Evolution of the NAS

Akbar Sultan Director Airspace Operations and Safety Program, NASA FAA REDAC, October 16, 2024

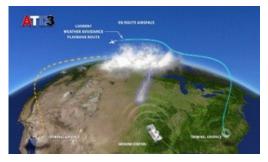
FUTURE AIRSPACE AND SAFETY

Success Stories: ARMD Research Technology Transfers to FAA

- Terminal Sequencing and Spacing (TSAS) and Flight Deck Interval Management (FIM) (FY 2011-2017, \$102M)
 - Forecast \$500 million national fuel savings
 - FAA national deployment in Time Based Flow Management (TBFM) starting with Denver in 2020
- Integrated Arrival, Departure, Surface Operations (FY 2015-2021, \$128M)
 - 462,211 gal of fuel saved and 9,552,417 lbs CO₂ emissions reduction, 2,448 hours reduced engine runtime (as of Sept 30, 2019 CLT trials)
 - FAA's Terminal Flight Data Manager (TFDM) Program will deploy IADS capabilities to 27 airports beginning in 2021
- Efficient Re-routes Around Weather (FY 2015-2019, \$57.8M)
 - Demonstrated re-routes are more direct, fuel-efficient, wind optimal, conflict free, and avoid congested airspace (2018)
 - Multi-flight Common Routes and Dynamic Routing Around Weather informing FAA Traffic
 Flow Management System (TFMS)



ATD-1 FLIGHT TEST







Success Stories: ARMD Research Technology Transfers to FAA

- UAS Traffic Management Low-altitude Small UAS Operations in Dense Urban Environments (FY2015-2021, \$107M)
 - Reno, NV, June 17-28, 2019 and Corpus Christi, TX, August 12-23, 2019
 - Enable FAA's UTM Pilot Program and UAS Integration Pilot Program and Low Altitude Authorization and Notification Capability (LAANC)
- UAS Integration in the NAS (FY2011-2021, \$297M)
 - Recommendations based on research findings for Detect and Avoid, Command and Control and Human Performance leading to RTCA and FAA Standards (2020)
- Deliver to Six Commercial Aviation Safety Team (CAST) Safety Enhancements (FY 2015-2019, \$ 32M)
 - Stall prevention and recovery, aircraft state awareness (2019)
 - In response to CAST SE recommendations following accidents
 - Technology transfer algorithms to FAA and airlines to assist in enhanced simulator training for aircraft stall and upset recovery.





Four UAS autonomously flying over Reno managed by UTM

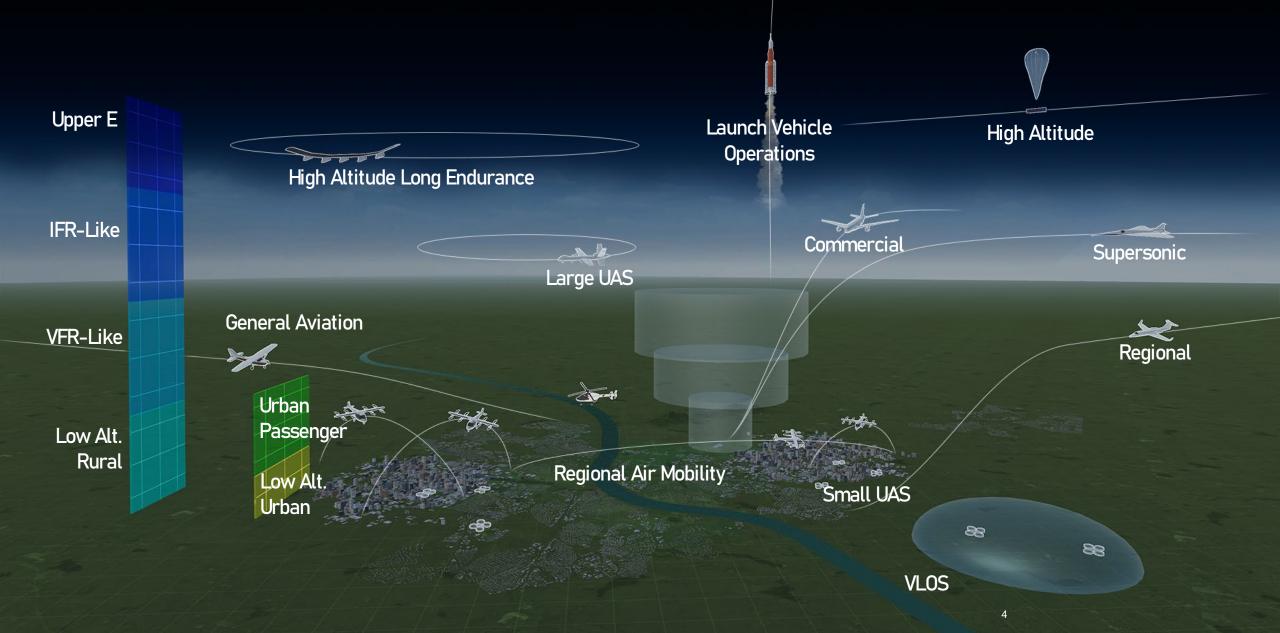




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Operational Domains in the Future Airspace





