduces  
proposal for  
revised Wake  
Turbulence  
Separation  
Minima

**Jul 2019**

Hong Kong  
RECAT-EU  
Project  
transform to  
ICAO-RECAT  
study

**Jun 2020**

ICAO State  
Letter  
announced  
e-WTS to be  
implemented  
on 5 Nov  
2020

**Nov 2020**

Hong Kong  
implemented  
ICAO e-WTS  
for arrivals



# HONG KONG E-WTS PROJECT

## 1. Planning

- Safety Analysis Plan using Eurocontrol template \*
- Collection of LIDAR, Flight Data and ATC records
- Project Safety Plan & Safety Assessment Process \*

## 2. Implementation

- Local Safety Case Report \*
- Controller Training
- ATM System Adaptation
- Stakeholder Engagement

## 3. Operational Experience Sharing

\* by Independent Third Party



RECAT-EU

European Wake Turbulence Categorisation and  
Separation Minima on Approach and Departure

# PLANNING

Data Collection, Project Safety Plan & Safety Assessment Process



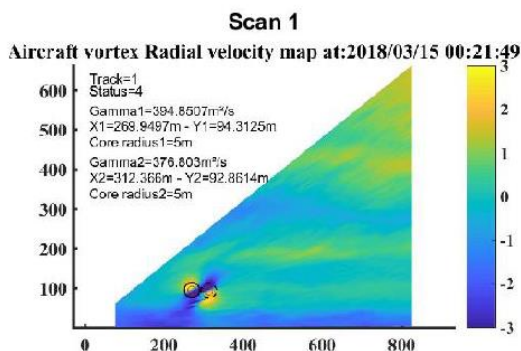
# DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS



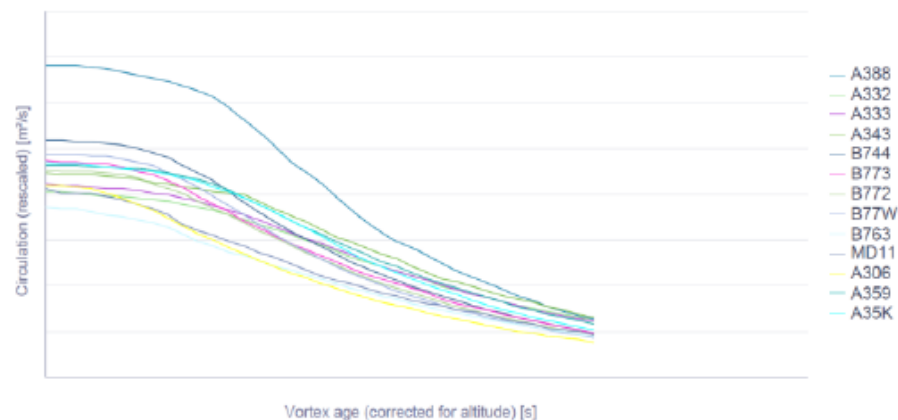
## DATA COLLECTION

Collaboration between Hong Kong CAD, Airport Authority Hong Kong, Hong Kong Observatory and Airline Operators to conduct a 12-month study

- LIDAR information on vortex generation and dissipation
- ATM Surveillance records
- Pilot reports
- Aircraft flight recorder data



Records of vortex formation and dissipation



Vortex dissipation rates comparison



## DATA ANALYSIS

Analysis to produce detailed vortex generation and dissipation rates for different groups of aircraft

# DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS

- Pilot reports of wake turbulence encounters were analysed with information from ATM surveillance data and aircraft flight recorder data

