

# ***ELPAC***

*English Language Proficiency for Aeronautical Communication*

*A test for air traffic controllers  
to meet  
ICAO language proficiency requirements*

**Adrian Enright**  
**EUROCONTROL**

(European Organisation for the Safety of Air Navigation)  
**Luxembourg**



ICAO 2<sup>nd</sup> International Aviation Language Symposium, Montreal May 2007



# *ELPAC*

## **Approaches to test development**

**Test development strategies**

**Sustaining the ELPAC Test**



ICAO 2<sup>nd</sup> International Aviation Language Symposium, Montreal May 2007



# *Experience with PELA*

- Needs Analysis still applicable
- Experience with test administration
- Test format and content served as the starting point for ELPAC test development
- But, PELA is not appropriate for operational controllers



# *Test specifications*

- *Experience as PRICE SG member*
- ICAO criteria + holistic descriptors
- Needs analysis
- ICAO levels 4 and 5
- ELPAC rating scale = ICAO scale



ICAO 2<sup>nd</sup> International Aviation Language Symposium, Montreal May 2007



# *Test development team*

## Project leader:

- Adrian Enright, Eurocontrol
- Language testing expert:
  - Magdalena Večeřová, Czech Republic
- ATC and English language experts
  - Bulgaria, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hungary, Spain and Eurocontrol
- Language testing consultant
  - Dr. Rita Green, United Kingdom

