



# SESAR Showcase

A Conference & Exhibition of SESAR 1 Results

Amsterdam, 14-16 June 2016





# SESAR Virtual Centres

Towards ATM 2.0

Benoit Reder, DSNA

Richard Beaulieu, THALES AIR SYSTEMS

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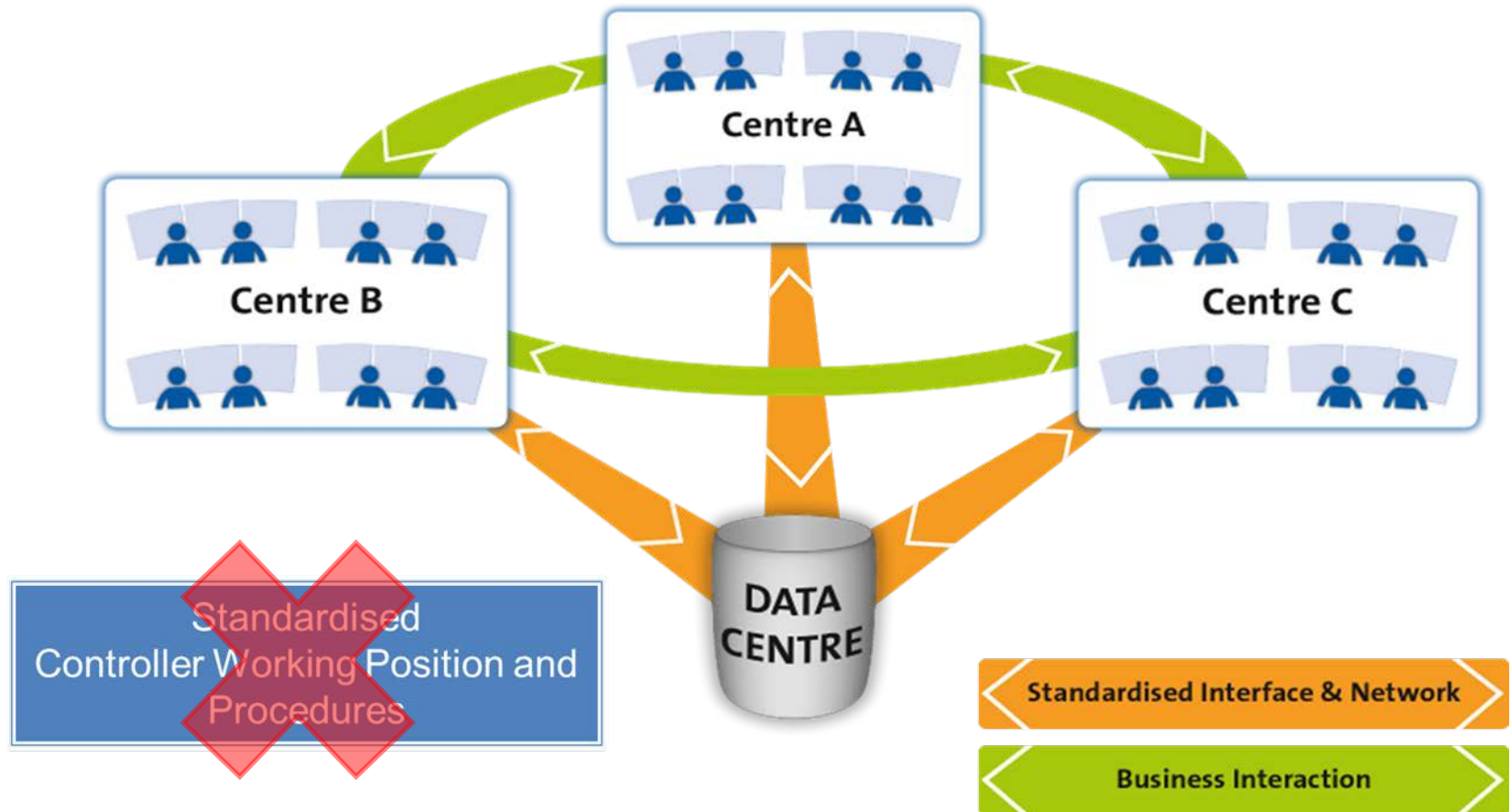
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# Why Virtual Centre Concept ?

- European ATM defragmentation
- Operational flexibility & resilience
- Technical enablers makes ATM 2.0 possible
  - SWIM
  - Remote towers
  - ... Virtual centres ?



