AEROTHAI E-News

Welcome to our May Issue!

This is our 12th issue of AEROTHAI E-News. After one year has passed, we do hope our stakeholders see the value of this E-News that aim to connect with our stakeholders and deliver what have benefits to you, including our projects, services, innovations and aviation -related information.

AEROTHAI would like to confirm our commitment to provide value-added services and to engage in regional and global aviation development. We also appreciate fruitful collaboration from our stakeholders and our partners.

This month, we would like to share with you the “Air Traffic Flow Advisory System for Adverse Condition or ATFAS” which is a tool to facilitate airspace users, to reduce airborne delay and fuel consumption. This tool brings a direct benefit to our airspace users. This issue of E-News with this ATFAS service will be available also at our exhibition booth at the IATA Ground Handling Conference, held during 21-24 May, 2017 at Centara Grand at Central World Bangkok.

Another topic is “Shadow Operations for the New Air Traffic Management System” which is the transition process of Thailand Modernization CNS/ATM System (TMCS) project. We would like to assure that our technology, management, and well prepared personnel will encourage smooth transition to the new system.

Have a pleasant May!

Sarinee Angsusingha (Mrs.)
President

AEROTHAI Kicked off Shadow Operations for the New Air Traffic Management System

Annually, the number of air traffic in Bangkok FIR has tremendously increased and the growth trend is expected to continue over the upcoming decades. AEROTHAI has been focusing on the work towards balancing demand and capacity, so the project of Thailand Modernization CNS/ATM System or TMCS has been performed.

AEROTHAI President, Mrs. Sarinee Angsusingha said: “AEROTHAI has carried out TMCS project to maximize the capacity and efficiency of air navigation services. Now we step towards the transition process including the shadow operations. Our careful preparation and management will deliver smooth transition to the new system.”

The shadow operations of new Air Traffic Management System started at Bangkok Approach Control Center, Suvarnbhumi Airport, on 25 April 2017. The shadowing process parallels with the existing system to assure fully operational capacity of the new technology and the new procedure. Then the shadow operations will expand to Provincial Approach Center, Regional Air Traffic Control Centers and Bangkok Area Control Center in October and plan to complete in January 2018.

The President concluded; this is one of the most important in AEROTHAI history. The new system will efficiently accommodate rapid growth of traffic volume, while maintaining our value-added services to the airspace users.

ATFAS: Tool to Enhance Air Traffic Flow Management Capacity

Since rapid growth of air transport, we come to the status which air traffic control is operated near maximum capacity, especially at the most crowded airports of Thailand, Suvarnbhumi and Don Muang. Additionally, severe weather or other unexpected circumstance may challenge the air traffic flow management. These are the reasons why AEROTHAI produces Air Traffic Flow Advisory System for Adverse Condition or ATFAS, which has been awarded the Bronze Medal in the 45th International Exhibition and Invention of Geneva.

AEROTHAI President said: “Instead of issuing airborne holding, extended arrival path, or speed control to lessen air traffic during the adverse condition or terrible weather, ATFAS is operated to facilitate the airspace users and reduce fuel consumption. When airspace is limited because of military activities, ATFAS can also facilitate air traffic flow. This system supports close cooperation between civil and military aviation under the concept of Flexible Use of Airspace”

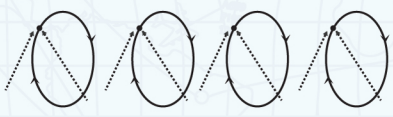
ATFAS imports arriving flight information from submitted flight plans, and capacity information output by the users, and generates optimized arrival slots for flights during the busy period. The arrival slots are automatically calculated take off times and distributed to flight operators and departure airports for further planning and operations. Then aircraft operators can adjust departure times appropriately at departure airports. This system encourages smoother flow of air traffic into the constrained airports, while minimizing negative impact on airlines and airspace environment.

ATFAS has been firstly implemented to accommodate flights during the period of the Air Show of the Royal Thai Air Force in September 2016. The tactical air traffic control can be compared with ATFAS implemented operation is as follow:

26 Sept 2016: Tactical ATC, No ATFM

Flights with Excess Airborne Delay: **33** Flights

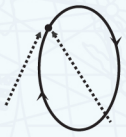
Average Airborne Delays: **17** minutes



28 Sept 2016: ATFAS implemented

2 flights

5 minutes



**12 minutes of fuel saving on 12 flights THB 1.25 Billion or USD 35,660 saving

Recently, ATFAS has been operated to accommodate flights during the military missions, Cobra Gold and Cope Tiger 2017 and the time of runway pavement.