

**57th CONFERENCE OF
DIRECTORS GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION
ASIA AND PACIFIC REGIONS**

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AGENDA ITEM 4: AIR NAVIGATION

**THE ROADMAP FOR THE PLANNING AND
IMPLEMENTATION OF DATA-LINK AIR TRAFFIC
CONTROL SERVICES FOR ALL FLIGHT PHASES TO BE
PUBLISHED BY CHINA CIVIL AVIATION**

Presented by the People's Republic of China

INFORMATION PAPER

SUMMARY

The Roadmap for the Planning and Implementation of China's Civil Aviation Data-link Air Traffic Control (ATC) Services for All Flight Phases is scheduled to be officially published in 2022. On the basis of ICAO ASBU's development planning for technical leads of COMI and COMS, this roadmap will gradually provide services on all flight phases Data-link Air Traffic Control instructions, information and emergency communication by referring to the published EU regulations and the FAA published Air/Ground Data Comm Services Roadmap and their application experience, combining the development needs of Data-link Air Traffic Control Services of China civil aviation and taking into account the current situations on and future development plans for avionic systems, air-ground data-link communication network and ATC information systems ,thereby promoting the development and building of ATM which is characterized by safety, efficiency, intelligence and collaboration and the "smart civil aviation".

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TRAFFIC CONTROL SERVICES FOR ALL FLIGHT PHASES TO BE PUBLISHED
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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 CAAC has started research on and application of Data-link Air Traffic Control (ATC) Services since 2000. Currently, it provides services of CPDLC and ADS-C which are based on FANS 1/A on air routes such as L888, DCL and D-ATIS services at more than 50 major airports in China and D-VOLMET services in the whole airspace. The wide application of the above services in China civil aviation has effectively reduced the probability of misunderstandings, errors and control frequency congestion concerning voice control services and decreased the working hours used for repeated announcements by controllers and retelling and transcribing by pilots, thus improving the availability, flexibility and emergency response of ATC services.

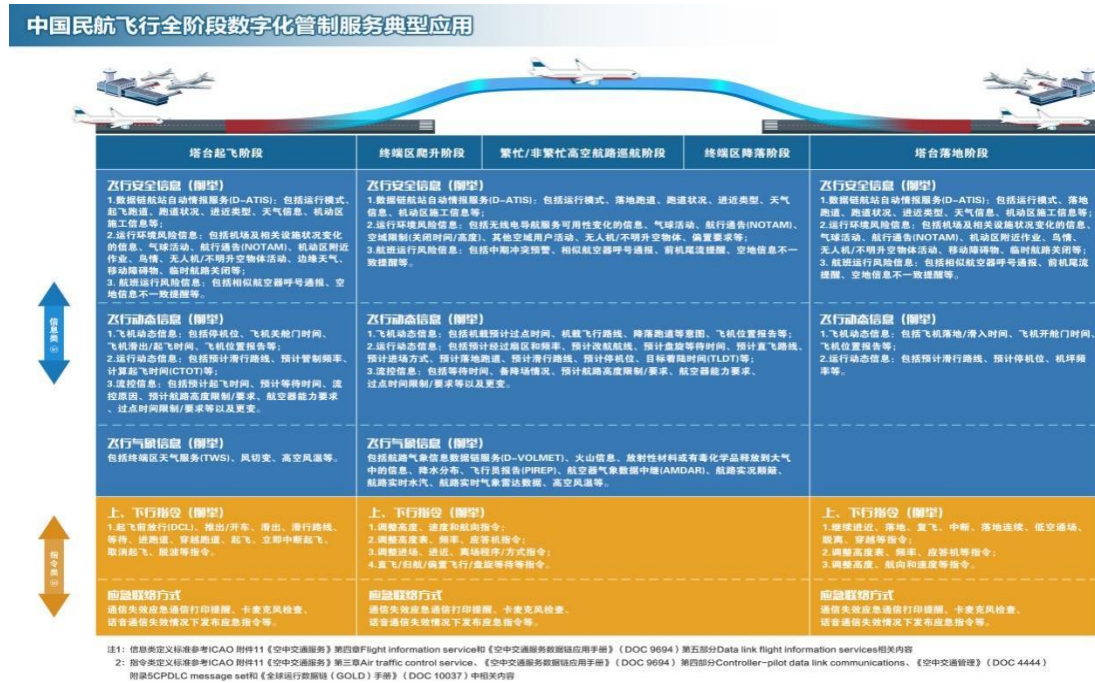
1.2 China civil aviation successfully carried out the first i4D flight test in the Asia & Pacific region in 2019, and successfully launched the pilot work of digital emergency communication and information service based on ACARS ATS protocol in Zhengzhou Control Zone in 2021, which both achieved fruitful results.