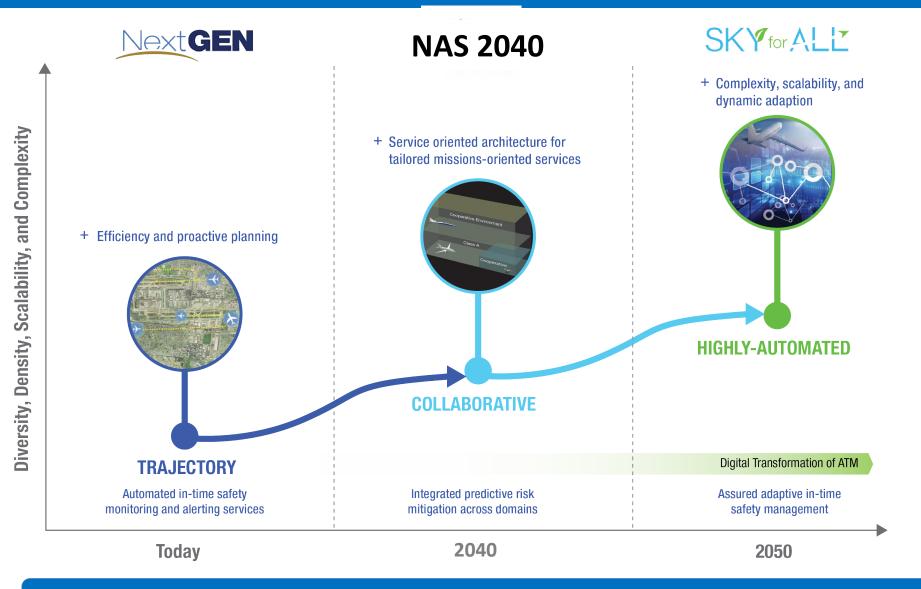
Future Airspace Vision Drivers

- Diversity
 - Vehicles, Performance and Missions
 - Takeoff and landing locations
- Density
 - Operations increase from 10's K to millions
 - Emergent aviation lower altitude operations
- Complexity
 - New operations, airspace
 - Interoperability
- Human-centric approach for provision of airspace and safety services limits scalability





Airspace Vision and Strategy





ICN provides data to power the Sky for All transformation



Airspace Vision and Strategy

- Seamless Integration of Future Diverse Operations
 - Federated Architecture
 - Mission and Service-Oriented
 - Increasingly Autonomous
 - Prognostic Safety
- Technical Approach
 - Validate xTM Concept
 - Define Architecture and Interoperability
 - Evolution of NAS Operations
 - Data-driven ATM Technology for the Existing NAS
 - Disruptive Capabilities for the Future NAS
 - In-Time Safety Assurance
 - Leverage data analytics toward predictive and prognostic safety services
 - Validate IASMS concept and architecture





Digitized, ML and AI-Enabled, Highly Automated & Increasingly Autonomous



NASA and FAA Jointly Delivering Four NAS 2040 Cornerstones

Extensible Traffic Management (xTM)



In-Time Aviation Safety Management System (IASMS)



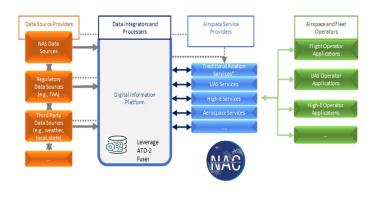
NAS 2040

Integration of Emergent and Autonomous Vehicles





Digital Services Environment (DIP)





AOSP Contributions Toward Airspace Transformation

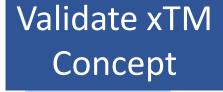
Evolve Toward Federated, Service-Oriented NAS

Digital Information Platform – Data fusion, ML/AI, Agile deployment, ATC and airline services, Sustainable ops demos

Pathfinding for Autonomous Airspace and

Vehicles – Integration of remotely piloted/supervised ops in the NAS, Infrastructure as a service

In-Time Aviation Safety Management System – In time safety assurance services and SMS



Upper-E Traffic Management – Cooperative operating practices for diverse ops, Conflict Mgmt

UAS Traffic Management Beyond Visual Line of

Sight - Pathfinding for rulemaking Interoperability of services, Validation of services

Air Mobility Pathfinders – Architecture, Cooperative operating practices, Interoperability of services, xTM-ATS Interoperability, Requirements for passenger ops, Vehicle, Safety

RAL AVIANO





Leveraging NASA/FAA Research Transition Teams

- Advanced Air Mobility RTT
 - Architecture for the xTM Concept
 - Integration of Autonomous Vehicles into the NAS
- Digital Mesh Technology and Applications RTT
 - Digital Information Platform for Commercial Transports Enabling Service-oriented Architecture
 - ML/AI Digital and Intelligent ATM Services
- Upper E Traffic Management
 - xTM Concept and Mission-oriented Architecture
- UAS Traffic Management RTTs
 - BVLOS for UAS
 - Interoperability
- System Wide Safety RTT
 - In-Time Aviation Safety Management
 - Data Analytics
 - V&V of Complex Systems/Assurance of Autonomy
- Wildfire Management RTT
 - Airspace Access
 - Traffic Management



Summary

- Great progress made on alignment and joint evolution of Sky For All
 - FAA, CANSO, SESAR Joint Undertaking, ATCA, NATCA, Flight Safety Foundation
- AOSP portfolio well aligned to deliver key NAS 2040 capabilities
 - xTM, DIP, IASMS
- AAM, ETM, UTM excellent initial pathfinding for NAS 2040 and Sky For All
- Further refinement of Sky For All in FY24-25
 - Initial Concept of Operations, Functional Reference Architecture, R&D Roadmap
- Key Questions/Studies
 - Autonomy Roadmap
 - Future Flight Decks Roadmap
 - CNSS Requirements Roadmap
 - V&V and Assurance of Autonomy



