

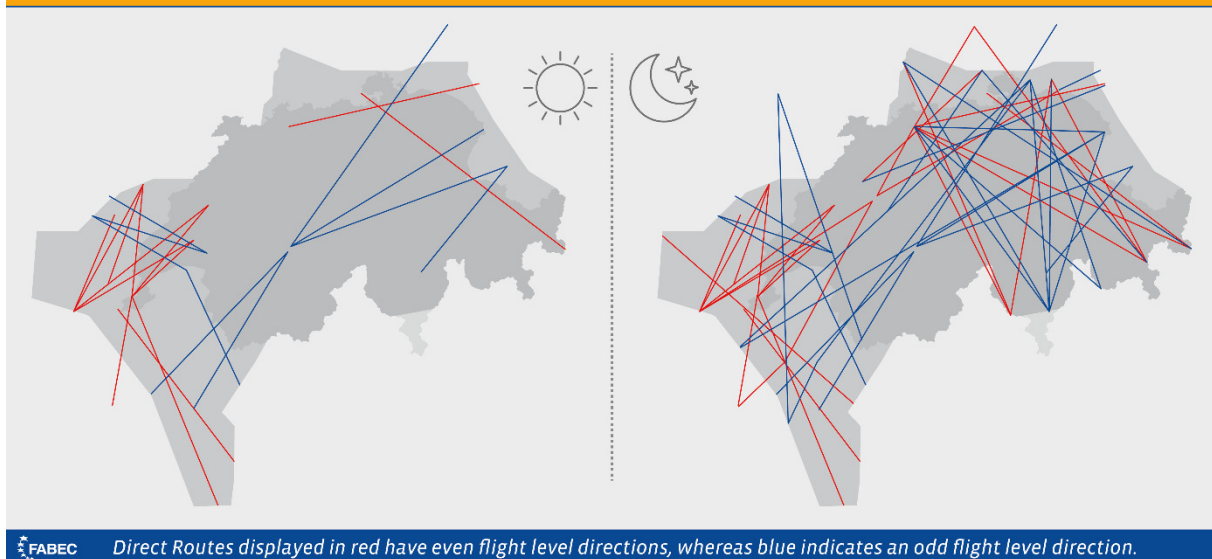
Operations

Further improvement of airspace management in the European Core Area - Additional Direct Routes available in Swiss airspace

Geneva, 6 December 2017; Small in size, the Swiss airspace is particularly dense and complex. All improvements of its operability benefit the FABEC airspace users. In the framework of the FABEC Free Route Airspace in the core area of Europe, the Swiss airspace navigation provider Skyguide introduced 13 additional Direct Routes (DCTs) in November 2017. From now on, all ATS routes are replaced by DCTs during the night. This makes the FABEC network more attractive, since airlines will save fuel and flight time when flying in the Swiss Area of Responsibility.

With these additional DCTs – 50 had already been created in March 2017 -, Skyguide complies with European and PCP requirements and contributes to the overall environmental performance targets in FABEC.

Available DCTs as of 09.11.2017



A further improvement of the network which will allow airlines to fly even shorter routes through Swiss and adjacent airspaces will be undertaken in 2018. In the development of these improvements, Skyguide will build on the common FABEC approach towards FRA and the fruitful exchange of lessons learned from those already operating a FRA.

The airspace of the six FABEC States of Belgium, France, Germany, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Switzerland is one of the busiest and most complex in the world. The majority of major European airports, major civil airways and military training areas are located in this area. FABEC airspace covers 1.7 million km² and handles about 5.5 million flights per year – 55% of European air traffic. The seven civil air navigation service providers



are ANA (Luxembourg), Belgocontrol (Belgium), DFS (Germany), DSNA (France), LVNL (Netherlands), MUAC (EUROCONTROL), and skyguide (Switzerland).

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