

AERONAUTICAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORK PANEL

ATN Internet Working Group (WG2)

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**ATN Compliant Communications - European Strategy Study
(ACCESS)**

A Project Summary

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Summary

NATS, STNA and the DFS are participating in the ACCESS project which is addressing the implementation of the ATN in (a selected part of) Europe. This paper briefly introduces the ACCESS Project, summarising its objectives, study items and status.

1. Introduction.

- 1.1 The ACCESS Project is a European Commission co-funded project formally titled "ATN Implementation Feasibility Studies". It is ATM Task UK/96/94 under the Trans-European Networks - Transport (TEN-T) programme, managed by DG VII within the Commission.
- 1.2 The project objectives are:
- Development of (ATN) Architecture
 - Implementation Plan in European Core Area in conjunction with EUROCONTROL
 - Interoperability Trials between States of ATN Compliant Message Handling Services
- 1.3 The study partners are:
- National Air Traffic Services Ltd (NATS)
 - Deutsche Flugsicherung GmbH (DFS)
 - Service Technique de la Navigation Aérienne (STNA)
- 1.4 The ACCESS Project is also coordinating with the EUROCONTROL EATCHIP ATN Implementation Task Force. ACCESS deliverables are submitted to the ATNI-TF for incorporation into their work programme

2. Project Work Breakdown

- 2.1 ACCESS has been broken down into three phases:
- Phase 1 - Project Scoping
 - Phase 2 - Study Tasks and Trials
 - Phase 3 - Final Report Preparation

The project scoping ended in March 1997 and Phase 2 is now in progress. Phase 2 itself has two distinct parts, ATN Implementation Tasks and ATSMHS Interoperability Trials. As WG2 is not concerned with applications, only the ATN Implementation Tasks are considered in this paper.

- 2.2 The ATN Implementation Task is further divided into three sequential sub-parts: Network Architecture, Network Implementation Issues and Transition Planning. The definition of Network Architecture is being worked on now. The work packages defined for three sub-parts are listed below, some of which have been completed already:

2.2.1 Network Architecture

WP201	Review of Current Communications Infrastructure
WP202	Definition of Area of Study and Services to be supported
WP203	Definition of Routing Architecture
WP204	Choice of Ground Sub-networks
WP205	Choice of Air/Ground Sub-networks
WP206	Definition of Addressing Plan
WP207	Performance Analysis and Dimensioning

There will be an interim project deliverable produced at the end of these work packages which will propose an ATN Infrastructure for the selected European Area (Portugal, Spain, France, Italy, Germany, Luxemborg, Belgium, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and Ireland). The proposed infrastructure will be scaleable and thus applicable to all of Europe and the interfaces with other Regions.

2.2.2 Network Implementation Issues

WP220	Third Party Service Provision
WP221	Operational Scenarios
WP222	Security Issues
WP223	Safety Assessment/Certification
WP224	Institutional Issues
WP225	Accommodation of FANS-1/A
WP226	Life Cycle Costs
WP227	System Management

The workpackages in this part of the ACCESS project aim to find workable solutions for some of the 'problems' that are perceived to hinder deployment of the ATN.

2.2.3 Transition Planning

WP240	Transition Planning
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This workpackage will propose a strategy for transition from the current European communications infrastructure to the proposed ATN Infrastructure.

2.3 Phase 3 - The Final Report

The Study Partners will produce a Final Report for the EC towards the end of 1998 which will summarise the work undertaken in both the ATN Implementation and ATSMHS parts of the project.

3. Current Status

3.1 Work Package 201 is complete.

The final version of WP202 has been submitted for closure.

Workpackages 203, 204 and 205 are approaching completion; these workpackages are seen as the most significant workpackages in the ATN Implementation part of ACCESS.

Workpackages 220 and 223 are about to be started.