1.3 With respect to the application capacity of data-link ATS application avionics systems of passenger aircraft with over 99 seats in China civil aviation, 99% supports the ACARS ATS protocol and 25% the FANS 1/A protocol. Regarding the communication capacity of the Air/Ground data-link avionics systems of the above-mentioned passenger aircraft, 100% supports ACARS and over 50% the VDL mode 2.

1.4 Concerning the network of Air/Ground data-link of China civil aviation, 222 ground stations have been built by the end of 2021, of which 146 possess the function of VDL mode 2. At present, the ACARS network covers the main airports and air routes across China and the VDL mode 2 network covers the main airports and the main air routes in central and eastern China.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 Data-link Air Traffic Control Services for All Flight Phases can be divided into Data-link Flight Information Services and ATC instruction Services. Data-link Flight Information Services include flight safety information (such as D-ATIS, NOTAM, etc.), flight dynamic information (such as CTOT, TLDT, etc.), flight meteorological information (such as D-VOLMET, TWS, etc.). And ATC Instruction Services contain Controller-Pilot Data-link Communication (CPDLC) and emergency communication (such as Microphone Check). In regard to application scenarios, we focus on phased development plans for five application areas: data-link substitution of ATC instruction, intelligent dissemination of ATC information, autonomous aircraft trajectory prediction and control interaction, automatic weather data collection and warning along air routes, and performance-based communication and surveillance evaluation.



2.2 The roadmap is divided into three phases of planning and implementation:

2.2.1 The short-term goal (from 2021 to 2025): fully tap the capacity of existing systems of China’s civil aviation, provide Data-link emergency communication and information services in major airspace and offer Data-link ATC instruction services in selected airspace as a complementary means of traditional voice ATC services.

2.2.2 The medium-term goal (from 2026 to 2030): upgrade avionics systems, Air/Ground data-link communication network and ATC information systems of China’s civil aviation, and integrate data-link with traditional voice ATC services in more airspace, taking into account operational requirements.

2.2.3 The long-term goal (after 2030): promote the mixed use of data-link ATC services which will play a leading role and traditional voice control services in an overall way on the basis of the capability of the new generation of Air/Ground data-link communication network and avionics systems, and achieve the application of All Flight Phases data-link ATC services covering the space, the sky and the ground and supporting application of TBO.

2.3 The roadmap contains phased plans for several areas such as the application of data-link ATC services, avionics systems, data-link communication service provider, ATC information systems and supporting operating specifications as so to facilitate implementation, and puts forward the corresponding access conditions.

In the near term, we will make full use of the capacity of existing avionics systems of China’s civil aviation, improve the coverage of the Air/Ground data-link communication network, establish the ATC information system, promote data-link emergency communication and information services on the basis of ACARS ATS protocol and pilot ATC instruction services based on FANS 1/A protocol. In the medium and long term, we will focus on transition of the Air/Ground data-link network from ACARS to ATN/IPS, with VDL mode 2 and secure satellite communication as the main development direction; and the data-link ATS application protocol will take ATS B2 as the ultimate development goal and support development of TBO technology in an all-round way.

3. ACTION BY THE CONFERENCE

3.1 The Conference is invited to note the information contained in this Paper.