# Initial Virtual Centre Concept



# Expected benefits

## ➤ Technical optimisation

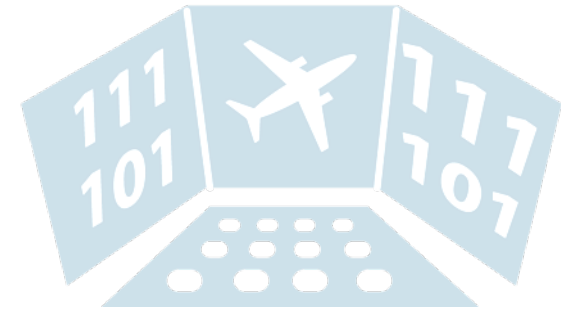
- Defragmentation of ATM systems
  - Standardised services
  - Shared service providers
- Harmonised ATM functionalities
- Agility and cost efficiency

## ➤ Operational efficiency

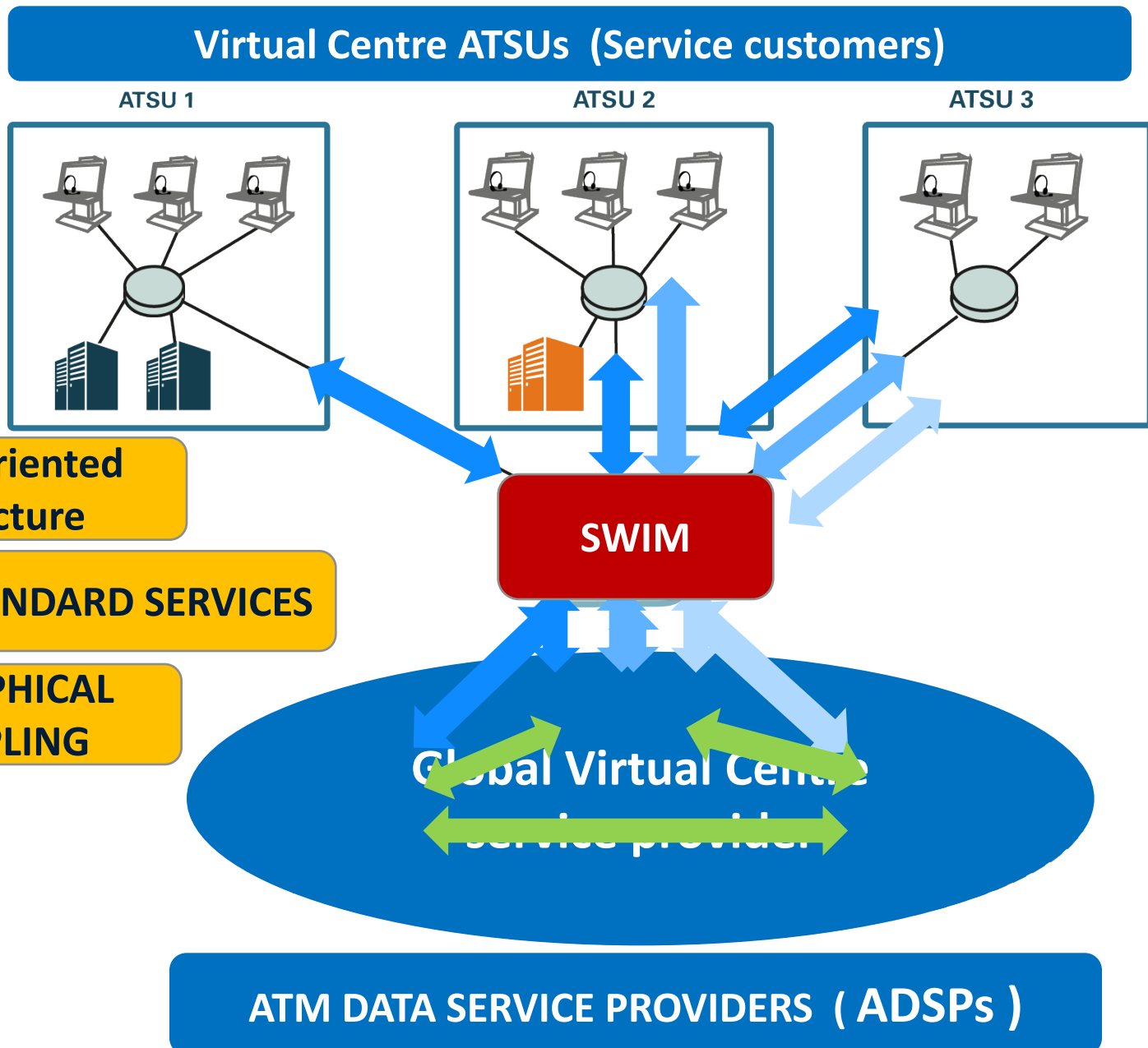
- Dynamic airspace allocation between ATSUs
  - Peak hours
  - Night closure of ATSUs
- Seamless cross-border for airspace users

