

Press Release

UAE, 11 May 2023

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## **One year of A-SMGCS Level 4 operations at Abu Dhabi International Airport, UAE**

### **Automation solution provides airport with operational and safety benefits**

- **Cooperation between Global Air Navigation Services (GANS) and ATRiCS has reduced runway incursions, flight delays and taxi time**
- **Fully automated conflict detection and resolution between aircraft and vehicles**
- **Benefits for airline operators at Abu Dhabi International Airport, including Etihad Airways**

Global Air Navigation Services (GANS) and ATRiCS, a member of the Frequentis Group, have delivered operational and safety benefits to Abu Dhabi Airports, since the implementation of the ATRiCS TowerPad system (T-PAD) on 7 March 2022, which applies Level 4 Advanced Surface Movement Guidance and Control System (A-SMGCS).

The state-of-the-art tower automation system from ATRiCS has provided an unrivalled level of integration and delivered fully automated conflict detection and resolution between aircraft and vehicles on the surface of the airport, benefitting the various airline operators at Abu Dhabi International Airport, including its home-based carrier, Etihad Airways.

As the end-user providing aerodrome control services, GANS prepared the system and operational requirements, managed the project, produced the Method of Operations (MOPS) customised to the operating environment of Abu Dhabi International Airport.

GANS also conducted the training for its air traffic controllers and engineers, developed the safety assessment, obtained regulatory approval, and was actively involved in the airside trials and shadow mode testing prior to implementation.

In its first year of operation, the system has provided the airport with operational benefits, such as the reduction in the time of radio transmissions by an average of six seconds for each arrival and eight seconds for each departure, which provides the controllers with more time for planning and coordination tasks.

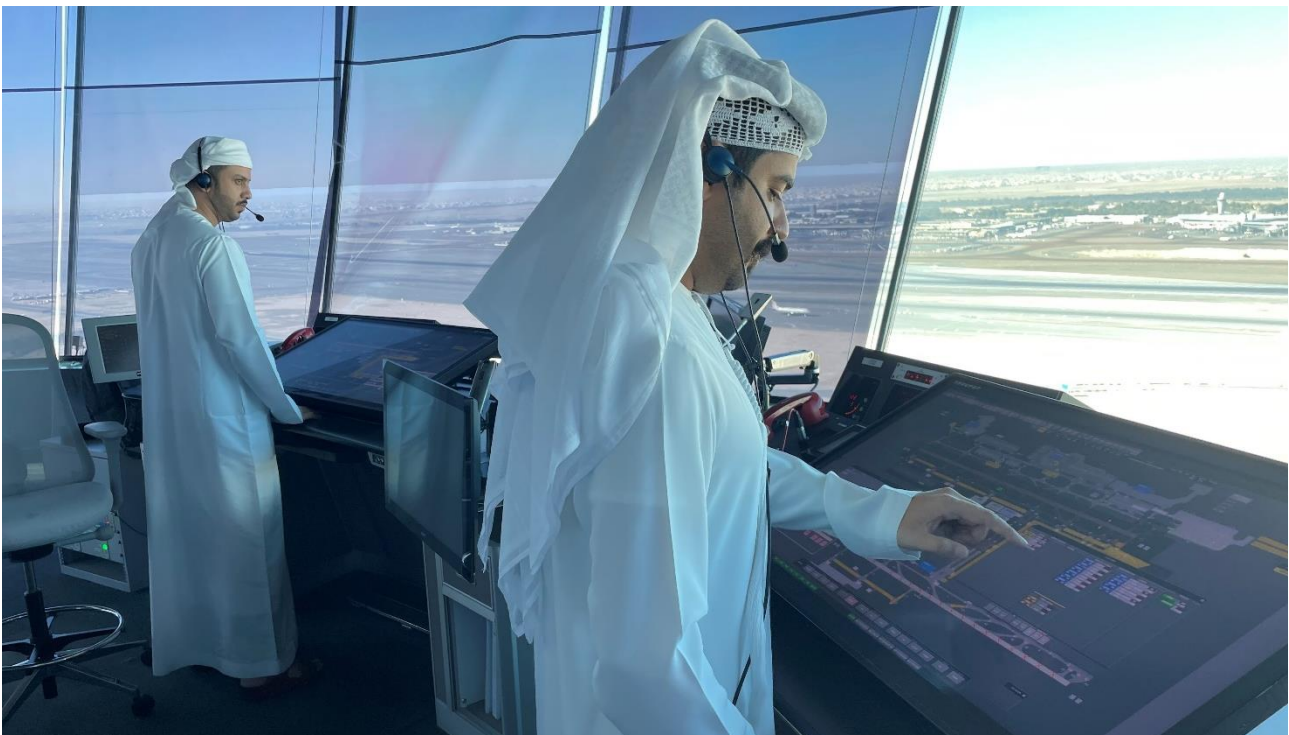
A notable safety benefit has been the reduction in the number of taxiway incursions that take place during the hours of operation of the “Follow the Greens”. Airfield Ground Lighting is now fully automated and controlled via the T-PAD.