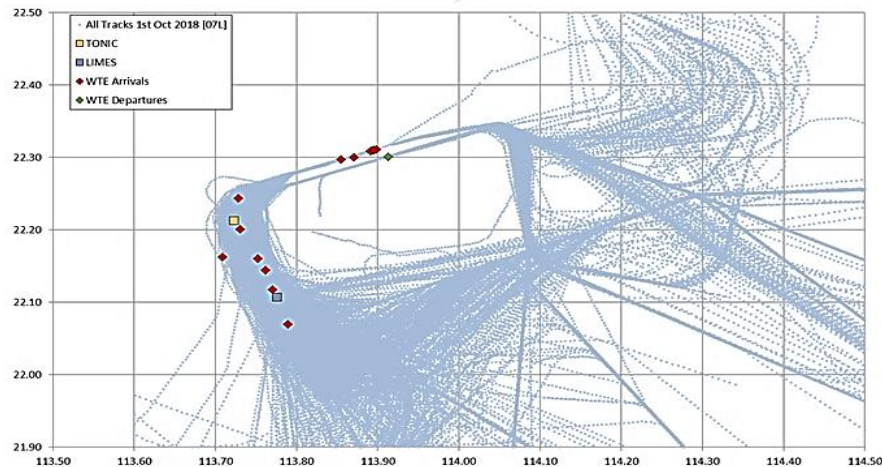
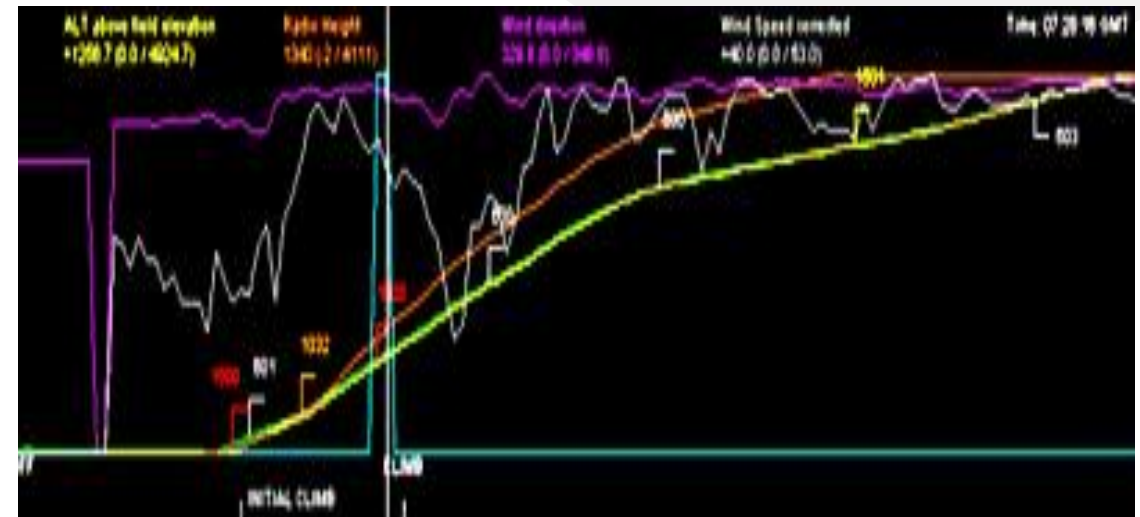


Figure 13: Location of reported WTE Encounters during 07L operations, overlaid on typical 07L daily flight tracks.

