

IAA wins CANSO Global Safety Achievement Award

25 February, 2021 – IAA has won the Civil Air Navigation Services Organisation (CANSO) Global Safety Achievement Award 2020 for its pioneering approach to air traffic management (ATM) safety. CANSO presented the award to IAA at the CANSO Safety Focus: 2021 Kick-Off virtual event on 25 February 2021.



IAA was recognised for its use of the Aireon ALERT service to provide vital support for search and rescue personnel. Aireon ALERT is the aviation industry's first and only free global emergency aircraft location service, operated by the IAA. ANSPs, commercial aircraft operators/airlines, regulators and search and rescue organisations in need of crucial aircraft location data, rely on Aireon ALERT to help provide an ADS-B OUT 1090MHz equipped aircraft's most recently known position. By operating this service, the IAA is filling a critical need, ensuring search and rescue personnel have the most accurate aircraft position data available when responding to an incident, regardless of global location.

Osman Saafan, CANSO Safety Standing Committee Chair and DFS Deutsche Flugsicherung GmbH Director Corporate Safety & Security Management and Civil-Military Affairs said: "Safety is aviation's number one priority and it is important that despite these difficult times, we recognise those in the community who are exploring innovative solutions and optimising technology to keep our skies and airspace users safe. I offer my congratulations to IAA, and in particular, General Manager, Enroute, North Atlantic Communications and Aeronautical Information Services, Sean Patrick, for winning the CANSO Global Safety Achievement Award 2020. Sean and the team have achieved a truly pioneering feat in aviation safety, turning all-new Aireon data into critical information for search and rescue services that is literally saving lives. Thank you very much for your important work and the example that you give us all as we reflect on a challenging but pioneering time for our industry".

Simon Hocquard, Director General, CANSO: “The CANSO Global Safety Achievement Award is an excellent example of how CANSO works to address key issues at a global level and share knowledge and best practice around the world. It also brings our industry together, and demonstrates the power of partnership. This year the award recognises not only the ingenuity of IAA but also the importance of its partnership with Aireon. It’s great to see how cross-industry collaborations like this are championing new technology and enhancing the vital role ATM plays in supporting critical services and connectivity. This is essential as we continue to shape our safe and sustainable skies”.

Peter Kearney, Chief Executive, IAA: “Safety is the priority in everything we do. The IAA has always been at the forefront of air navigation service innovation, and we invest in technology and skills to improve the safety and efficiency of aviation. Aireon ALERT provides a unique safety service to the global aviation industry. This award is a timely boost to the IAA, in recognition of the essential air navigation services that we continue to provide despite the current health crisis. Despite the difficulties caused by COVID-19, the IAA and air navigation service providers throughout the world must continue to prioritise investment in global leading innovation and technology and this must be supported by all governments.”

Find out more about IAA’s award-winning initiative using the Aireon ALERT service [here](#).

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About CANSO

The Civil Air Navigation Services Organisation (CANSO) is the global voice of air traffic management worldwide. CANSO Members support almost 90 percent of world air traffic. Members share information and develop new policies, with the ultimate aim of improving air navigation services 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. For more, visit canso.org.

CANSO Global Safety Achievement Award

CANSO recognises and acknowledges excellence with the CANSO Global Safety Achievement Award. Each year this award is given to a company or team that has made a significant safety contribution which has reduced aviation risk in the previous 12 months. This may be a local, regional or global contribution and may encompass a process, procedure, technology or training improvement.

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