

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The National Airspace System (NAS) Architecture Version 4.0 is the joint product of the national aviation community. It exists today because of a lengthy development process that involved the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and every major aviation interest group in the United States.

This architecture is the integrated long-range plan for the NAS, which draws on new technologies and a dedicated FAA workforce to meet the increasing demands on our national air transportation system. It also deals with the realities of ever-expanding aviation travel and commerce and the realities of fiscal constraints. The challenge to develop this plan has been answered—and answered well.

It is impossible to directly credit each person involved with creating the NAS architecture. However, specific organizations inside and outside the FAA were *key* players in its development. They include:

Department of Transportation (DOT), the parent organization of the FAA

FAA organizations—Research and Acquisition (ARA), Air Traffic Services (ATS), and Regulation and Certification (AVR)

External organizations—RTCA, Incorporated; the Research, Engineering, and Development Advisory Committee (REDAC); Department of Defense (DOD); SETA (System Engineering and Technical Assistance contractor (TRW, ARINC, CTA, NYMA, RMS, SAIC, JTA, PMA)); MITRE Corporation/Center for Advanced Aviation System Development (CAASD); and CSSI.

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