



CANSO-ETF Common Understanding on a Competence and Training Scheme for Air Traffic Safety Electronics Personnel (ATSEP)

Brussels
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In 2005 the European Parliament requested “a Commission initiative with the aim of regulating the licensing scheme and qualifications for all professions involved in the safety chain in the context of air navigation services”. The European Commission retained the Consultants ECORYS to carry out an “Impact Assessment on the extension of training and licensing to professions in the ATM safety chain, other than air traffic controllers”.

ECORYS delivered its report recommending the introduction of a harmonized regulatory framework for ATSEPs – Engineers:

- CANSO, ETF and the EC accept the conclusion of the ECORYS report that the status quo is not an option;
- CANSO welcomes the EC support for the setting up of a common Competence and Training Scheme for ATSEPs;
- ETF accepts the EC position but maintains its long term policy of licensing of ATSEPs.

The Social Partners agree that a competence assessment scheme for ATSEPs should be introduced. This will be achieved through an EC request for support to Eurocontrol to deliver Specifications. These Specifications will be made mandatory by a reference to them in the Common Requirements Regulation. This is anticipated at the end of 2009.



The Specifications will be based on existing documents:

- 2004 Guidelines for a Common Basic Level of Technical Training for Air Traffic Safety Electronics Personnel;
- 2003 Guidelines for a Common Qualification Level of Technical Training for Air Traffic Safety Electronics Personnel;
- 2006 Guidelines for the Competence Assessment of Air Traffic Safety Electronics Personnel.

The Social Partners will actively participate in the developments of the Specifications and will continue to discuss and promote agreed measures to facilitate their smooth implementation. It is recognised that guidelines on ATSEP training and competence already exist (quoted above).

It is accepted by the Social Partners that establishing a common training and competence scheme for this category of staff all over Europe will be an additional step requiring significant work from all ANSPs.

ANSPs are encouraged to consider, wherever appropriate, the existing guidelines as means of compliance with ESARR 5. JATMWG encourages its members to ensure that this Common Understanding is given wide circulation.

It should be understood that Member States which have already implemented, or wish to implement, their own licensing scheme may have to adjust their scheme to ensure conformity with the European regulations.