

LINK 2000+ Operational Focus Group (OFG)

Terms of Reference

Proposed Version 1.0

1. Scope

The LINK 2000+ Programme is co-ordinating the implementation of a number of air-ground data link services for ATM, in the period up to 2014, within the airspace of a number of European States. This will result in reductions in pilot and controller communications workload, which will provide an opportunity for increased airspace capacity, and reduced delays. The implementation of the Programme will require the completion of a wide range of activities by a number of stakeholders. These activities will be planned to enable implementation to be achieved in a safe and efficient manner.

Air Traffic Controllers and Aircrew will be the primary users of data link communication and should therefore be given an opportunity to influence the operational implementation aspects of the Programme. This involvement at the early stages of implementation will facilitate a smooth transition between current and future operations.

As experience with operational use of CPDLC is gained, new operational issues will be identified by implementers. The Programme requires that solutions are discussed within the stakeholder community and that some of the Programme deliverables are amended to ensure alignment with the operational reality.

2. Objective

The objective of the OFG is to perform operationally related tasks as advised by the LINK 2000+ Program Steering Group (PSG). Thus the OFG will provide direct input into the operational implementation process foreseen in the Programme.

3. Authority

The OFG reports to the LINK 2000+ PSG, whereas the Programme Manager and Operational Implementation Work Package Leader will ensure alignment and continuity with the rest of the programme activities.

4. Tasks

Within the scope of the tasks assigned by the Programme Manager to the Operational Implementation Work Package Leader the OFG will:

- a) Set objectives and support the work programme assigned to the Group

- b) Ensure close co-ordination with the LINK Integration Team (LIT)
- c) Provide regular progress reports to the PM
- e) Co-ordinate at a working level with other relevant EATM and EUROCONTROL activities as appropriate
- f) Co-ordinate at a working level with relevant organisations outside EUROCONTROL (e.g. ECAC, EC, FAA, ICAO, NATO, IATA, IFALPA and IFATCA) as appropriate
- g) Periodically review and update its work programme making recommendations to and seeking guidance from the PM

5. Work Programme

The OFG is charged with the following work programme:

- A) Produce and maintain the LINK 2000+ Operational Scenarios
 - Controller Operating Concepts
 - Aircrew Operating Concept
- B) Produce and maintain the LINK 2000+ ATC Procedures
- C) Contribute to LINK 2000+ Deployment Strategy and Transition Plans
- D) Provide support ANSPs and Airlines implementing datalink from an Operational perspective
- E) Review LINK2000+ Safety and Performance Requirements (SPR)
- F) Provide input to and review Controller training syllabus
- G) Provide input to and review HMI Guidelines
- H) Produce and maintain the Flight Crew Guidance Manual

6. Deliverable

The Group's expected deliverables are the following:

- Scenarios
- ATC Procedures Document
- Controller HMI Guidelines
- Flight Crew Guidance Manual
- Training Syllabus
- Transition Plans

7. Participants

Chairman : Mr Søren Dissing (EUROCONTROL, Unit DAS/ATS, x3446)

Secretary : Mr Willem Brondsema (EUROCONTROL, Unit DAS/ATS x5041)

Participants shall be appropriate Operational Experts, Controllers, Pilots, Human Factors Experts from ATSPs and regulatory authorities from those States committed to implementing data link communications within the framework of LINK 2000+ Programme. From the Eurocontrol Agency representatives from DAS/HUM, DAS/AFN, EEC, IANS and Maastricht UAC will also participate.

Representatives should have the expertise appropriate to the work programme and the status and authority to represent their organisations' views on these activities.