

Friday 23 June 2017

## Belgocontrol extends maintenance contract with Thales

**In the framework of the international 'Paris Air Show' Belgocontrol and Thales signed an extended maintenance contract for the Eurocat system that manages air traffic (new name: TopSky ATC) and that is used by Belgocontrol. The closer cooperation with Thales will among other things enable direct and quick interventions on the Belgocontrol sites.**

For the past few years Belgocontrol has been ramping up its investment efforts regarding systems and staff in order to guarantee the continuity of the services it provides. In 2017 alone the air navigation service provider will be investing 37 million euro in technical installations.

The extended maintenance contract with Thales logically flows from the business continuity plan. The software as well as the hardware that Thales provides, are included in the contract.

Johan Decuyper, Belgocontrol CEO: "It is essential that our systems are performant and up-to-date at any given time. The reinforced collaboration with Thales provides even more guarantees that their system functions properly and offers quick solutions in case of an incident. Such investments strengthen the continuity of our activities and services, to the benefit of our customers."

### About Belgocontrol

Belgocontrol is an autonomous public company, created in October 1998, with the mission to guarantee the safety of air navigation in the airspace for which Belgium is responsible. Its zone of activities extends from ground level (at Brussels Airport and the airports of Antwerp, Charleroi, Liege and Ostend) to flight level 245 (8,000 meters) above Belgium and from flight levels 145/165 to 245 for the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. The EUROCONTROL centre in Maastricht is responsible for the area above 8,000 metres, and jointly manages the air traffic of the upper airspace of Belgium, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and the western part of Germany.

### About FABEC

The restructuring of the European airspace into functional airspace blocks (FAB), in which the European member States are involved, is one of the most visible results of the European Single Sky regulations adopted in March 2004. Although Switzerland is not a EU member, the country also participates in the Single Sky project. Belgocontrol, the Belgian air navigation service provider, as well as its counterparts in Germany, France, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Switzerland constitute the member states of FABEC, which aims to improve efficiency of air navigation in central Europe. For more information about FABEC, please visit the website [www.fabec.eu](http://www.fabec.eu).

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