
Budapest, 17 December 2015

HungaroControl and Wizz Air signed a cooperation agreement

On 14 December 2015, Tamás Zsolnay, Director of Development and External Relations, and Gyula Hangyál, ATM Director of HungaroControl Magyar Légiforgalmi Szolgálat Zrt. signed a cooperation agreement together with Diederik Pen, Chief Operations Officer of Wizz Air Hungary Kft. The agreement defines the frameworks of the cooperation covering five areas, including flight safety, operations and operations planning, research and development, education and training, as well as service quality and customer satisfaction.

The Hungarian air navigation service provider and the airline company with Hungarian ownership participated in many joint projects over the past few years. The recently signed document helped elevate the cooperation to a strategic level, while specifying the areas particularly important regarding the day-to-day operations and service development strategies of both companies.

One of the key elements of the agreement is **flight safety**. The cooperation in this field provides the opportunity for the relevant employees of both companies – i.e. pilots and air traffic controllers – to participate in the trainings organised by the other party, as well as to collaboratively address and investigate flight safety related announcements.

Within the framework of the **cooperation regarding operations and operational planning**, the Budapest-based pilots of Wizz Air have the opportunity to visit the operations room, the air traffic control tower, and the emergency control centre (opening in the first quarter of 2016). Additionally, HungaroControl takes part in the fuel efficiency projects of Wizz Air by providing data and consultations of experts. Wizz Air provides the expertise as an airline company for HungaroControl before the introduction of new concepts, and also during procedure planning.

During their joint **research and development projects**, the companies have already tested CPDLC (Controller Pilot Data Link Communication - data communication between the pilots and air traffic controllers) and CDM (Collaborative Decision Making - constant cooperation between airline companies, air navigation organisations, suppliers of ground-handling services, airports, and EUROCONTROL's Central Flow Management Unit), and they continue their cooperation regarding the rTWR (Remote Tower - remote tower-control) demonstration project

within the framework of the SESAR program(Single European Sky ATM Research) financed by the European Union.

Within the frameworks of the **education and training program**, Wizz Air organises cockpit flights and visits to the A320 simulator for air traffic controllers, while HungaroControl provides opportunities for Budapest-based pilots to take part in simulations organised by the company, and on the mandatory theoretical and simulation trainings of air traffic controllers.

The constant improvement of **service quality and customer satisfaction** is equally important for both parties, so the collaboration in these fields will continue in the future as well: the pilots and the experts of Wizz Air take part in conducting periodic surveys about customer satisfaction (organised by HungaroControl), and participate in airline workshops and other consultations regarding service quality.

The efficiency of the cooperation will be annually reviewed by the two companies, who will also consult about the possible involvement of new areas.

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About HungaroControl

Due to its state-of-the-art technology and developments and services, HungaroControl Magyar Légiforgalmi Szolgálat Zrt is one of the renowned service providers in international aviation, and an active regional initiator and co-operating partner of the European Union's integration efforts under the Single European Sky.

According to EUROCONTROL's statistical data and forecasts, the number of flights in Europe is 10 million per annum, and in the next 20 years this figure may even double. During the past few years HungaroControl has launched several significant projects to improve its air navigation services, guarantee the safe management of the increasing air traffic, and promote the imminent success of the integration undertaken by the European Union.

Due to its continuous innovation and the application of the results of its research and development, HungaroControl has an outstanding role in Europe in flight safety improvements, capacity increases, reduction of airline costs and increased environmental protection. As a result of combined efforts and on commission from NATO, since 3 April 2014, HungaroControl has been managing civilian air traffic overflights in the upper airspace over Kosovo. In February 2015 HungaroControl was the first to adopt Free Route Airspace use without any limitations in Hungary's entire airspace, well before the deadline (1 January 2022) set by the European Commission.

In addition to improving its traditional air navigation services and technical and technological background, one of HungaroControl's strategic objectives is the establishment of a regional, Central European air navigation knowledge centre in joint effort with its partners.

The purpose of HungaroControl's capital investment projects is to enable the Central European Functional Airspace Block (FAB CE), a regional co-operation of seven Central European countries, to provide competitive services and operate at the highest technical and technological standard.

About Wizz Air

Wizz Air is the largest low-cost airline in Central and Eastern Europe, currently operates a fleet of 64 Airbus A320 and A321 aircraft and offers over 400 routes from 23 bases, connecting 116 destinations across 38 countries. At Wizz Air, a team of approximately 2,600 aviation professionals delivers superior service and very low ticket prices making Wizz Air the preferred choice of 16.5 million passengers in the financial year ended 31 March 2015. Wizz Air is listed on the London Stock Exchange under the ticker: WIZZ and is included in the FTSE 250 and FTSE All-Share Indices