



DFS Aviation Services and the Nanjing Research Institute of Electronics Engineering (NRIEE) successfully completed an important milestone in their cooperative R&D project

As part of the project between DFS Aviation Services, NRIEE and in cooperation with DFS Deutsche Flugsicherung, a workshop was held on air traffic management operations. The 6-day workshop event was held for 12 experts from NRIEE and led by Stephan Fröhlich, a senior ATM expert and experienced controller. The workshop was conducted online, as the current pandemic situation still limits travel between China and Germany and a common knowledge and understanding of ATM operations is a cornerstone for the other work packages in the R&D project.

The Director of NRIEE State Key Lab of ATM Prof. CHAI Wenguang expressed that “Thanks to this workshop, our technical experts have received a sound basis on Air Traffic Control. We are looking forward to our long-term cooperation and the upcoming steps of the project.”

While the project takes place in the context of a larger programme aimed at optimising flights from Guangzhou to Nairobi, the efforts of the DFS Group focus on contributing their expertise to ATM operations in general as well as Trajectory Based Operations (TBO) and Free Route Airspace (FRA), in particular, to suggest ATM operational enhancements for the highly complex and dense airspace around Guangzhou.

Dr Hans de Jong, Chief Representative of DFS Aviation Services in Beijing emphasises: “We are very happy about the outcome of this workshop, where the focus was not only on understanding how air traffic controllers think and work, but also on establishing the basis for TBO and FRA developments.”

In the meantime, two work packages on Trajectory Based Operations are progressing at full speed. Firstly, based on operational experience in Europe relevant to ATM circumstances in China, a vision to employ TBO is under development. Secondly, an aircraft performance study for trajectory prediction is in progress as a crucial step in enabling ATM systems to work in a trajectory-based manner.