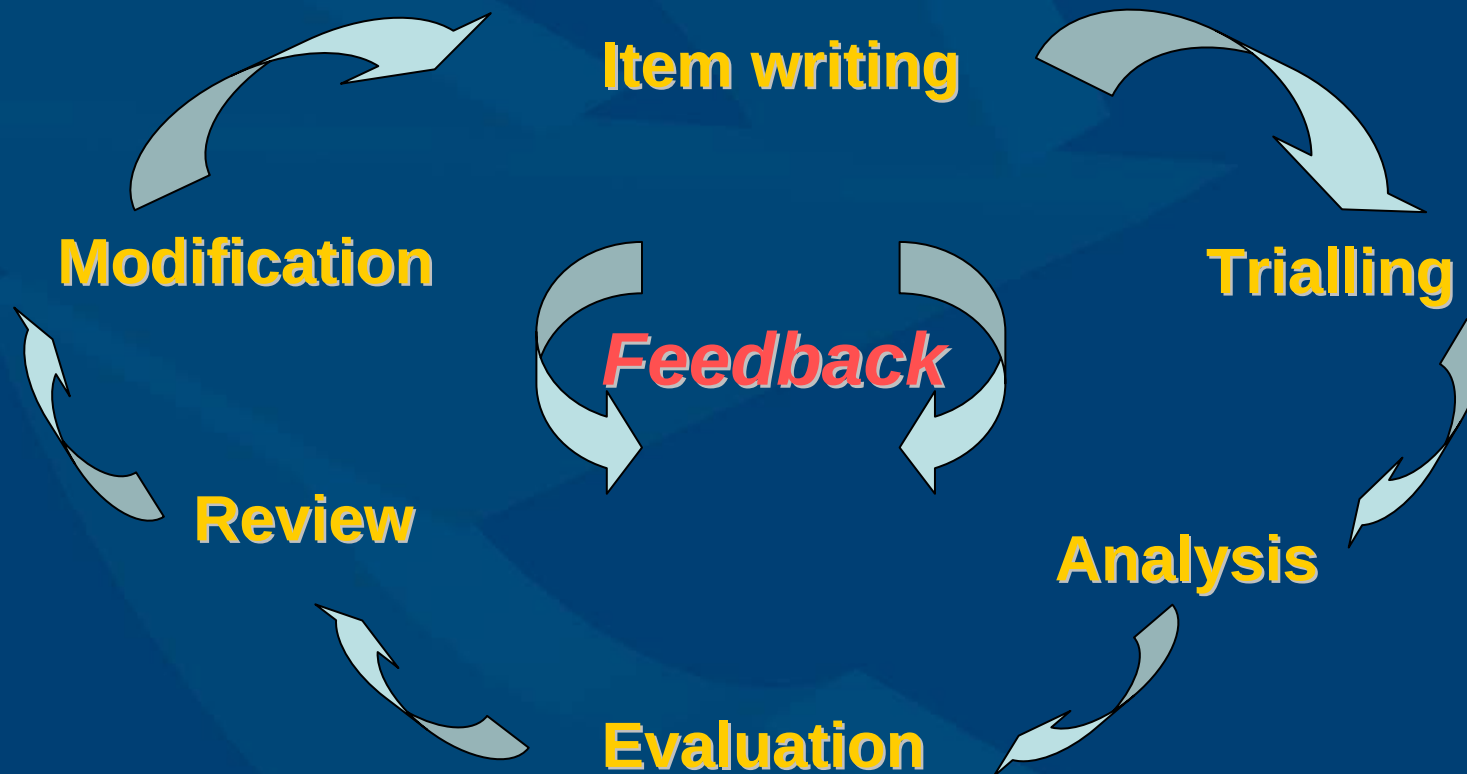


# *Support*

- Software
  - ENOVATE S.A. Norway
- Validation
  - Lancaster University, England
- Stakeholders
  - ANSPs
  - NSAs
  - Controllers ...



# *Cycle of test development*



ICAO 2<sup>nd</sup> International Aviation Language Symposium, Montreal May 2007



# *ELPAC*

## **Approaches to test development** **Test development strategies** **Sustaining the ELPAC Test**



ICAO 2<sup>nd</sup> International Aviation Language Symposium, Montreal May 2007





# *Test development strategies*

- Test papers
- Guidelines
- Rating scale
- Trialling
- External validation
- Sample tests
- Informing stakeholders



ICAO 2<sup>nd</sup> International Aviation Language Symposium, Montreal May 2007



# *Test Papers*

- Paper 1 – Listening Comprehension
  - Internet based
  - Trained marker
- Paper 2 – Oral Interaction
  - Non-visual & visual communication
  - 2 examiners – interlocutor & assessor
- ICAO Levels 4 & 5



# *Supporting material*

- Guidelines for administrators, examiners, candidates...
- Bio data
- Feedback
- Self-assessment of English proficiency
- Reports



ICAO 2<sup>nd</sup> International Aviation Language Symposium, Montreal May 2007



# *Trialling*

- 5 trialling exercises
- +/- 700 controllers
- 21 States
- Workshops for administrators and examiners
- Sample versions available since January 2007



ICAO 2<sup>nd</sup> International Aviation Language Symposium, Montreal May 2007



# *Validation*

- Internal on a regular basis
- External by Lancaster University, UK
  - Initial May 2006
  - Final June 2007



ICAO 2<sup>nd</sup> International Aviation Language Symposium, Montreal May 2007



# *Communicating*

Essential to keep all stakeholders informed of progress in test development

- Air Navigation Service Providers
- National Supervisory Authorities
- Air traffic controllers
- By means of
  - Presentations
  - Briefings
  - Sample test versions
  - Web site ([www.elpac.info](http://www.elpac.info))



ICAO 2<sup>nd</sup> International Aviation Language Symposium, Montreal May 2007



# *ELPAC*

## **Approaches to test development** **Test development strategies** **Sustaining the ELPAC Test**



ICAO 2<sup>nd</sup> International Aviation Language Symposium, Montreal May 2007



# *Sustaining the ELPAC Test*

- Develop action plan
- Licence Agreement
- Training workshops
- Test maintenance
- User Group



ICAO 2<sup>nd</sup> International Aviation Language Symposium, Montreal May 2007





# *ELPAC*

## *English Language Proficiency for Aeronautical Communication*

[www.elpac.info](http://www.elpac.info)

[www.elpacsample.info](http://www.elpacsample.info)

*Adrian Enright*

*EUROCONTROL*

*ELPAC Project Leader*



ICAO 2<sup>nd</sup> International Aviation Language Symposium, Montreal May 2007

