



Austro Control joins COOPANS

ATC, Amsterdam, 9 March 2010 - Austro Control has become the fifth member of the COOPANS association, joining the Irish Aviation Authority, the LFV Group (Sweden), Naviair (Denmark) and Air Traffic Management (ATM) system supplier Thales.

COOPANS is a cooperative agreement between ANSPs (Air Navigation Service Providers) and industry whose purpose is to harmonise the existing Thales's EUROCAT ATM systems and to agree, reduce and share the costs of further system upgrades.

The first of these systems upgrades is due to go live in the IAA, Naviair and LFV Group in 2011 and in Austro Control in 2013. The COOPANS association will provide each ANSP with savings of approximately 30% compared to each ANSP performing the necessary evolution on an individual basis. Also, the risks associated with the introduction of completely new ATM systems are reduced through this new incremental approach.

The COOPANS agreement also caters for any essential requirements necessitated by the Single European Sky initiative. It demonstrates the intent of IAA, Naviair, the LFV Group and Austro Control to collaborate with each other and the manufacturing industry in a way which will bring real benefits to airlines whilst embracing the spirit of the Single European Sky move towards interoperability and harmonised ATM systems.

About Thales

Thales is a global technology leader for the Aerospace and Space, Defence, Security and Transportation markets. In 2009, the company generated revenues of 12.9 billion euros with 68,000 employees in 50 countries. With its 25,000 engineers and researchers, Thales has a unique capability to design, develop and deploy equipment, systems and services that meet the most complex security requirements. Thales has an exceptional international footprint, with operations around the world working with customers as local partners. www.thalesgroup.com

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