

NAS Voice System

To orchestrate air traffic in the NextGen era, air traffic controllers need flexible communications tools. Today, communication among controllers and between controllers and pilots is enabled by analog voice switches operating on specified frequencies within carefully defined and restricted geographical areas. About a dozen different models of voice switches, some several decades old, are used.

The National Airspace System (NAS) Voice System (NVS) will replace the current inventory of switches with a nationwide network that supports future NextGen requirements. Built on state-of-the-art digital technology, NVS is designed to use Voice over Intranet Protocol (VoIP) technology on a secure and exclusive FAA network, which will standardize the voice communication infrastructure among air traffic facilities.

NVS will provide the flexibility to reroute voice communications so that controllers in different facilities will be able to assist each other during busy periods or if voice switches in a facility are interrupted. It will also more effectively support Unmanned Aircraft Systems communication.

NVS is an investment by the FAA. While providing efficiency and safety benefits for controllers and aircraft

operators, NVS will require no additional equipment by operators.

The Next Generation Air Transportation System, or NextGen, is a transformative change in the management and operation of how we fly, which will reduce delays, save fuel and lower carbon emissions. This comprehensive initiative integrates new and existing technologies, including satellite navigation



and advanced digital communications. Airports and aircraft in the NAS will be connected to NextGen's advanced infrastructure and will continually share information in realtime to improve air transportation's safety, speed, efficiency and environmental impacts. The combined initiatives that make up NextGen will provide a better travel experience.

