

Strategic Management of Airspace, Routes, and Trajectories (SMART)

Transforming Airspace Planning

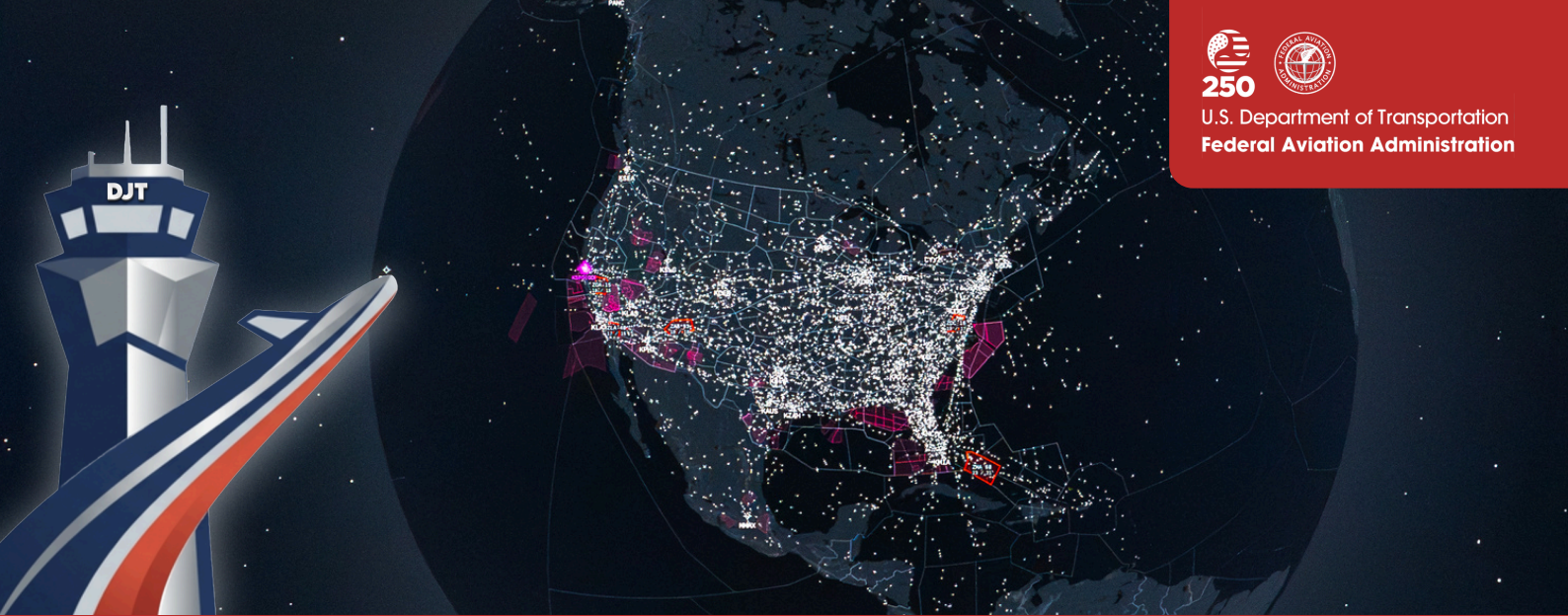
Our goal is simple: zero delays at the start of the day. Flights that depart on time, get passengers to their destinations on time, and follow the most efficient flight paths. We're getting there through SMART.

- SMART is a cloud-based platform system that enhances existing FAA air traffic management systems. It provides air traffic control and aircraft operators with a shared, data-driven view of the National Airspace before flights depart.
- Using AI, SMART analyzes airline schedules, weather, airport capacity, airspace conditions, and operational constraints to predict traffic flows and identify potential conflicts before they occur.
- This shared view helps the FAA, airlines, and operators identify and agree on the most efficient routes and departure times.
- As conditions change throughout the day, SMART continuously updates forecasts and planning recommendations to support operational decision-making.

Why SMART Matters

Today's aviation system faces planning challenges that can result in inefficiencies across the National Airspace System.

- Airlines, operators, and the FAA often plan using different data sources and timelines.
- Operational conflicts may not become apparent until flights are at the gate, taxiing, or already airborne.
- These disconnects can contribute to avoidable delays, increased fuel consumption, missed passenger connections, and reduced system capacity.
- Growing demand for air travel, cargo operations, and advanced air mobility are all competing for the same finite sky. Planning the way we always have will not keep up.



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SMART Addresses Challenges

- Identifying constraints and conflicts earlier, while there is still time and room to address them.
- Enabling more informed decision-making before flights depart: the best routes, timing, and adjustments to clear a problem before it spreads.
- Improving efficiency, predictability, and system-wide performance.
- Supporting growth across the aviation industry while maximizing existing airspace capacity.

What SMART Delivers

Initial operations begin in the Fall of 2026.

- Creates a single shared real-time picture of schedules, weather, airport capacity, and airspace conditions.
- Enhances the effectiveness of existing FAA air traffic management systems.
- Reduces fuel burn and improves on-time performance.
- Speeds recovery from weather and congestion events.
- Creates capacity for new airlines, cargo operators, and advanced air mobility aircraft.

How SMART Fits into the Air Traffic System

- Serves as a planning layer that works alongside existing FAA systems.
- Provides predictive insights on demand, capacity, and weather impacts.
- Supports better planning and situational awareness for operators and controllers.
- Enhances operational efficiency.
- Air traffic controllers remain responsible for keeping aircraft safely separated. SMART helps them do that.