

Issue: The cybersecurity landscape in the aviation ecosystem is changing rapidly, and there are numerous diverse initiatives by different countries and regulatory agencies to address these challenges. The Cybersecurity ARC is considering recommendations with potential international implications that may require the FAA to engage with international regulatory partners on achieving alignment with the different initiatives. These engagements may benefit from identifying an appropriate international coordination mechanism before the Cybersecurity ARC final report is released.

Intent: The Cybersecurity ARC recommends that the FAA consider identifying, leveraging, or establishing appropriate bilateral or multilateral governance channels to provide a timely mechanism for considering international coordination issues that may arise from the ARC's final report. The mechanism(s) could include leveraging an existing FAA/EASA or multilateral forum, assigning an existing subordinate body, or establishing a focused, regulator-led cybersecurity working group after the ARC final report is delivered.

The September 2026 Bilateral Oversight Board (BOB) meeting may provide an appropriate venue to initiate discussion of this recommendation and to evaluate options for establishing suitable coordination mechanisms. Existing forums that could support this effort include BOB subordinate bodies, such as the Certification Oversight Board (COB), and the joint ANAC/FAA/EASA/TCCA Certification Management Team (CMT). The FAA and its international partners may also wish to consider establishing a dedicated forum focused on organizational oversight harmonization, including cybersecurity matters. In addition, consideration should be given to determining which forum or forums would be best positioned to address bilateral and multilateral cross-sector cybersecurity regulations, particularly those affecting aviation through critical infrastructure frameworks and related requirements.

Since establishing new governance mechanisms can require long lead times, the ARC is raising this issue before the final report is released.

This recommendation is intended to preserve the opportunity for timely engagement and should not be interpreted as pre-judging any final ARC recommendation or committing the FAA to any specific regulatory model. The intent is to establish a consultation forum ready to discuss recommended positions or recommendations that will be provided in the forthcoming ARC final report.

Rationale:

- International coordination mechanisms would help the FAA address growing cybersecurity regulations, recommendations, and bilateral issues in a more structured and sustained way.

- Harmonized cybersecurity regulation and oversight between the FAA and other civil aviation authorities, including EASA, benefits the aviation industry.
- Divergent regulatory approaches increase complexity, create duplication, and may weaken aviation safety and security.
- Focused international coordination can support bilateral or multilateral alignment on cybersecurity policy, guidance, and oversight, while helping translate ARC recommendations into practical outcomes.
- Some international bodies, including the BOB, meet only annually.

Approach: The Cybersecurity ARC supports the FAA considering whether to use an existing international governance forum, join an appropriate ongoing coordination mechanism, or establish a focused, regulator-led cybersecurity working group to address international coordination issues arising from the ARC's final recommendations. The September 2026 BOB meeting may provide an appropriate venue to begin that discussion.