

International Civil Aviation Organization



MID RVSM Safety Assessment Seminar (Bahrain, 22-24 February 2010)

SUMMARY

1. INTRODUCTION:

- 1.1 The MID RVSM Safety Assessment Seminar was successfully held in Bahrain from 22 to 24 February 2010. Thirty four (34) participants from 10 States (Bahrain, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria and UAE) and 1 international organization (IATA) have attended the seminar. The list of participants is at **Attachment A** The Seminar was hosted by the Middle East Regional Monitoring Agency (MIDRMA). It was moderated by Mr. Mohamed Smaoui, RO/AIS/MET, ICAO MID Regional Office.
- 1.2 The Seminar addressed different subjects related to RVSM implementation and safety assessment, according to the following agenda:
 - 1. Introduction
 - 2. RVSM implementation and Regional Monitoring Agencies (RMAs)
 - 3. RVSM Safety Assessment/Height-keeping Performance Monitoring
 - 4. Seminar Outcome/Recommendations
 - 5. Closing Session
- 1.3 The main objective of the Seminar was to raise the awareness of States and their Air Navigation Service Providers about the requirements for sustained RVSM safety assessment activity.
- 1.4 A number of presentations covering the different agenda items were provided during the Seminar as follows:

Title of the Presentation	Speaker					
RVSM Implementation in the MID Region	Mr. Mohamed Smaoui					
and MID RMA Project	Regional Officer AIS/MET,					
	ICAO MID Office, Cairo					
RMA Issues	Mr. Saulo Da Silva					
	Technical Officer ATM					
	ICAO HQ, Montreal					
MID RMA Activities	Mr. Fareed Al-Alawi					
	MIDRMA Manager					
Altimetry System Errors (ASE) issues	Mr. Andrew Lewis					
	Technical Manager					
	Airspace, Network Planning, Navigation					
	Directorate of Airspace Policy -					
	EUROCONTROL					

Title of the Presentation	Speaker					
RVSM Height-keeping Performance	Mr. Robert L. Miller, Jr.					
Monitoring	Vice President, Aerospace Division					
6	CSSI, Inc.					
Monitoring and Validation of Aircraft	Mr. Andrew Lewis					
Height Keeping Performance in Europe	Technical Manager					
8	Airspace, Network Planning, Navigation					
	Directorate of Airspace Policy -					
	EUROCONTROL					
The Safety Web – Real Time Risk	Professor Hussein Abbass					
Monitoring	Director Defence & Security Applications					
1,10,11,10,11,10	Research Centre					
	University of New South Wales					
	Australian Defence Force Academy					
	Campus					
RVSM Software	Dr. Sameer Alam					
TO SITE SOLUTION	Research Fellow (ATM)					
	University of New South Wales					
	Australian Defence Force Academy					
	Campus					
RADAC System	Mr. Per-Olov Hornaeus					
Ribrie System	Systems Engineer					
	COMBITECH AB, Sweden					
Efficient Air Transportation	Mr. Kenny Norberg					
Different III Transportation	Marketing Director, SAAB					
	Sweden					
MID RMA Safety Monitoring	Mr. Fathi Ibrahim Al-Thawadi					
Activities/difficulties	Head of Aeronautical & Airport Ops.					
- 1001 (1010 S) (011110 U1010 S	Systems					
	Civil Aviation Affairs, Bahrain					
	(MIDRMA)					
Threat and Error Management (TEM) and	Dr. Christopher S. Henry					
Normal Operation Safety Survey (NOSS)	Director NOSS Collaborative					
erania of annual control of an and a	USA					
European Safety Assessment Methodology	Mr. Andrew Lewis					
Zuropeum zurety rissessimem mieumouorogy	Technical Manager					
	Airspace, Network Planning, Navigation					
	Directorate of Airspace Policy –					
	EUROCONTROL					
RMA Manual	Mr. Saulo Da Silva					
··	Technical Officer ATM					
	ICAO HQ, Montreal					
Development of MIDRMA SMRs	Mr. Fareed Al-Alawi					
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	MIDRMA Manager					

2. SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

- 2.1 The Seminar reiterated the benefits of RVSM implementation and underlined the need for RVSM implementation within Baghdad FIR.
- 2.2 The Seminar recalled ICAO Annex 6, Annex 11 and Doc 9574 (RVSM Manual) provisions related to RVSM safety assessment and in particular monitoring of height-keeping performance.
- 2.3 The Seminar reiterated that the introduction and continued safe use of RVSM in a portion of airspace is said to be "safe" if the risk of midair collision meets the agreed Target Level of Safety (TLS). The Technical Risk or Risk associated with height-keeping performance should not exceed 2.5×10^{-9} fatal accidents per flight hour and the Overall Risk due to all causes should not exceed 5×10^{-9} fatal accidents per flight hour.
- 2.4 The Seminar noted that aircraft height-keeping performance is function of performance of aircraft altimetry and altitude-keeping systems. Such performance is assessed through the results of height-keeping performance monitoring.
- 2.5 The responsibilities of the RPG, the RMA and States/ATC with regard to RVSM implementation and continued operation were highlighted. The need for States to report required data to the RMA on regular basis and in a timely manner was particularly underlined.
- 2.6 The main causes of Altitude Deviations/Level Busts were presented. The Seminar recognized that the level of reporting of Altitude Deviation Reports (ADRs), which contributes to the assessment of the overall risk, is very low and does not reflect the reality.
- 2.7 The Seminar recognized that the quality of data reported by States to the RMA has a direct impact on the quality of the risk assessment. A good estimation of the risk could not be achieved without high-quality data. In this regard, it was recommended that States put in place a formal mechanism for the reporting of ADRs and CFRs, with appropriate procedures and forms and a continuous monitoring, if it's not already done as part of SMS implementation.
- 2.8 The Seminar was briefed about the MIDRMA Project and the MIDRMA activities and difficulties.
- 2.9 Some global issues related to the RMAs were presented especially the lack of reporting of required data by States and the lack of expertise to perform safety assessment.
- 2.10 The need for global coordination was highlighted. In this regard, it was recognized that the RMA coordination Group, meeting once a year, represent a good mechanism to ensure successful coordination.
- 2.11 The need for a suitable monitoring infrastructure was highlighted. In this regard, the advantages and drawbacks of ground-based systems (Height Monitoring Units (HMU) and Aircraft Geometric Height Measurement Element (AGHME)) and air portable GPS Monitoring Units (GMU or enhanced GMU (EGMU)) were noted. The Seminar was also informed that Research and Development is currently being carried out in Australia and USA for the use of ADS-B for height-keeping monitoring.
- 2.12 The Seminar was apprised of the European method of monitoring aircraft using HMU infrastructure as well as the European Safety Assessment Methodology.

- 2.13 It was highlighted that the height-keeping monitoring could not be carried out without RVSM approval, since the aircraft need to enter the RVSM airspace in order to be monitored. In this regard, it was recommended that Temporary approvals be granted to the aircraft/operator until the height-keeping monitoring results could be obtained.
- 2.14 The Seminar noted the causes and effects of Altimetry System Errors (ASE), how ASE is detected and how problems are solved. In this respect, it was highlighted that:
 - Airworthiness Authorities should ensure that adequate RVSM compliance checks are made:
 - a review of the compliance methods for non-standard configurations is needed:
 - Manufacturers should review inspection and maintenance procedures with regard to ASE; and
 - Operators should ensure that they react appropriately to RMA's ASE reports.
- 2.15 The three elements of the safety assessment process, as detailed in the ICAO Doc 9574, were presented:
 - Quantitative safety goal: Target Level of Safety (TLS);
 - Mathematical Model used to estimate risk (both Technical and Operational);
 and
 - Decision-making process using TLS and risk estimates.
- 2.16 The Seminar noted with interest the Research and Development (R&D) of the University of New South Wales, Australia related to Safety Web-Real Time RVSM Risk Monitoring/Assessment based mainly on FPL, radar and ADS-B data. The main steps for the estimation of the Technical Risk carried out by the RVSM Risk Assessment Software were presented, especially:
 - Passing Frequency;
 - Total Vertical Error (TVE);
 - Probability of vertical overlap Pz(1000); and
 - Probability of horizontal (lateral) overlap.
- 2.17 SAAB/COMBITECH presented their RADAC System which was lately purchased by the MIDRMA. RADAC is a Radar Data Acquisition and Analysis platform composed mainly of two modules: Radar Performance Analysis (RPA) and Passing Frequency System (PFS).
- 2.18 NOSS Collaborative made a presentation on Threat and Error Management (TEM) and Normal Operation Safety Survey (NOSS).
- 2.19 The importance of gathering stakeholders and providing forums for discussion of issues related to sustained RVSM safety assessment activity was highlighted.
- 2.20 The participants expressed their gratitude to ICAO, the MIDRMA and Bahrain CAA for organizing such an important Seminar. The feedback of the participants related to the evaluation of the Seminar is at **Attachment B.**



International Civil Aviation Organization

MID RVSM Safety Assessment Seminar

(Bahrain, 22-24 February 2010)

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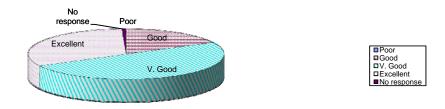
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MID RVSM SAFETY ASSESSMENT SEMINAR EVALUATION

Questions	Po	Poor Good		od	V. Good		Excellent		No response		Total
Questions	Nbr	%	Nbr	%	Nbr	%	Nbr	%	Nbr	%	
Seminar Preparation	0	0.0	4	11.8	18	52.9	12	35.3	0	0.0	34
Admin. Arrangements	0	0.0	2	5.9	12	35.3	20	58.8	0	0.0	34
Tech. Preparation	0	0.0	7	20.6	14	41.2	13	38.2	0	0.0	34
Topics adressed	0	0.0	6	17.6	23	67.6	5	14.7	0	0.0	34
Presentations	0	0.0	6	17.6	19	55.9	8	23.5	1	2.9	34
Discussions	0	0.0	16	47.1	14	41.2	4	11.8	0	0.0	34
Timing/scheduling	0	0.0	7	20.6	17	50.0	9	26.5	1	2.9	34
Moderator/secretariat services	0	0.0	2	5.9	16	47.1	16	47.1	0	0.0	34
Seminar outcome/Overall Succes	0	0.0	3	8.8	20	58.8	11	32.4	0	0.0	34
AVERAGE (%)		0.0		17.3		50.0		32.0		0.7	

Poor Good V. Good Excellent No response 0 17.3 50 32 0.7

MID RVSM Safety AssessmentSeminar Overall Evaluation



MID RVSM Safety Assessment Seminar Evaluation