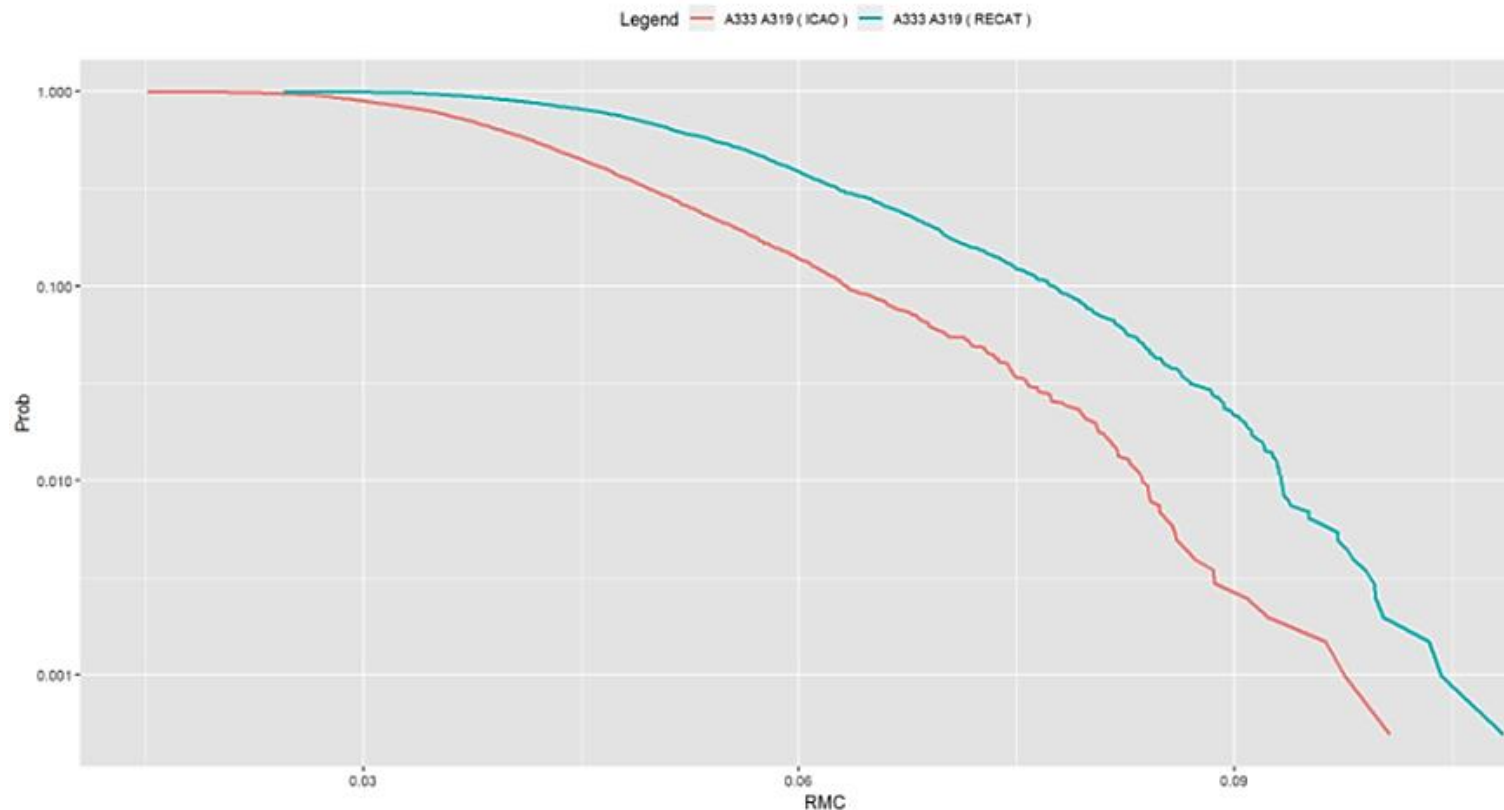
ATM surveillance data



Flight recorder data

# DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS

- Comparison of calculated risk values of wake encounter risk for each aircraft pair (e.g. A333 and A319) using ICAO and ICAO-RECAT minima



# PROJECT SAFETY PLAN

## GOAL STRUCTURING NOTATION (GSN)



Identify dependencies / risks that needed to be addressed for the major safety activities involved in the implementation

A series of workshops were held for all stakeholders to mitigate potential operational hazards and associated risks



## HAZARD IDENTIFICATION WORKSHOPS

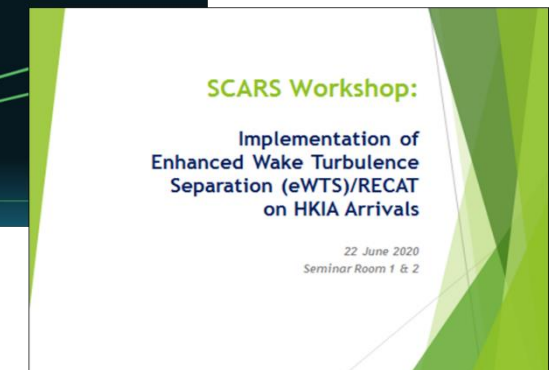
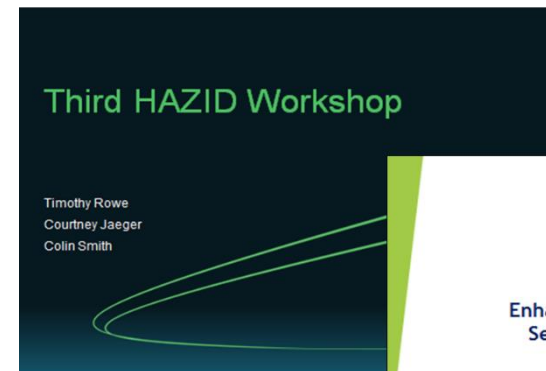
# IMPLEMENTATION

Local Safety Case Study, Controller Training,  
ATM System Adaptation & Stakeholder Engagement



# LOCAL SAFETY CASE STUDY

- Comparison of Hong Kong data analysis with Eurocontrol RECAT-EU safety case data
- Risk Assessment and Mitigation Forums
- SMS process to mitigate potential hazards and associated risks
- Conclusion: *“the predicted impact to wake turbulence encounter reporting and severity is in line with the expectations of the RECAT-EU Safety Case and the detailed analysis of local Hong Kong wake data supports the reduction in wake turbulence separation”*



