



CANSO AND ALTA COOPERATE TO ENHANCE SAFETY AND IMPROVE EFFICIENCY IN LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN AVIATION

Panama City, Panama, 30 October 2018 – The Civil Air Navigation Services Organisation (CANSO) and the Latin American and Caribbean Air Transport Association ([ALTA](#)) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) at the [ALTA Airline Leaders Forum](#) on 29 October. The MoU is aimed at improving operational efficiency and enhancing safety in Latin America and Caribbean aviation through active cooperation between airlines and air navigation service providers (ANSPs), increasing the understanding of each other's roles and practices, and exchanging information.

Speaking at the ALTA Airline Leaders Forum in Panama City, CANSO Director General, Jeff Poole, said: "Increasing air transport demand is boosting economies in the region, and it is vital that air traffic management, airlines and airports cooperate closely to manage this growth safely and efficiently. Airlines and ANSPs in Latin America and the Caribbean are already working well together on implementing performance-based navigation, collaborative decision-making, air traffic flow management (ATFM) and other measures to improve the efficiency and capacity of airspace. This new agreement will further cement that relationship and establish a firm framework for increased cooperation and understanding."

Luis Felipe de Oliveira, Executive Director of ALTA said: "Safety is ALTA's number one priority. We strongly believe that aviation is the great engine for the economic and social development of the region, and for this reason, we continue partnering with institutions such as CANSO to ensure we offer those we serve the safest and most efficient means of transportation, while we boost other economic sectors that bring prosperity to the region. This agreement will allow us to join efforts in identifying areas of improvement and dedicating our resources to develop solutions throughout the entire industry".

To enhance safety, the agreement includes: joint participation in regional initiatives to achieve agreed safety targets; identification of operational issues impacting safety; and the use of visits to air traffic control facilities, simulators and familiarisation flights to enhance mutual understanding between pilots and air traffic controllers.

This agreement will also allow both organisations to work jointly and more effectively within the regional safety initiatives of the Pan American Safety Summit to achieve the safety targets established by the Regional Aviation Safety Group – Pan America (RASG-PA). The main target will be to reduce fatality risk for Part 121 or equivalent operations by 50 percent by 2020 in Latin America and the Caribbean.

To improve operational efficiency, the agreement includes: workshops on collaborative decision-making to reduce delays; training on air traffic flow management (ATFM) to ensure available airspace capacity is used efficiently; and cooperation to safely accommodate drones and unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) in the region's airspace.

With regard to exchanging information, the agreement promotes the CANSO ATFM Data Exchange Network for the Americas (CADENA). This champions the use of ATFM in the region and enables ANSPs and other aviation stakeholders to share operational information through the CADENA Operational Information System (OIS) web page and a weekly operational web conference to discuss and agree traffic flow.

ENDS

Notes for editors

The Civil Air Navigation Services Organisation is the global voice of air traffic management (ATM) worldwide. CANSO Members support over 85 percent of world air traffic. Members share information and develop new policies with the ultimate aim of improving air navigation services (ANS) on the ground and in the air. CANSO represents its Members' views in major regulatory and industry forums, including at ICAO, where it has official observer status. CANSO has an extensive network of Associate Members drawn from across the aviation industry. www.canso.org

[ALTA](http://www.alta.aero) is a private non-profit association at the service of the air transport industry, whose objective is to develop a safer, more efficient and sustainable aviation in Latin America and the Caribbean. ALTA coordinates collaborative efforts across the entire value chain maximizing the impact of aviation in the region's economic and social growth for the benefit of the industry, the nations and the people served by the air transport. www.alta.aero

The [ALTA Airline Leaders Forum](#) is the largest and most important event of its nature in the Latin America and Caribbean commercial aviation industry. It is designed to stimulate an international dialogue that promotes safer, more cost-efficient and environmentally responsible aviation in the region. The Forum provides an excellent opportunity for the industry to come together, analyze and address how best to navigate through current industry challenges and take a look at preparing for the future of air transport development.

The 15th Annual ALTA Airline Leaders Forum is taking place October 28 – 30, 2018, in Panama City, hosted by Autoridad de Turismo de Panamá and Tocumen International Airport, along with host carrier Copa Airlines. More than 500 aviation industry decision makers are attending this year's ALTA Airline Leaders Forum, including CEOs and high-level executives from 40 airlines; ministers of state from Brazil, Argentina, Peru, Colombia, and Panama; civil aviation authorities and national aviation agencies; and executives from Airlines for America, ACI, CANSO, CLAC, FAA, IATA and ICAO; several local and regional airline associations; as well as other leading industry providers and key stakeholders.

Primary sponsors for this year's ALTA Airline Leaders Forum include: Boeing, CFM International, Embraer, and World Fuel Services. Additional sponsors include: Accelya, Amadeus, Brussels Airport, Hitit, Illuminair Support Corp., Kellstrom Aerospace, Lufthansa Systems, Lufthansa Technik, Miami-Dade International Airport, Mitsubishi Aircraft Corp., Pratt & Whitney, Sabre, SITA, SmartKargo, SuperJet International, Terpel, UATP, Willis Lease, and WorldPay.

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