## ➤ Contingency scenarios between ATSUs

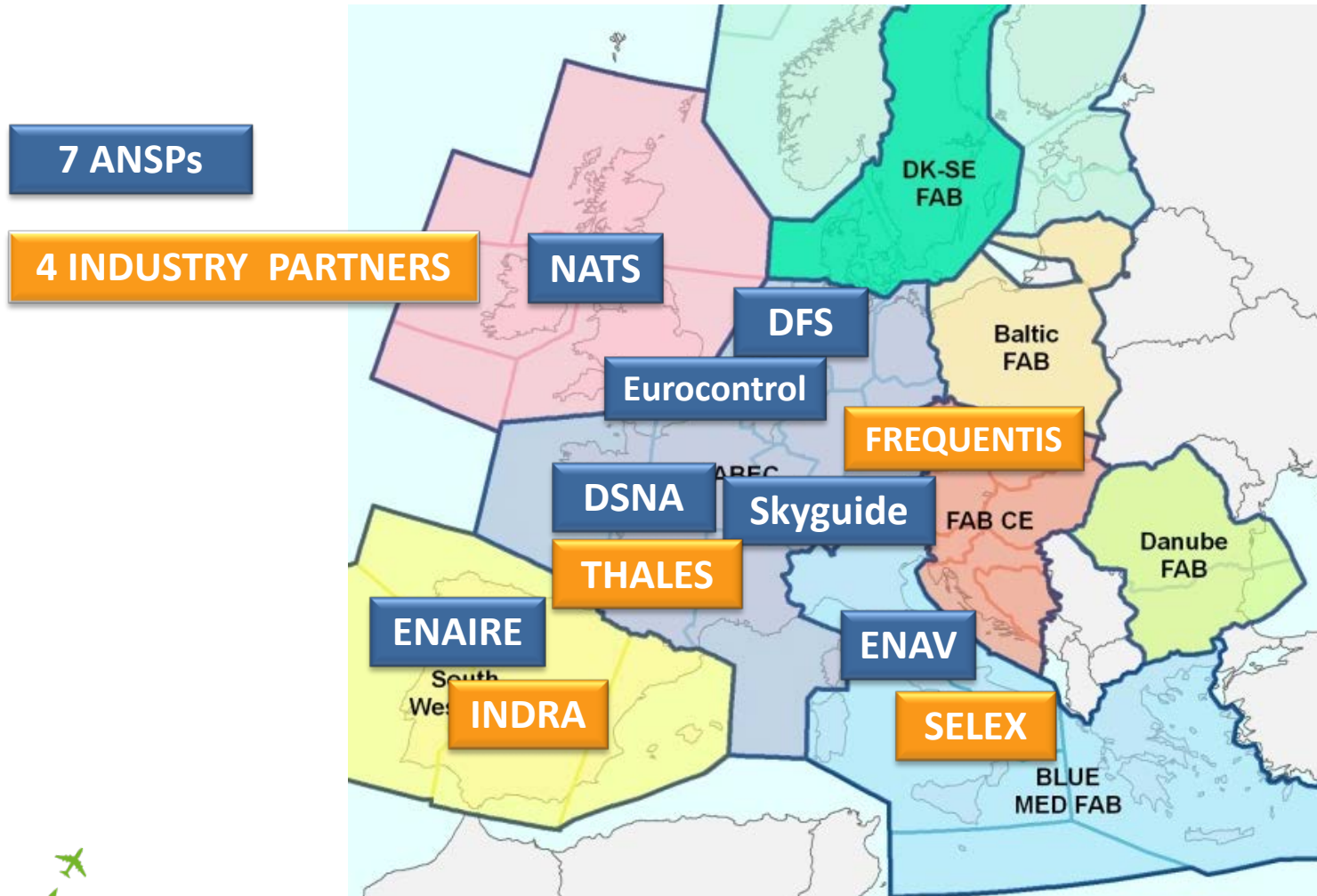
- Operational hazards
- Technical hazards



# SESAR Virtual Centre Concept - Principles



# SESAR Virtual Centre Concept - involved partners



[illegible]

