

VERITAS, Associate Partner of the SESAR Joint Undertaking

On the 7th October 2011, VERITAS was officially accepted as an Associate Partner of the SESAR Joint Undertaking (SJU). VERITAS, a consortium composed of Think Research Limited, ISA Software Limited and AERTEC Solutions, has been recognised as a leader in the field of validating new Air Traffic Management (ATM) Operational Concepts and will form an integral element in the development phase of the SESAR project.

The SESAR (Single European Sky ATM Research) programme is one of the most ambitious research and development projects ever launched by the European Community. Facing a continual growth in aircraft and passenger numbers, the mission of the SJU is to develop a modernised Air Traffic Management system for Europe that will increase and enhance the safety and efficiency of air transport over the next thirty years. At the same time, SESAR will make flying more environmentally friendly and reduce the overall costs of providing and delivering a world-leading ATM system.

A significant element of the SESAR Development and Evaluation phase is to ensure that the new systems are 'fit-for-purpose' – i.e. that they will achieve the benefits claimed and needed. This 'Validation' process requires an extensive knowledge of both current and future ATM systems and also a specialist insight into how the validation activities are conducted. Through their selection of VERITAS, the SJU recognises the unique skills of our three companies and adds a team to SESAR with unequalled experience within the demanding field of ATM validation

Think Research, the VERITAS co-ordinator, brings a deep and extensive knowledge of operations across the ATM domain, encompassing current operational systems and implementations through to future systems and concepts. A deep understanding of ATM from both the customers' and users' point of view; a range of specialist skills based around ATM Validation, Human Factors and Safety; a deep insight in a wide-range of simulation methodologies; and unrivalled knowledge and experience of developing ATM Validation methods allows us to: Crystallise the task's Objectives; Simplify the Complexity of the Challenges; Apply Innovation in delivering a Solution.

AERTEC Solutions contributes their extensive and internationally recognised expertise in systems testing and their ability to provide hardware and software support for aeronautical systems. With their in-depth knowledge and experience of developing, installing and testing airport and aircraft systems, AERTEC brings a vast amount of technical knowledge and practical experience in ATM operations to the VERITAS team. AERTEC is now participating in the most important R&D programmes of the international aviation industry, SESAR and Clean Sky, demonstrating AERTEC's interest and awareness of Europe's future aviation concept.

ISA, a world renowned provider and developer of ATM validation tools, has been involved at the leading edge of ATM concept validation in both Europe and the USA for more than 15 years. Through ISA's ongoing validation work in support of the US Nextgen modernisation programme, its involvement in defining new ATM safety and emergent risk analysis processes, and now with the VERITAS SESAR validation team, the company offers a unique ability to contribute to future ATM concepts and validation across two of the largest ATM projects worldwide.

Together, our three companies represent the forefront of knowledge within Europe on ensuring that the future of European air travel meets the needs of the travelling public. Through working in close co-operation with SESAR and with the ATM infrastructure across Europe, VERITAS will help meet SESAR's goals and provide a better and successful European air transport system for tomorrow.