

ATMAC Requirements and Planning Work Group
Airspace Working Group Sub-Group (AWG-SG)
TERMS OF REFERENCE

ASSUMPTIONS:

The NAS is rapidly evolving from traditional ground based navigation, ground based surveillance, and voice communications to a performance based navigation, surveillance and communications system. Flight operations are also evolving from a traditional mix of manned, fixed wing aircraft to an environment with legacy operations along with increasing numbers of heavy jets, larger regional jets, new fleets of Very Light Jets, Unmanned Aircraft Systems, space vehicles and other vehicles not yet developed. The future airspace system must accommodate the new technologies and the operating business models of a greater number of diverse customers.

OBJECTIVE:

- 1) This sub-group will develop strategic recommendations on operational components of the nation's future airspace, including traffic flow management's relationship to airspace management and day-to-day air traffic control. The sub-group will serve as a forum to identify operational redesign goals, define success measurements, and ensure customer feedback on decisions concerning airspace design, management and usage policy. This effort will engage aviation users and operational stakeholders on a regular basis, producing a consensus view of operational airspace priorities.
- 2) The sub-group will also produce recommendations on developing a more coordinated effort between industry and the military on the creation of and dynamic use of Special Use Airspace (SUA). The sub-group will continue to support operational evaluations of the information sharing techniques and procedures to improve access to SUA on a real time basis by all NAS customers.

ORGANIZATION & OPERATION:

- 1) Sub-group Co-Chairman: One representative from the airline community and one from the general aviation community will co-chair the sub-group.
- 2) Proposed membership: Operational representatives from airlines, NBAA, RAA, ATA, AOPA, ALPA, Military, MITRE-CAASD. Aside from designated members of the Sub-group, meetings are limited to the users of the national airspace system, other appropriate FAA personnel who have knowledge of agenda topics and interested parties from the aviation and aviation OEM community. While attendance at the meetings is limited to the designated members from organizations listed in this paragraph, others may be invited for specific issues but their attendance is limited to that discussion. Anyone else desiring to attend a meeting should give their notice through one of the designated members of the sub-group.

3) Organization:

- Regional groups:
 - These groups will follow the operating practices of RTCA and the AWG Sub-Group. The working group will update progress, meeting dates, and changes to working group organization at national group meetings. Groups supporting the national sub-group will be required to work with appropriate local FAA representatives, as well as appropriate national facility personnel in order to conduct local meetings. Specific Regional Groups are: North East and Atlantic, South East/Mid West, South West and Gulf, North Central, and Western and Pacific.
- Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) group:
 - The UAS sub-group is composed of representatives from current operating members of the NAS, FAA and MITRE subject matter experts. This group is tasked with complimenting the work of RTCA SC-203 by developing recommendations for operational procedures to allow limited, short term UAS operations in the NAS, on a non-interfering basis, and (2) developing recommendations, if necessary, for long term operational procedures that will fully integrate UAS operations into the NAS after full FAA certification of UAS's.

4) MITRE CAASD will provide the national and regional sub-groups with professional expertise and technical research support.

DELIVERABLES:

1. Comments on FAA's Airspace Management Program, and Regional Work Group initiatives (provided as appropriate, at least once annually starting2nd Qtr 07
2. Report out on Integration of UAS's into NAS Operations.....4th Qtr 07
3. Report out on "Airspace on Demand" Concept3rd Qtr 07
4. White Paper on integration and use of "Alternate Approach Procedures" in the NAS4th Qtr 07