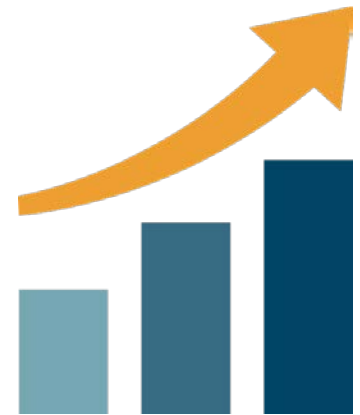


# CWP Service Design - major results

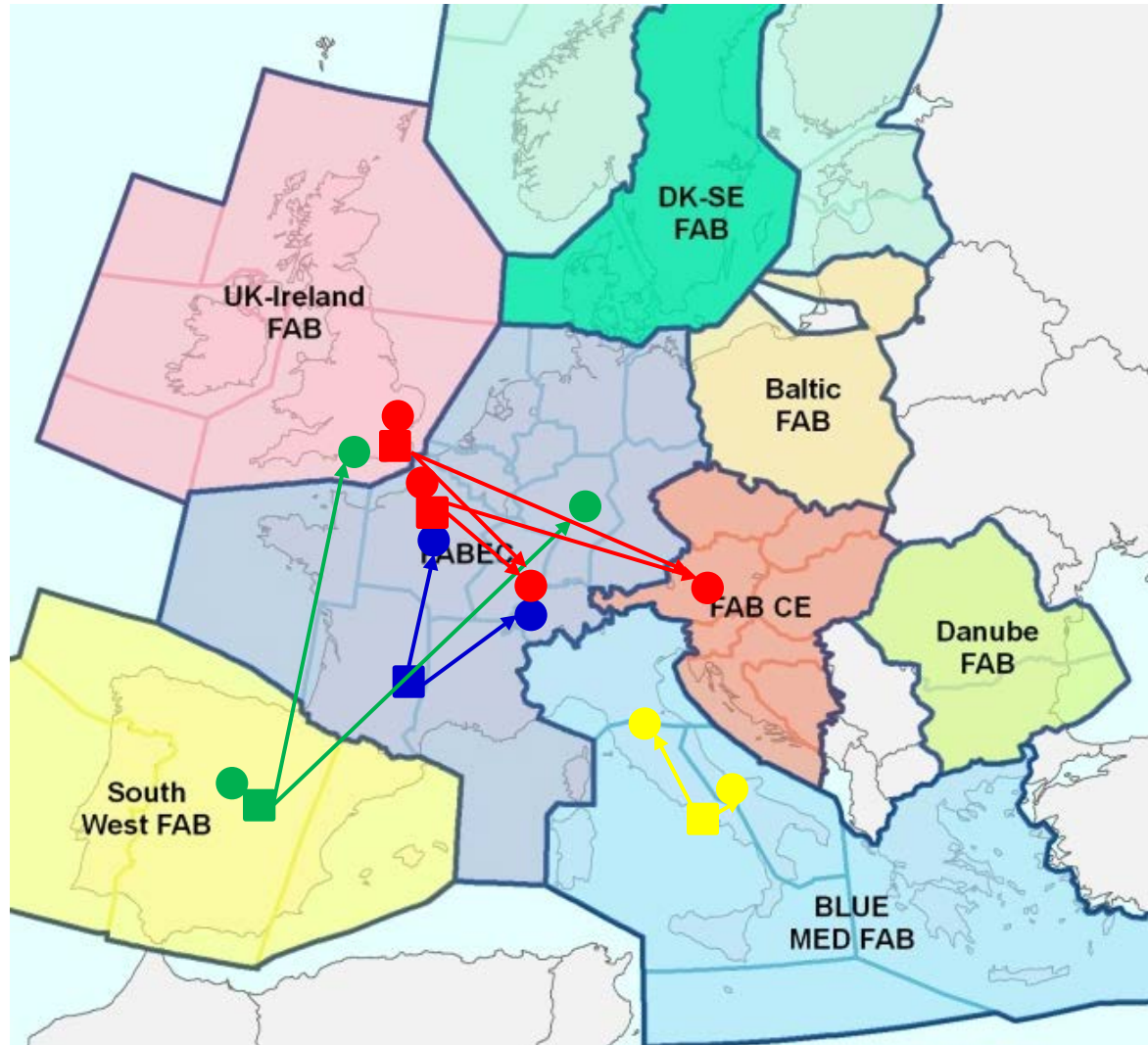
Scope limited to ATM services for CWP – EATMA framework

- **Common service architecture**
- **Common Service interfaces & operations**
- **Agreement on Core Data**
- **Identification of specific partner's Data**

- 90% of CWP functional service interfaces designed
- 50 to 80% of common agreed data

