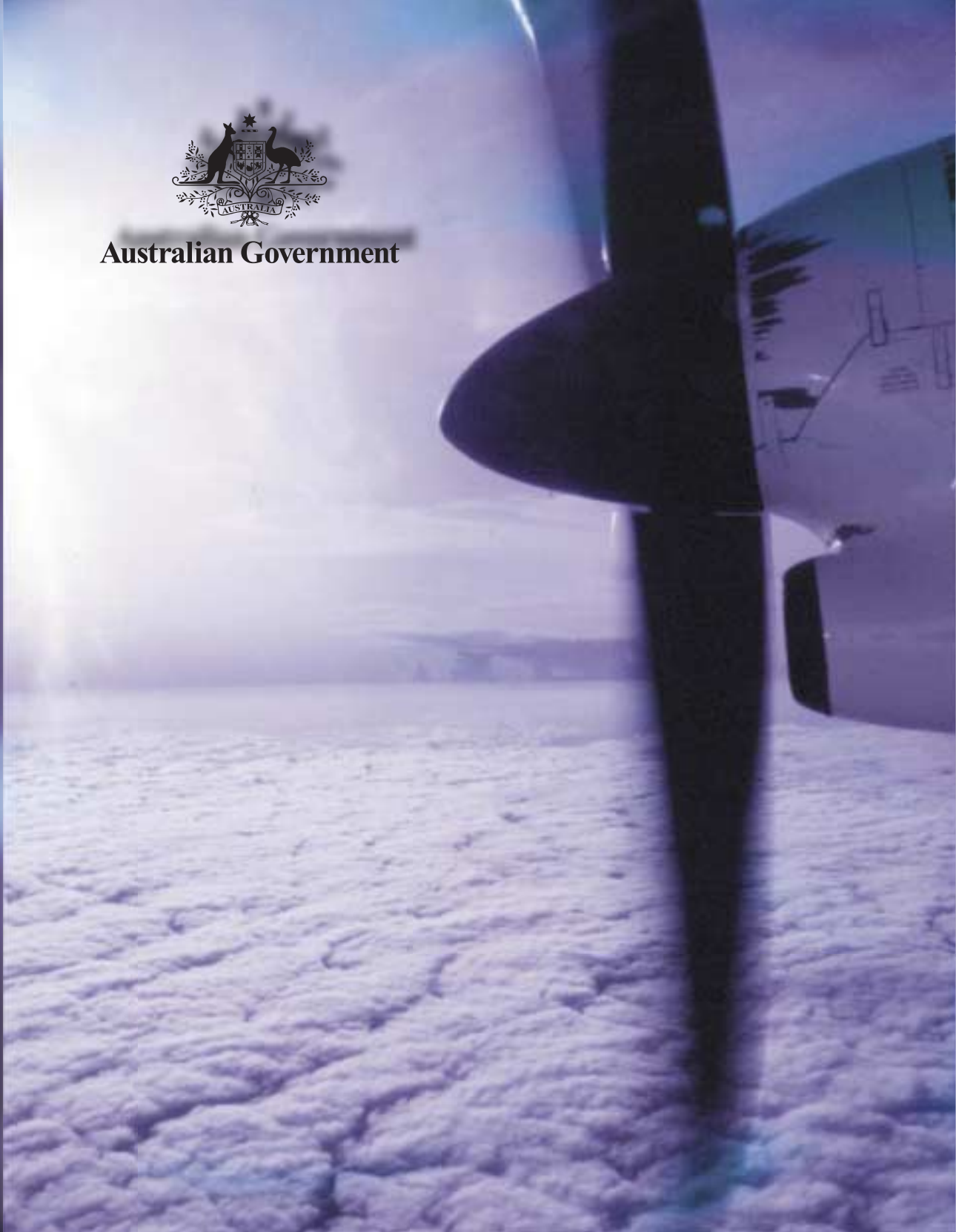




Australian Government



Creating safe, secure and efficient civil aviation for all through collaborative and equitable solutions

Australia's aviation environment is unique: large, sparsely settled and a long way from the rest of the world. It is no surprise that the advent of aviation gripped the public imagination and that Australians were prominent in pioneering new connections with Asia, Europe and the Americas.

