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FREQUENTIS delivers remote tower IP-based voice communication system to AVINOR in Norway

Frequentis delivers its IP-based voice communication system (VCS) to the Norwegian air navigation service provider AVINOR to power the first remote tower system in this Nordic country. The VCS will play a pivotal role in proving the viability of remote tower operations within the scope of a SESAR validation exercise.

The Frequentis voice communication system is an essential building block of the remote tower system. Over the coming month, AVINOR will operationally evaluate the remote tower system with Frequentis and all SESAR project partners. This validation exercise will prove it is possible to provide ATC service at an airport from a centre located hundreds of kilometres away. The validation will also provide operational feedback for designing future voice communication systems able to handle simultaneous ATC operations at multiple remote aerodromes from a single centralised controller working position (CWP).

Frequentis - the world market leader for voice communication systems in air traffic control - designed an IP-based solution optimised for the distributed remote tower scenario. The solution is based on the VCS 3020X platform and implements the VoIP in Air Traffic Management standards set by EUROCAE Working Group 67. It allows the dynamic interconnection of several airports with a remote tower centre. Additional airports can be easily added to the VCS, as planned by SESAR for next year. Frequentis believes in the future of remote tower operations and its ability to provide substantial economic benefits to the ANSP community. Frequentis is therefore pushing remote tower concepts within SESAR and actively developing solutions that fit operational needs.

The move from local to remote tower operations breaks today's static configuration of ATC equipment, where each aerodrome has its interconnected controller working positions and radios. Remote tower operations require dynamic connectivity. Aerodromes might be operated from different working positions at different geographic locations. This configuration might also change during the course of a day. IP networks provide the required dynamic routing capability.

Initial multi-tower simulations demonstrated the importance of the voice communication system for the remote tower concept. Frequentis is working closely with controllers and human factors experts to provide full situational awareness to the controller. This is of fundamental importance when a single operator has to manage multiple aerodromes simultaneously. Once again, Frequentis is providing its market-leading expertise to support the emerging field of remote tower operations, in cooperation with its partners in SESAR.

About Frequentis

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