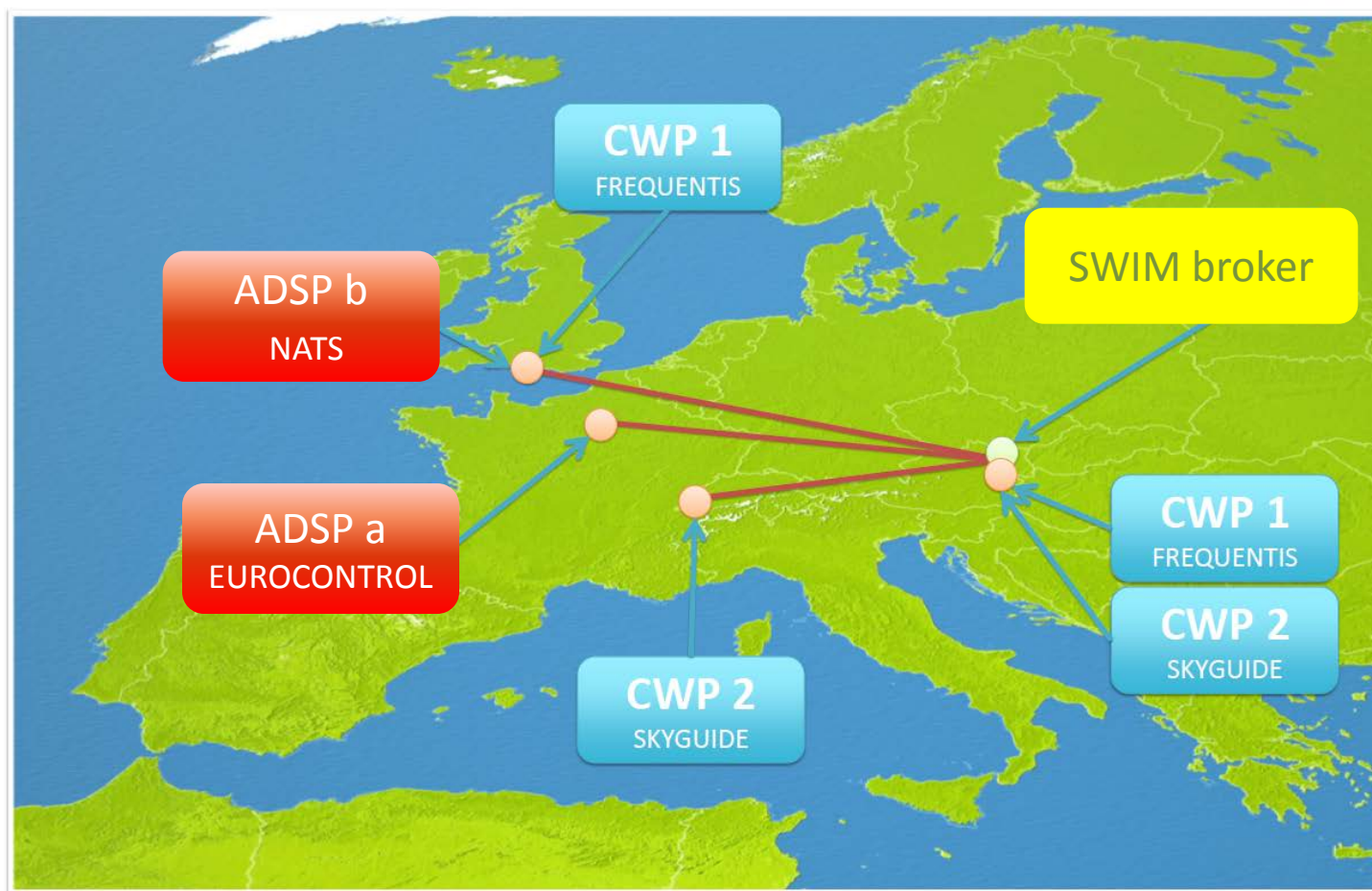


# Demonstration set-up: 4 Demo platforms



- 5 Service Providers
- 6 CWPs

# Demo #7 geographical decoupling



# Demonstration outcomes

Remote  
Usage

Service  
Orientation

Multi-vendors

Service  
provider  
independence

CWP provider  
independence



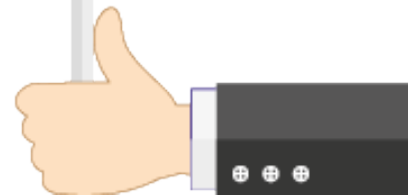
## Top results:

- CWP's Services meet the expectations
- Feasibility assessment of the concept is green