Australia has long been a committed supporter of a forum for international aviation. Australia was a founding member of both the Paris Convention of 1919, and of its successor, the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and over the past 60 years has been at the forefront of aviation development and technology.

Impressive history



exciting future...

Australia possesses an impressive track record in furthering aviation safety, security and efficiency, applying its innovation and commitment to excellence in collaboration with other States.

Australia has a long history of strongly supporting ICAO in its efforts to ensure safety, security and efficiency of international civil aviation and promote the principles enshrined in the Chicago Convention.

Australia's contribution to ICAO

As civil aviation developed, so too did the recognition that there must be global consistency when striving for safe, secure and efficient skies for all. Australia, as a firmly established ICAO State of chief importance in air transport, has made a significant contribution to ICAO activities including leadership in the introduction of the Future Air Navigation Systems (FANS) and the CNS/ATM concept.



Participation and co-operation

Australia is an active participant in both the Council of ICAO and the Air Navigation Commission. Australia maintains and demonstrates a preference for a collaborative approach to finding equitable solutions to regional and international aviation issues. It furthers aviation interests in the areas of safety, security and economic development through participation and leadership in commissions, panels, working groups and committees and through providing additional financial and human resources. Australia strives to be a reliable supporter of ICAO, not only in terms of participation, but also financially. It regularly makes its annual contribution at the earliest opportunity.

Australia's early implementation of the Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) for civil aviation and Reduced Vertical Separation Minima (RVSM) - a cooperative effort also involving Airways Corporation of New Zealand and the United States of America Federal Aviation Administration - and Required Navigation Performance (RNP) standards in the Pacific region are notable examples of dedication and commitment to achieving practical safety outcomes.



A co-ordinated approach

Australia's involvement has been characterised by a co-ordinated approach drawing on the specialist strengths of various agencies skilled not only in accident investigation, safety regulation, airspace and air traffic management and policy formulation, but also environment, international economics, security and trade. Its broader stakeholder participation strategies also capture aviation industry input for regional and international civil aviation issues. This is very much a team approach, as part of a broader ICAO commitment to collaboration in achieving a safer and more secure aviation environment.

Safety

Australia continues to demonstrate its desire to further aviation interests through its willingness to explain its international aviation policy to the international community. It does this by participating in fora such as the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) and the negotiations on the General Agreement on Trade in Services in the World Trade Organisation. Australia recognises the value of supporting ICAO related forums and will be hosting the Director General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) Conference in 2005. Australia has shown commitment to initiatives that further safety in the region through its founding membership of the Pacific Aviation Safety Office (PASO).



Australia takes pride in having produced many innovations in civil aviation systems and practices. It is, for example, the birthplace of the now universally accepted 'black box' flight recorder which has been instrumental in analysing why aviation incidents occur and offering clues as to how they may be avoided.

More recently, our impressive list of achievements has been extended with the development and implementation of The Australian Advanced Air Traffic System (TAAATS) – which is one of the world's most advanced integrated air traffic management systems. Given Australia's geographical isolation, and combine that with a current responsibility for approximately 11 per cent of the world's airspace, it is not surprising that such an initiative should emerge from "Down Under".

Australia was also a pioneer in adopting a systemic approach to aviation accident investigation, seeking to identify the underlying factors that result in accidents or incidents. Investigations no longer focus simply on what occurs in the cockpit, but rather on the underlying conditions that developed within the system, including the importance of human factors.

Australia has continued to further its pioneering work in structural fatigue management first undertaken by the Aeronautical Research Laboratories where, between 1947 and 1949, the world's first full-scale fatigue tests of aircraft wings were conducted. Australia remains a recognised leader in the study of fatigue in aircraft structures, as evidenced recently when recommendations by the Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) resulted in the US FAA issuing an Emergency Airworthiness Directive in 2004 to operators and owners of R22 helicopters worldwide, which revised the calendar life of the main rotor blades.

