



DUBAI AIR NAVIGATION SERVICES (dans) AND THE MITRE CORPORATION SIGN A COOPERATION AGREEMENT TO CREATE THE CENTER OF AVIATION INNOVATION IN THE UAE

Dubai, UAE, 9 August 2015. Under an exclusive and first of its kind initiative in the UAE and the Middle East, Dubai Air Navigation Services (dans) and The MITRE Corporation (MITRE) have signed an international cooperation agreement that sets the foundation for a harmonised Dubai-based aviation innovation center. The “Center of Excellence” will transform the Emirate of Dubai into becoming the world’s leading innovation hub, and will also provide aggregate benefits to the economy and the aviation sector in the UAE and the entire Middle East region.

Innovation is key for the UAE to achieve its strategic goals, and it is a vital pillar in driving further economic development and growth. Under the guidelines set by HRH Sheikh Mohamed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, UAE Vice President, Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai, the year 2015 has been announced as the year of innovation, and as a result the Executive Council has established the National Innovation Strategy and appointed the National Innovation Committee as the governing body to supervise the implementation and enhancement of innovation across seven key sectors in the UAE – Space, Water, Technology, Education, Health, Renewable Energy, and Transport. And in line with the guidelines of HRH Sheikh Mohamed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum , HH Sheikh Ahmed Bin Saeed Al Maktoum ,Chairman of Dubai Airports; President of the Dubai Civil Aviation Authority; Chairman and CEO of Emirates Group, Chairman of Dubai Air Navigation Services (dans) has given the authority to H.E. Mohamed A. Ahli, the CEO of Dubai Air Navigation Services(dans) and the Director General of the Dubai Civil Aviation Authority(DCAA) , to sign this agreement in order to enhance collaboration on driving innovation in the Aviation Sector.

The independent air navigation services provider, dans, is striving to lead the Air Traffic Management sector in the region through the establishment of the Center of Excellence, that aims to improve the aviation infrastructure in the UAE by enhancing safety, security, efficiency, and capacity of aircraft operations. In addition, the organisation is seeking to engage local talent from technology institutes and universities to develop young innovative minds by providing them the opportunity of working on activities in the center. Underpinned by its strategic pillar of driving innovation, the organisation is well known across the aviation sector for implementing innovative and cutting edge technologies and solutions to cater to its operational requirements, as well as enhance air traffic movement’s capacity.



With larger than life expansion plans in the aviation sector from conglomerates such as Emirates Airlines and Dubai Airports, the UAE has a domestic need for airspace development to successfully manage such growth. The Center of Excellence will conduct in-house Air Traffic Management research and development initiatives to seek solutions to address the complex aviation infrastructure and air traffic management challenges in both the UAE and the Middle East region. The cutting edge facility will also provide consulting services, operational concept development, and new procedures development.

H.E. Mohammed A. Ahli, Director General of Dubai Civil Aviation Authority and the CEO of Dubai Air Navigation Services, stated: “The establishment of the Center of Excellence for the aviation sector in the UAE will encourage further regional cooperation between neighboring countries and will yield positive impact on the economy as it will reduce research and development costs for the organisations. We are collaborating with MITRE, our technical partner for this project, as we believe that Dubai Air Navigation Services will benefit immensely from the knowledge the not-for-profit organisation has in establishing similar concepts in leading economies such as the United States of America, Singapore, and India.”

Moreover, the facility will feature a fully integrated research and development environment, including simulators for flights; radar and tower will all be available and simultaneously linked thus capable of real- and fast-time simulation. A laboratory will be used to develop different software to produce customised, unique analysis.