# Conclusion: achievements

## ➤ Main Principles for SESAR Virtual Centre Concept verified

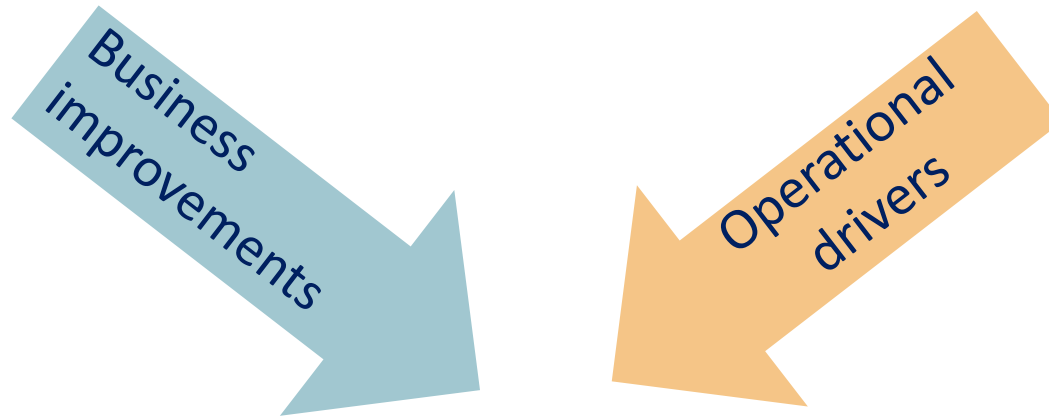
- Geographical decoupling
- Service Oriented Architecture
- Standardisable services
- Integration in SESAR framework
- Successful demonstrations with
  - 5 service providers
  - 6 CWP's



**Feasibility of Virtual Centre Concept positively assessed**



# What's next before implementation ?



Scope Extension: Voice, TWR, ATFCM, ASM, METEO  
Impact study on overall architecture



# Activities from 2016/2017



Business  
improvements

ANSPs needs Business Oriented  
modelling

Operational drivers

New operational scenarios dedicate to VC  
Required performance  
Identification of main challenges

Technical solutions

Global design including SWIM technology  
Services roadmap  
Continuity of services modelling

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# Thank you for your attention

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# Project **CLAIRE**

*Civil **A**irspace **I**ntegration of **R**PAS in  
**E**urope*

Neil Watson (Thales)

Mark Watson (NATS)

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# RPAS Airspace Integration

## SESAR Demonstration Programme

### Objectives

- To operate RPAS\* in non-segregated civil airspace & demonstrate appropriate ATM procedures
- To undertake flights using a certified unmanned platform operating within existing airways structure
- Develop a Safety Case for the RPAS platform, as well as occupancy of airway, approved by the regulator

### Validation approach

- Simulation exercises used to identify best practice, validate procedures & de-risk RPAS flight trials



# Methodology & key events

## Simulation Exercise 1a - Amsterdam NL

*RPAS Ground Operations & Controlled Local / Terminal Airspace (Normal/Contingency)*

## Simulation Exercise 1b – Amsterdam NL

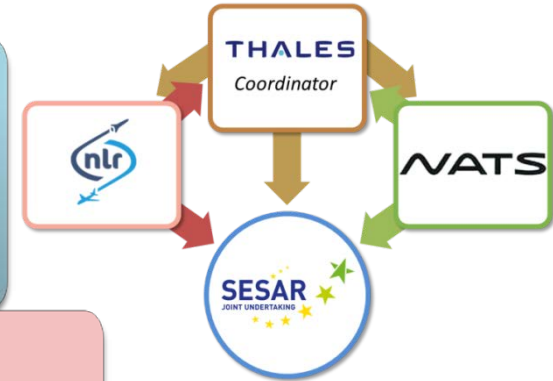
*Increased fidelity & introduction of IFR\* traffic in Terminal Manoeuvring Area*

## Simulation Exercise 2 – Whiteley UK

*ATM Procedures for RPAS Operations in Controlled Airspace & Contingency Mgt.*

## RPAS flight Exercise - West Wales Airport

*Validation flight exercises in existing airways structure using RPAS & ATC Sector Ctrl.*



Regulator & Stakeholder Workshops

Final Demonstration Report

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\*IFR – Instrument Flight Rules



