U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

Office of the Administrator

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I am pleased to present to the aviation community the 1995 Aviation Capacity Enhancement Plan. The plan is an important part of the Federal Aviation Administration and Department of Transportation efforts to improve the Nation's transportation system.

The principal goals of the aviation system capacity program are to ensure that: airspace and airport capacity continue to grow to meet user needs cost effectively; capacity resources are fully utilized to meet traffic demand and eliminate capacity related delays; and airport capacities in instrument meteorological conditions (IMC) approach capacities in visual meteorological conditions (VMC).

Improving aviation system capacity is a continuing dynamic process that evolves as user needs change and technology advances. The plan attempts to identify and facilitate actions that can be taken by both the public and private sectors to prevent projected growth in delays while, at the same time, remain flexible and practical to accommodate future change.

The Plan is intended to be a comprehensive "ground-up" view of aviation system requirements and development, starting at the airport level and extending to terminal airspace, en route airspace, and traffic flow management.

System capacity must continue to grow in order to enable the air transportation industry to enhance the level of service quality and allow airline competition to continue. In the 12 years since airline deregulation, airfares have declined. Both the quality and cost of air service are strongly tied to aviation system capacity and will continue to show favorable trends only if aviation system capacity continues to grow to meet demand.

This plan supports the FAA Strategic Plan, which is consistent with the Secretary of Transportation's National Transportation Policy.

David R. Hinson
Administrator

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16. Abstract

A comprehensive review of Federal Aviation Administration programs intended to improve the capacity of the National Air Transportation System. The Plan describes the extent of capacity and delay problems currently associated with air travel in the U.S. and outlines various planned and ongoing FAA projects with the potential to reduce the severity of the problems in the future. The major areas of discussion are:

1) Airport Development
2) Airport Capacity
3) Airspace Capacity
4) New Instrumant Approach Procedures
5) Technology for Capacity Improvement

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