



# ICAO

International Civil Aviation Organization  
North American, Central American and Caribbean Office

## Global Aeronautical Distress and Safety System (GADSS) Virtual Workshop

On-line, 8 to 10 February 2022

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### Summary of Discussions

<b>Date</b>	8 to 10 February 2022
<b>Location</b>	On-line
<b>Opening Ceremony</b>	The Workshop was attended by 122 delegates from 23 States/Territories and four International Organizations from the NAM/CAR Regions. The list of participants is shown in <b>Attachment A</b> .

### References

- Annex 6 — Operation of Aircraft, Part I — International Commercial Air Transport — Aeroplanes
- Annex 11 – Air Traffic Services
- Annex 12 – Search and Rescue
- Doc 9731 - International Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue Manual
- Doc10054 - Manual on Location of Aircraft in Distress and Flight Recorder Data Recovery
- YouTube - SkyTalks: A40 SkyTalks: Global Aeronautical Distress and Safety System (GADSS) Implementation support tools
- Cospas-Sarsat documentation, Rescue Coordination Centre (RCC) and SAR Point of Contact (SPOC) Handbook and videos.

### Objectives

- Provide information regarding the Global Aeronautical Distress and Safety System (GADSS) and the new requirements for aircraft Autonomous Distress Tracking (ADT).
- Explain roles and responsibilities of Air Operators, Air Traffic Service Units and Rescue Coordination Centres in the GADSS.
- Raise awareness of the possibility that changes in operational procedures may need to be considered as a result of GADSS implementation.

## 1. Introduction

1.1 The GADSS was established to mitigate challenges in the global air navigation system regarding the timely identification and localization of aircrafts in distress. The GADSS provides an effective

and globally consistent approach to enhancing the alerting procedures of search and rescue services by addressing a number of key improvement areas.

1.2 Under the GADSS, certain newly certificated large commercial aircraft will be required to carry ADT equipment starting 1 January 2023. For the GADSS to function as intended, flight crew and aircraft operators, air traffic controllers and Air Navigation Services Providers (ANSP), ADT service providers, and RCCs shall understand each others' roles, responsibilities and processes to ensure effective communication, robust coordination and harmonized implementation across the globe.

1.3 This workshop was organized in order to provide information about the GADSS, raise awareness with key stakeholders in the Region regarding the operation of the system and possible changes in the operational procedures.

1.4 The workshop was supported by:

- ICAO Airspace Management and Optimization Section;
- United States Coast Guard (USCG);
- United States Mission Control Center (USMCC);
- USMCC/RCC; and
- Central American Corporation for Air Navigation Services (COCESNA).

## **2. Workshop Schedule and Activities**

2.1 The workshop webpage is located at:

<https://www.icao.int/NACC/Pages/meetings-2022-gadss.aspx>

## **3. Outcomes/Recommendations**

3.1 ICAO to provide additional information regarding the technical specifications of systems, different types of devices and activation procedures.

3.2 ICAO to ensure written guidance for GADSS is available, in order to assist States in developing their internal procedures.

3.3 ICAO to provide additional information regarding the technical specifications and operational procedures of the Location of an aircraft in distress repository (LADR)

3.4 Gather information regarding future plans for implementation on aircraft built prior to 2023.

3.5 ICAO to provide additional information regarding possible amendments to Annex 11.

3.6 States to ensure development of common national and regional procedures and practices among the three primary stakeholders of aircraft operators, air traffic services and rescue coordination centres (both aeronautical and maritime, as appropriate) for efficient handling of ADT notifications.

## **4. Accomplishments**

4.1 In the course of the workshop, Participants had been delivered:

- a. an overview of GADSS requirements and functioning;
- b. an overview of ADT requirements and functioning.;
- c. an overview of the COSPAS-SARSAT system and interaction with GADSS;
- d. a description of the Location of an Aircraft in Distress Repository (LADR) and the Operations Control Directory (OPS CTRL);
- e. a description of the step-by-step processing of an Emergency locator transmitter-Distress Tracking (ELT-DT) Alert;
- f. an outline of the roles of the aircraft operators and air navigation service provides in the GADSS; and
- g. information regarding the role of the RCC role and procedures in the GADSS.

4.2 The workshop closed with a request that participants utilize the information provided to ensure development, where necessary, of common national and regional procedures among the three primary stakeholders (aircraft operators, ANSPs and RCCs, both aeronautical and maritime) for efficient handling of information received from ADT systems.

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North American, Central American and Caribbean Office (NACC)  
Oficina para Norteamérica, Centroamérica y Caribe (NACC)

**Global Aeronautical Distress and Safety System Virtual Workshop /  
Taller virtual sobre Sistema Mundial de Socorro y Seguridad Operacional  
(GADSS)**

Online, 8 to 10 February 2022 / En línea, 8 al 10 de febrero de 2022

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