# Platform & trials location

## Watchkeeper

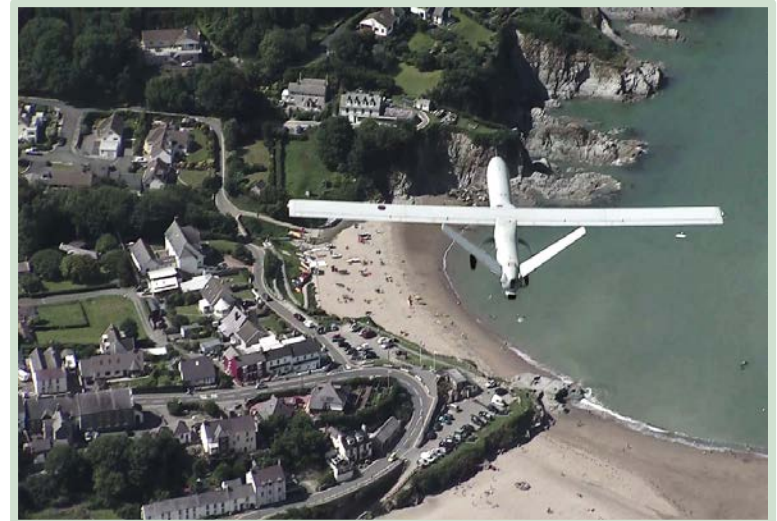
- Certified Platform
- Release to Service (RtS) 2014

## Flight Performance

- Endurance: 16-20 hours
- Ceiling: 16,000ft
- Typical Transit Speed: 60-70kts
- Weight: circa 450kg

## West Wales Airport

- Danger Area & Airway



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\*MFTP – Military Flight Test Permit

# Exercise 1 – Airport & TMA operations

Demonstrate RPAS operations in an airport and terminal airspace environment with mixed traffic

- Mid-sized airport, single runway, light/medium traffic

Scenarios including

- IFR & VFR operations
- Descent into TMA and guidance towards final approach
- Take-off and departure
- Missed approach
- Loss of datalinks; comms; transponder
- Emergencies



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# Exercise 2 – En-route operations

Simulate RPAS flight in non-segregated airspace

Purpose: Verify ATM procedures and identify unexpected behaviours

## Normal & Contingency Ops

- Loss of link
- Comms failure
- SSR Transponder failure
- Engine failure
- Control problems
- Weather/traffic related issues



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# Exercise 2 – ATM safety assurance of demonstration flights

Temporary Operating Instructions to supplement standard ATC procedures

Informed by

- RPAS performance & contingency behaviour
    - Comms back-up by telephone
    - Lost Link Routes & Emergency Recovery Locations
  - Non-compliance with Rules of the Air
- Procedures tested in NATS simulators

Approved after formal safety assessment



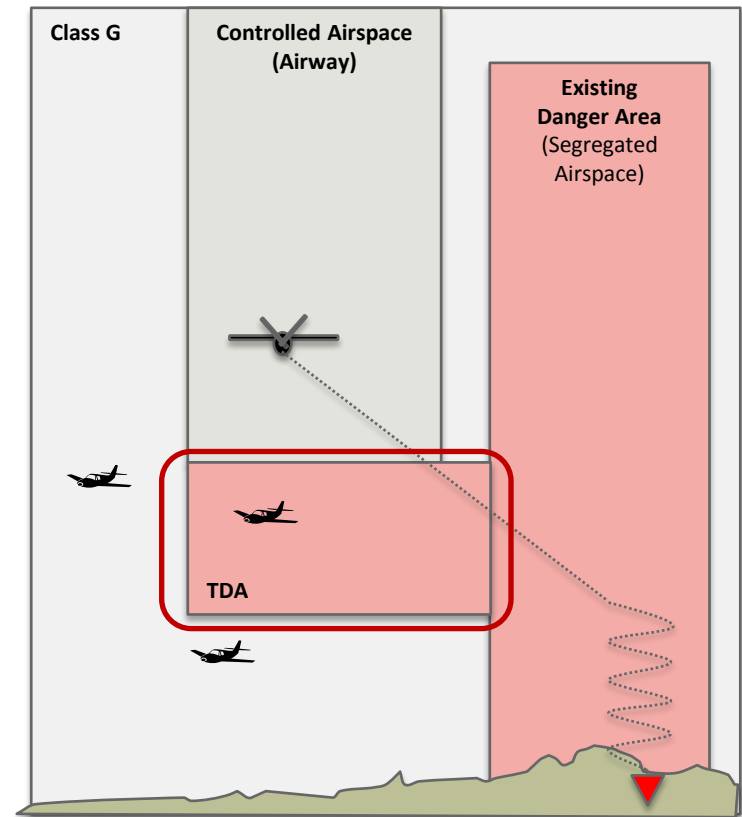
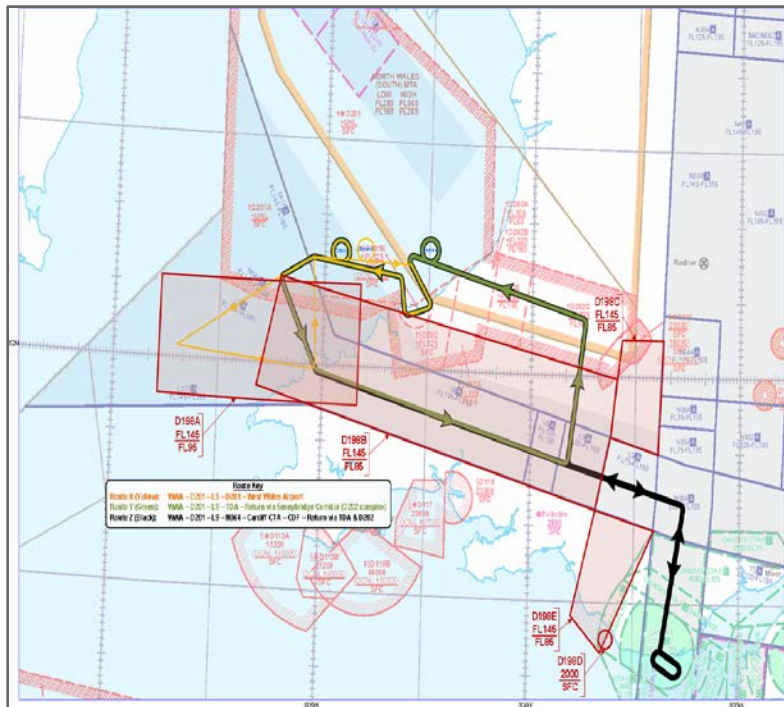


