IMPLEMENTATION OF RECAT AT LARGE METRO-PLEX AIR TRAFFIC FACILITIES

Atlanta (A80)
New York (N90)

Presented to: WakeNet Europe
By: Mike Jenkins & Joel Forrest
Date: April 21, 2015
OVERVIEW

• Facilities Utilizing Recat Procedures
• Implementation Decision
• Training Plan Development/Implementation
• Initial Operating Capability Support
• Lessons Learned/Solutions
Recat at Large Metro-Plex Facilities

Recat Today

11/2012
8/2013
3/2014
6/2014
12/2014
3/2015
3/2015
Implementation Decision

• Quarter year target implementation windows provided by NextGen Implementation Work Group

• FAA Wake Manager and NATCA Article 48 Representative meet with facilities and users to discuss Recat implementation

• Decision is made on initial plans and a target Initial Operating Capability (IOC) target date is identified

• HSI Subject Matter Experts (SME) are tasked with air traffic training and implementation support
THE CHALLENGE

• Deliver Recat Training to a Large TRACON and up to 6 satellite Air Traffic Control Towers (ATCT)

• Reach out to pilot community with a large diversity of operators

• Train as many as 500 Air Traffic personnel

• Deliver and test software revisions/automation changes

• All within 6 weeks
Training Plan Development/Implementation

• HSI team meets with facility personnel including management, training staff and NATCA representative
  
  o Review task
  
  o Present Overview of training
  
  o Determine number of operational personnel/staff
  
  o Discuss facility limitations concerning training schedule
Training Plan Development/Implementation

• Gain in-depth understanding of operational requirements
  o TRACON
  o Each satellite ATCT

• Determine type of equipment at each location
  o Flight Data Input/Output (FDIO)
  o Electronic Flight Strip Transfer System (EFSTS)
  o Airport Surface Detection Equipment Model X (ASDE-X)
Develop Customized Training Plans

- Individual training plans are developed for each facility
  - Based upon facility function/procedures
  - Number of required instructors is determined

- Classes are 2 hours in length, depending upon facility function

- Plan includes enhanced training of facility Cadre Instructors
Atlanta Large TRACON (A80)

• Initial IOC included operations at Atlanta Hartsfield Int’l (ATL)

• Satellite Tower Limitations
  o EFSTS vs FDIO technology (example, next slide)
  o Support for Letter of Agreement (LOA) addendums
  o Facilities provided “Small Tower Briefings”
Software Update Enables FDIO To Print Wake Character

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New York TRACON (N90)

- Six satellite airports IOC simultaneously
  - Kennedy (JFK)
  - LaGuardia (LGA)
  - Newark (EWR)
  - Teterboro (TET)
  - White Planes (HPN)
  - Islip (ISP)
Training Plan Development/Implementation

• Assist facility with decision making pertaining to equipment options, example Recat character on ASDE-X display

• Support facility in preparation for testing and actual IOC

• HSI assists in Automated Terminal Proximity Alert (ATPA) training when needed

• Recat and ATPA training was conducted simultaneously at N90 facilities, with NATCA ATPA Article 48 Representatives as primary instructors
HSI/NATCA/Wake Office Provides On Site Support During IOC

- SMEs assigned to operating floors of ATCTs and TRACONS for 2+ days after IOC
- Interaction with controllers limited to operational issues
- Ensure equipment/automation operating as specified
- Initiate action to correct anomalies
- Provide immediate feedback to Wake Office for any necessary corrective action
Lessons Learned/Solutions

• Conduct initial meeting with air traffic facilities involved at least 6 months in advance of IOC to ensure best outcome
  o Provide methodical planning and execution of software updates and training
  o Ensure LOAS are adequately negotiated between facilities transition to RECAT and those not changing separations
  o Provide sufficient education to Pilot community so that conversations happen before IOC and not on the frequency post implementation

• Schedule additional time with the facility, after initial briefing, to allow for one-on-one time with support personnel and NATCA Reps for additional questions/dialog.
Lessons Learned/Solutions

• Schedule facility cadre instructors to attend an enhanced training class. Cadre instructors should conduct classes with the assistance of HSI instructors in order to facilitate future, facility sustained, training. This also garners early facility support of the program.

• Encourage all communications, especially email traffic, to include HSI instructors, NATCA, Wake Office and Facility Support Specialist who are engaged with the facility. This ensures the timely exchange of information that may affect training or IOC.
Lessons Learned/Solutions

- Answering the facilities questions in a timely manner paid large dividends. This instills facility confidence in the support required for a smooth implementation.

- Understand the diversity of the local pilot Community. The more complete the pilot community is educated the smoother the transition to RECAT.
Questions/Discussion
BACK UP SLIDES
Recat Today

MEMPHIS (11/2012)
LOUSIVILLE (8/2013)
CINNCINATTI (3/2014)
ATLANTA (6/2014)
HOUSTON (12/2014)
NEW YORK (3/2015)
CHARLOTTE (3/2015)

All four RECAT Phase I sites transitioned to RECAT Phase 1.5 on April 1, 2015