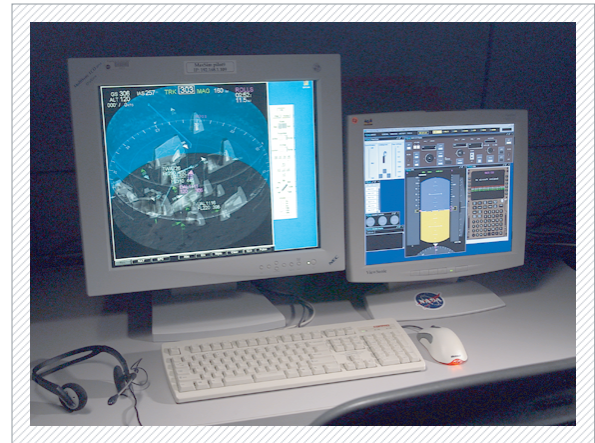




Human-Centered Cockpit Information & Flight Path Management Concepts for Airborne Traffic Management

Objective The Flight Deck Display Research Group (FDDRG) develops both prototypes and guidelines for advanced interfaces which integrate displays, decision support tools, and flight deck automation. A primary goal of the FDDRG is to provide human-centered solutions and concepts which address projected changes in roles and responsibilities on future flight decks. Chief among these are real time flight replanning which takes into account Air Traffic Management constraints, such as required times of arrival, as well as surrounding air traffic, weather, and terrain.



Approach Low, medium and high fidelity simulations are used to develop guidelines and test concepts. Low fidelity simulations include traditional part-task research studies of specific interface design features and concepts, while mid and high fidelity simulations are used to test more integrated interface principles and concepts.

Impact This research enables the proposed evolution of the National Airspace System into a system where many more roles and responsibilities are shared between the air traffic controller and the flight deck. These interface technologies are currently being employed to allow testing of multiple new airspace management concepts.

Information Technology The advanced CDTI interface has pilot selectable 2D and 3D viewing orientations with dynamic 4D flight plan depiction and altitude color coding for 2D depiction. 2D and 3D weather depictions are included as well as anti-clutter features to manage display overload. Using conflict detection algorithms and alerting displays, pilots are provided with manual and automated conflict resolution tools, as well as, 4-D flight path modification tools coupled with conflict detection logic to identify conflict-free routes. Graphical FMS flight plan changes are coordinated with ATC through FANS links, and approach spacing and merging algorithms are coupled to FMS. Required time of arrival management tools are included. The interface allows voice input for information management and display functions.

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