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# Temporary Danger Areas

- No RPAS flight allowed in non-segregated Class G airspace due to lack of certified detect & avoid capability
- TDAs created below airway e.g. in the event of an engine failure



# Live flight trial

- Route X, 30th September 2015
- Handover at FL150
- Time in non-segregated airspace: 77 mins
- Normal ATC procedures throughout



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# Flight exercise results



## Safety

- Existing ATM procedures applied
- Nil impact on safety
- Contingency Management procedures – e.g. lost link CONOPS and emergency route management

## Capacity & human factors

- Live flights introduced minimal impact on ATC workload or pilot operations
- Other than speed, minimal difference compared with manned aviation
- Capacity depends on factors including complexity of airspace and RPAS performance and flight plan



# Project conclusions

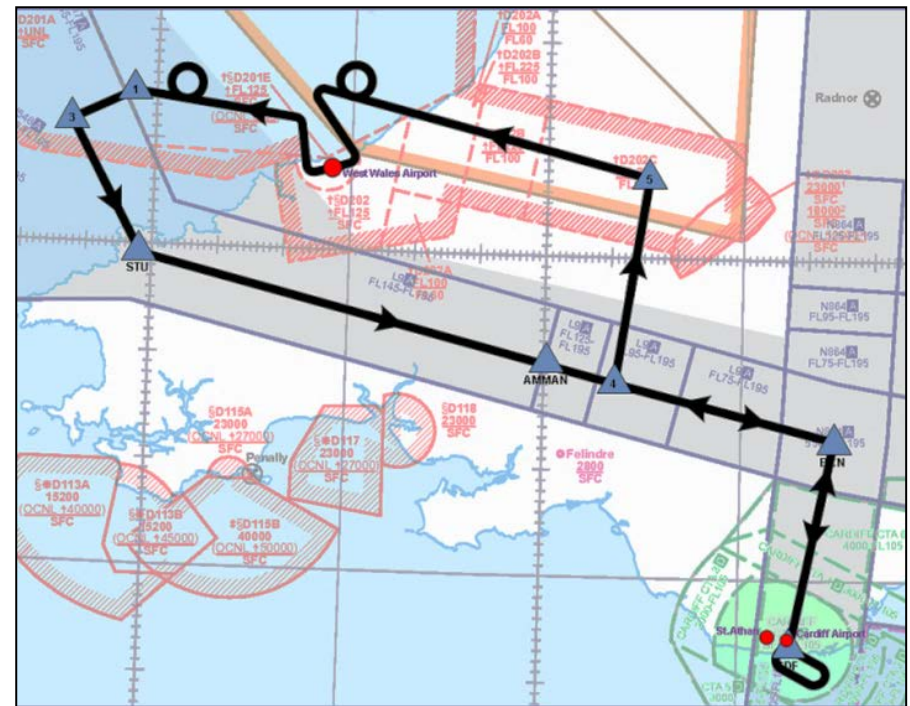
- Future RPAS operations may be safely integrated into non-segregated airspace using existing ATC processes
- Lower performance RPAS could result in an increase in ATC workload
- A Mode S transponder is essential to avoid surveillance issues & facilitate integration
- For routine access to non-segregated airspace, a detect & avoid capability is required
- RPAS considered predictable in emergencies
- Instrument Rating not fully applicable to RPAS







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# Thank you for your attention



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