# CONTROLLER TRAINING



Need for stricter speed control



Awareness of rate of closure



Timely issuance of landing clearance



Recovery actions

## ICAO 7 Wake Turbulence Groups Distance-based Enhanced Wake Turbulence Separation (eWTS) Minima

Follower Leader	Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D	Group E	Group F	Group G
Group A		4 NM	5 NM	5 NM	6 NM	6 NM	8 NM
Group B		3 NM	4 NM	4 NM	5 NM	5 NM	7 NM
Group C				3 NM	3.5 NM	3.5 NM	6 NM
Group D							4 NM
Group E							4 NM

Hong Kong has adopted a conservative e-WTS separation for arrivals



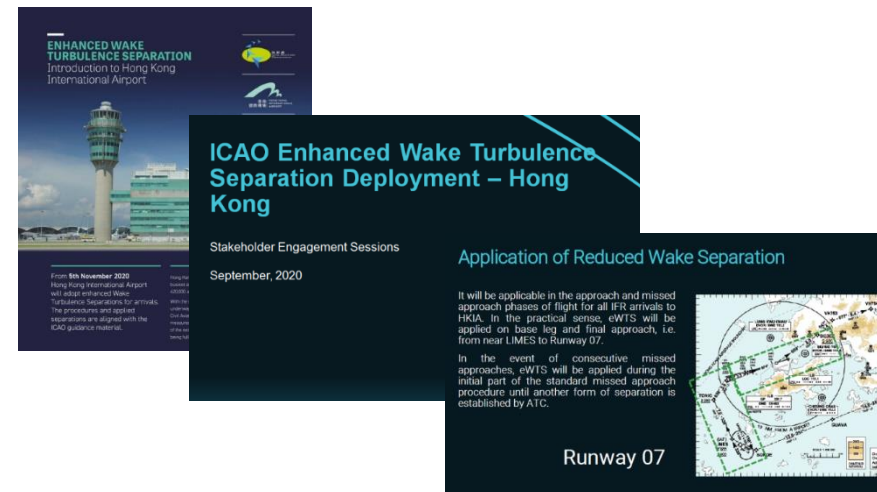
Simulator training for Approach controllers

# STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

## WORKSHOPS



Attended by 100+ aircraft operators, pilots, airlines OPS staff and organizations



70+ aircrew and airline personnel participated in the briefing sessions on the implementation of e-WTS at HKIA



## BRIEFING SESSIONS

# OPERATIONAL EXPERIENCE SHARING

Post Operational Analysis, Runway Occupancy Times of Arrivals & Environmental Impact



# POST OPERATIONAL ANALYSIS

## ICAO Wake Turbulence Minima and Benefits of ICAO e-WTS Minima

**A35K (Heavy)**

**A35K (Group B)**



**ICAO WTC 4 NM**



**ICAO e-WTS 3 NM**

**B773 (Heavy)**

**B773 (Group B)**



**A332 (Heavy)**

**A332 (Group B)**



**ICAO WTC 5 NM**






**ICAO e-WTS 4 NM**

**A320 (Medium)**

**A320 (Group D)**



# POST OPERATIONAL ANALYSIS

-  Comparison of average final approach spacing
-  Monitor and analyse pilot reports
-  Missed approach statistic analysis

# RUNWAY OCCUPANCY TIME – ARRIVAL (ROTA)

- Aircrew Active Participation is needed
- Benefits of e-WTS can easily be negated if pilots
  - Do not comply with ATC speed restrictions on final approach
  - Do not adhere to minimum runway occupancy time for arrivals (ROTA)
  - Do not vacate at the first available Rapid Exit Taxiway (RET)



		Follower					
		SUPER	HEAVY	UPPER	MEDIUM	SMALL	LIGHT
Leader	J	4 NM*	4 NM	5 NM	5 NM	6 NM	8 NM
	H	3.5 NM*	3.5 NM*	4 NM	4 NM	5 NM	7 NM
	U	3.5 NM*	3.5 NM*	3.5 NM*	3.5 NM*	4 NM	6 NM
	M						5 NM
	S						4 NM
	L						3NM

\* Spacing requirement with overriding ROTA considerations

# ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

- Since adopting the e-WTS for arrival at HKIA, the Airport Arrive Rate (AAR) has been progressively increased from 34 to 36 during peak hour
  - Reduced average airborne delay per flight
  - Reduced fuel burn and CO<sub>2</sub> emission



# WHAT'S NEXT?

Implementation of e-WTS for Departures at Hong Kong International Airport





ANY QUESTIONS?



THANK YOU!