



Operations

FABEC and SW FAB intensify operational cooperation

18 July 2016;- At the end of June, operational representatives from the South-West FAB and the FAB Europe Central set up a close cooperation which will benefit the European network concerning capacity and flight efficiency. Both short and medium term measures were addressed and appropriate actions taken on improvements concerning the operational interface, the upcoming implementation of the ERATO system in Bordeaux, the connectivity of free route airspace and the implementation of Extended Arrival Management. The Network Manager has been informed accordingly and will support this InterFAB initiative.

The first step is to address the operational interface between the ACCs of Barcelona and Bordeaux to improve the throughput and reduce delays. Taking into consideration the significant network effect, the focus will be broadened including the ACCs of Bordeaux, Brest, Barcelona and Madrid. This is based on an excellent collaboration between Madrid and Bordeaux ACC as part of the BAMB/ESSO project which will permit to improve the interface between both airspaces with an agreed implementation date of Autumn 2017. Extended collaboration was already considered with Barcelona and Lisbon as part of the network effect for the benefit of airline operators.

A special focus has been put on the system implementation of ERATO in Bordeaux in late autumn 2016 impacting the traffic flows within SW FAB and FABEC, including French, Spanish and Portuguese airspace. Work on concrete measures has already started and all the involved parties are directing their efforts towards these. DSNA, ENAIRE and NAV Portugal have agreed to work closely together to minimise the impact on airspace users trying to plan the most optimum re-routing options at a network level. Consequently, the important role that DNM plays in this regard has been recognised and close cooperation will be the means to achieve the best possible results.



Regarding Free Route Airspace implementation, it has been decided to firmly commit to the extension of the SW FAB FRA concept into FABEC airspace and thus allow airspace users to fly more direct routes, independent of FAB and national boundaries. A task force between DSNA, ENAIRE and NAV Portugal will first analyse long range direct routes through the airspace of Lisbon, Madrid and Brest ACC to best serve the currently crowded Europe SW Axis. Due to the strong interrelationship with planned Casablanca FRA concept and the large volume of airspace affected, DNM has been invited to support this important Europe-wide project.

Finally, FABEC and SW FAB will analyse a possible cooperation in XMAN implementation.

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