Australia takes a proactive approach to adopting safety management systems (SMS) as an integral part of auditing. The Australian model of aerodrome certification, incorporating the SMS requirement, was well regarded by ICAO when developing new aerodrome certification standards.

Another recent achievement of note is that Australia is one of the few States that has effectively privatised airlines and airports so that government involvement in the aviation sector is essentially regulatory in nature.

In June 2004 ICAO named Australian Professor Brian O'Keeffe as recipient of the prestigious Edward Warner Award, recognising his significant contribution to the development of international aviation, particularly in the field of air navigation systems. Professor O'Keeffe will be the third Australian to receive the award.

This constant pursuit of excellence will shortly see the Australian implementation of the Automatic Dependent Surveillance-Broadcast (ADS-B), setting a global benchmark for the future surveillance environment. All of these developments are steps forward on the path to a safer aviation environment.



Manufacturing

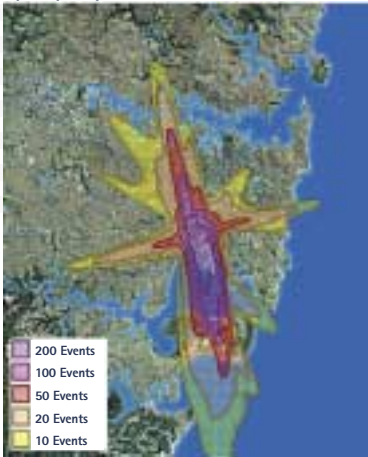
Australia has a diverse and innovative manufacturing industry and has some of the world's best structural aircraft components manufacturers. Aerostructure assemblies built in Australia are supplied to the world's leading aircraft manufacturers. Recent certification of several general aviation aircraft and engines has also fostered a growing export industry.

Environmentally responsible

The international civil aviation community greatly benefits from Australia's wealth of knowledge in the area of aviation environment and the valuable lessons it has learned as a leading aviation nation. One such benefit is the development of a suite of software applications to enable aircraft noise disclosure information to be rapidly produced for individual airports. The Transport Noise Information Package (TNIP) is a tool which takes data either from Noise and Flight Path Monitoring systems, or from noise modelling studies carried out using the US Federal Aviation Administration's Integrated Noise Model (INM), and produces 'real' information about aircraft noise.

In addition to this development a recent Australian initiative of an innovative route design and air traffic flow management system resulted in an emission savings of 890,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide per annum.

Sydney Airport N70 Contours for 2001



Security and facilitation

Australia is active in promoting security initiatives in its region. It provides support to other States in the region including technical support and personnel.

Australia is actively implementing the Aviation Security Plan of Action and assisting other member States within the region to ensure compliance with ICAO's aviation security standards. One of the more recent demonstrations of Australia's commitment to furthering international aviation security interests was in constructing a facility to trial the world-first neutron technology. This technology was developed by the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), a government research organisation. It promises rapid detection of explosives and other threats to air cargo more effectively than conventional C-ray systems.

Australia has taken measures to ensure that its facilitation processes remain at the forefront in the uptake of new technologies. Introduction of new technologies such as the Smartgate automatic face-recognition system, machine readable passports and the proposed introduction of biometric passports will improve passenger processing efficiency, border security and the reduction of identity fraud.





Australian Government

The Australian Department of Transport and Regional Services (DOTARS), which contains the Australian Transport Safety Bureau and Office of Transport Security, and its portfolio agencies the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) and Airservices Australia, constitute a tripartite arrangement for providing safe, secure and efficient civil aviation in Australia.

Through its government arrangements, and strong relationship with ICAO, Australia provides a valuable contribution in creating both a domestic and international environment that enables the furthering of safe, secure and efficient civil aviation for all through collaborative and equitable solutions.

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