April 27, 2021

SWIM Partner Roundtable Sets Course for Data Sharing

April 27, 2021

Since the inception of System Wide Information Management (https://www.faa.gov/air_traffic/technology/swim/overview/), known better as SWIM, the number of information services and amount of information available for information consumers has grown exponentially. As the key program to facilitate information exchange within the National Airspace System (NAS), and with external stakeholders including operators, service providers and academia, SWIM is at the heart of the mission to ensure that the right user has the right information to support their needs.

As a core tenet of their mission, the Program Management Organization's SWIM program has recently taken steps to further improve coordination, collaboration and exchange among its FAA partners. Working with those partners, the SWIM program established a new information sharing venue enabling FAA program colleagues to work towards common goals to advance the FAA toward the future of aviation through information.

Last December, the SWIM program office formed the SWIM Partner Roundtable, which has met twice since its launch. The group is composed of technical, operational and programmatic representatives from various FAA programs that currently use or plan to use SWIM to support their information needs. This forum enables various stakeholders from across the agency to share their successes, challenges and lessons learned as well as their future needs.

"We cannot plan the future of our systems in programmatic silos, we have to work together so that the systems of the NAS can grow and advance together," said SWIM Program Manager Kristin Cropf. "The SWIM Partner Roundtable is just one platform that encourages and facilitates this type of collaboration."

The internally focused Roundtable is modeled similarly to the external user-focused SWIM Industry-FAA Team (https://www.faa.gov/air_traffic/technology/swim/swift/) initiative, known as the SWIFT, established to provide a venue where operators and airspace users can engage and learn about NAS data and information services.

SWIM Program Manager Kristin Cropf

SWIM Segment 3 Lead Stefanie Calabrese

The SWIM Partner Roundtable fosters engagement among FAA programs to share what SWIM means to them and their respective programs, how programs and systems are evolving to meet their user's needs and to discuss areas for collaboration between SWIM and its partner programs. The SWIM program is working with agency collaborators to foster knowledge sharing and relationships across programs so that solutions to the FAA's most challenging problems associated with data and information exchange can be solved through the combined knowledge and wisdom of the participating programs.

Recent discussions have focused on the enhancements planned for the SWIM Segment 3. Participants discussed their needs, both from the perspective of a NAS information producer, as well as an information consumer. With the growing information set, expanding user base and ever-evolving set of technologies, this open collaboration has enabled the SWIM program to better understand the priorities moving forward.

"We really need to be sure that the decisions we are making around future enhancements to SWIM and SWIM services are in alignment with our users' needs," said Cropf. "The success of our mission is dependent on us understanding our stakeholders' needs, collaborating together on how we as one FAA can meet them, and working together to face the future challenges ahead of us."

"Whatever we do has effects on all our users — internal and external," said Stefanie Calabrese, SWIM Segment 3 Lead. "Making sure that we're in alignment with our internal stakeholders is key, so that we have good working relationships and that we're meeting all of our goals."

Cropf says this is a very exciting time, as the FAA is planning improvements to many NAS systems and taking advantage of new technologies that will capitalize on efficiencies to meet user needs.

If you are interested in joining the SWIM Partner Roundtable, please email swim@faa.gov (mailto:swim@faa.gov) .

To register for the next SWIM Users Forum, slated for July 29, visit: https://www.faa.gov/air_traffic/technology/swim/users_forum/ (https://www.faa.gov/air_traffic/technology/swim/users_forum/)

To register for the next SWIFT Forum, slated for May 27, visit: https://www.faa.gov/air_traffic/technology/swim/swift/ (https://www.faa.gov/air_traffic/technology/swim/swift/) (scroll to bottom)

PMO (https://my.faa.gov/focus/article-search.html?q=myfaa:ato/pmo)

SWIM (https://my.faa.gov/focus/article-search.html?q=myfaa:ato/swim)

Comments (0)

Sort by Oldest First

This page can be viewed online at:
https://my.faa.gov/focus/articles/2021/04/SWIM_Partner_Roundta.html