“The implementation is aligned with GANS’ strategy to adopt innovative technological developments to improve the services provided to customers. TowerPad continues to prove its abilities as it enables the increase in capacity as air traffic demand at Abu Dhabi International Airport continues to grow,” says Yahya Al Hammadi, GANS CEO.

ATRICS T-PAD implements the Level 4 A-SMGCS functions for the routing service and guidance service by automatic switching of taxiway centerline lights and stop bars. T-PAD also provides the end-user with capabilities such as Integrated Controller Working position (ICWP), Floating Spacing (automated longitudinal separation) and Stripless Electronic Clearance Input.

“The roll-out of ATRiCS T-PAD at Abu Dhabi International Airport is the most advanced technology anywhere in Air Traffic Management,” stated Wolfgang Hatzack, CEO ATRiCS. “We are delighted to see Abu Dhabi Airports benefit from the long-term use of the system allowing the airport and airlines to benefit from fewer flight delays and shorter taxi time thanks to better predictability of arrivals and departures. As part of Frequentis OneATM, ATRiCS products are also being implemented in tower solutions, uniting market-leading technologies into one open ATM ecosystem.”

The TowerPad has been demonstrated on the GANS stand throughout this year’s Airport Show, Dubai.



TowerPad in use at Abu Dhabi International Airport

© Abu Dhabi Airport

## About FREQUENTIS

Frequentis is a global supplier of communication and information systems for control centres with safety-critical tasks. The listed family company develops and markets its “control centre solutions” in the Air Traffic Management segment (civil and military air traffic control, air defence) and the Public Safety & Transport segment (police, fire brigades, emergency rescue services, railways, coastguards, port authorities). With a market share of 30%, Frequentis is the world market leader in voice communication systems for air traffic control. Frequentis is also the global leader in aeronautical information management and aeronautical message handling systems.

As a global player with around 2,100 employees (full-time equivalents/FTE), Frequentis has a global network of companies and representatives in more than 50 countries. Its head office is in Vienna, Austria. Frequentis' products, services, and solutions are used at more than 45,000 operator working positions in around 150 countries. Shares in Frequentis are traded on the Vienna and Frankfurt stock exchanges; ISIN: ATFREQUENT09, WKN: A2PHG5. In 2022, revenues were EUR 386,0 million and EBIT was EUR 25.0 million.

Wherever Frequentis' systems are used, safety-critical operators bear responsibility for the safety of other people and goods. The company also works towards a more sustainable future through its air traffic optimisation solutions.

For more information, please visit [www.frequentis.com](http://www.frequentis.com)

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## About Global Air Navigation Services

With over 900 highly skilled subject matter experts, GANS is a leading provider of air navigation and consultancy services. It provides the complete array of air navigation services using its vast network of experts, procedures and equipment. Based on its extensive experience from providing air traffic services at 17 airports, it handles over 740,000 air traffic movements annually.

Founded in 2007, GANS delivers safe, efficient, and cost-effective air navigation services. Certified by the National Supervisory Authority, GANS is well renowned for its provision of specialised technical services to meet the needs of customers.

GANS services include high-quality and safety critical approach and aerodrome air traffic services, including certified training from its state-of-the-art training facility. GANS has delivered services and worked with customers across nineteen countries.

GANS strategic focus on continuous improvement is underpinned by developing, leveraging, and investing in innovative technological advances to deliver cost effective and efficient solutions to customers.

For more information, please visit [www.gans.aero](http://www.gans.aero)

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