

Implementation of Wake Turbulence Group and Approach Spacing Management System at Hong Kong International Airport wins global air traffic management award (with photos)

The implementation of the Wake Turbulence Group (WTG) and Approach Spacing Management System (ASMS) at Hong Kong International Airport (HKIA) won runner-up honours at the Air Traffic Management (ATM) Awards 2023 in the "Greener Skies" category by the Civil Air Navigation Services Organisation (CANSO). The Director-General of Civil Aviation, Mr Victor Liu, attended the Airspace World 2024 and award presentation ceremony yesterday (March 19, Geneva time) in Geneva, Switzerland, and received the award.

The award recognises the significant achievements of leading organisations in civil air navigation services that utilise advanced technologies to promote greener skies. CANSO commended the collaborative efforts of the Civil Aviation Department (CAD) and the Airport Authority Hong Kong (AAHK) in implementing the WTG and ASMS, enabling environmentally sustainable operations at HKIA. This technology innovation enhances the capacity and efficiency while reducing fuel consumption and carbon dioxide emissions in a safe and sustainable manner.

The ASMS employs advanced technologies to calculate the optimal approach spacing between arriving aircraft based on their real-time positions, aircraft performance, WTG information, and wind conditions. The system assists air traffic control officers in delivering consistent and optimal approach spacings between arriving aircraft, thus enhancing the capacity and efficiency of HKIA, while reducing delays and carbon dioxide emissions from arriving aircraft.

The CAD and the AAHK expressed their gratitude to CANSO for recognising their close collaboration in successfully implementing this technology innovation at HKIA, resulting in significant environmental benefits.

Moreover, Mr Liu spoke as part of an expert panel during the event on the theme of seamless ATM operations. He highlighted the rapid growth of the Asia Pacific region in civil aviation and emphasised the importance of strengthening collaborations among states/administrations, air navigation service providers (ANSPs), and the industry to ensure sustainable development and efficient operations. Mr Liu shared the CAD's experiences in enhancing capabilities and fostering collaboration with various ANSPs and stakeholders, aligning with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)'s initiative in assisting members in implementing ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices.

Established in 1996, CANSO has been providing support for air navigation service providers worldwide and promoting knowledge sharing among stakeholders by hosting regular conferences/symposia to enhance efficiency and safety in air traffic management. Currently, CANSO has more than 180 members, including regulators, air navigation service providers, and related service providers.

