



PRESS RELEASE

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North European industries contribute to the future of European air traffic management

NATMIG AS, the North European ATM Industry Group, is part of the European public-private partnership SESAR, the Single European Sky ATM Research Programme, which aims at developing greener, safer, more efficient and economical solutions for air traffic management. The project contracts were signed during a ceremony in Brussels today.

NATMIG AS was founded in 2007 by four of the leading North European industries involved in air traffic management solutions; Airtel ATN of Ireland, Northrop Grumman Park Air Systems of Norway, Saab of Sweden and SINTEF of Norway, with the purpose to create a stakeholder with a body big enough to participate in the pan-European public-private partnership SESAR. NATMIG, owned by 25 percent each of the industries involved, will run projects valued at €36 million that addresses all of the goals within SESAR; increasing the air traffic capacity, improving safety, reducing the environmental impact and cut the costs. The current contracted value for all of SESAR is €1.9 billions of a total budget of €2.1 billion.

The SESAR programme and its goals

The 16 members of SESAR will focus on the need for new, modern air traffic management systems that can ensure the safety and flexibility of air transport over the next 30 years. The goal is to enable a threefold increase in capacity while at the same time improving safety by a factor of 10, reducing the environmental impact per flight by 10 percent, and cut the costs for air traffic management by 50 percent. The first phase of the programme runs until 2016, with the new solutions implemented progressively as they take form.

The Stockholm-Brussels example

Considering the ambition and goals of SESAR, a modernized air traffic management infrastructure can result in:

- an expected time gain of between 12 and 20 minutes
- fuel savings of between 435 and 725 kilo
- a reduction of between 1370 and 2283 kilo in CO₂ emission.

The Nordic approach

“NATMIG, with four of the leading North European companies within air traffic management solutions, will provide its cutting edge technology and high skilled competence to SESAR and be part of the development of the future European air traffic management solutions. NATMIG also brings the high Nordic environmental awareness into SESAR, as well as making sure that regional requirements and challenges particularly valid to the Nordic area are taken into consideration,” says Aage Thunem, Executive Vice President SINTEF and Chairman of the Board of NATMIG AS.

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