Delivering world-class training in air traffic management for over 60 years
Finding better solutions
Leading the aviation industry in business and development

NATS leads the aviation industry in business and technological development, offering wide-ranging expertise and innovative services to meet the ongoing challenges of airports, airlines, governments and ANSPs.

NATS’ services are proven in the world’s most complex airspace and provide our customers around the globe with a valuable commercial focus. Backed by the substantial resources of the organisation, NATS is constantly seeking innovative ways to manage every aspect of air traffic, helping its customers perform and grow with maximum safety and efficiency. Our innovative solutions will help your organisation perform at the highest level.
Foreword
What we can do for your organisation

NATS delivers high quality and effective training to air navigation service providers around the world as well as to our own operations. During recent years we have transformed the way in which we design and deliver our training, creating a learning environment in which everyone takes ownership.
Stunning new facility

Our transformation programme has included moving to a stunning new facility which offers leading edge technology and equipment. This allows us to be confident that we can deliver training solutions to match changes in technology far into the future and also places us in an ideal position to offer our services commercially.

Continued professional development

Our investment in continued professional development for our instructional staff ensures the best possible learning environment for experienced controllers, engineers and controllers of the future. We are committed to building long term relationships with our customers by meeting their training and simulation needs.
About us
State-of-the-art resource and training facility

NATS’ training facility is a 4000 square metre state-of-the-art resource with all the flexibility that a purpose-built training facility offers. It is on the site of NATS Corporate & Technical Centre at Whiteley in Hampshire and is just three miles from one of the largest and busiest international air traffic control centres in the world at Swanwick.
Our training facility offers:

- dedicated ATC simulator rooms for Basic, Aerodrome, Approach, Area and On The Job Training with a total of 45 student positions;
- a suite of eight aerodrome simulators using the latest 3D technology to recreate an authentic airport control tower environment ensuring the best possible learning experience for air traffic controllers of the future;
- a dedicated Direct Voice Input (DVI) Training assistant suite;
- a Learning Resource Centre (LRC);
- six multi-functional classrooms;
- a restaurant and sport facilities.

Engineering Technical Training

In addition to our ATC training facilities we have classrooms dedicated to Engineering Technical Training. Two of these classrooms are dedicated to IT based training and a further classroom is fitted for training on Ethernet network systems.

Navigation Aids Training

For Navigation Aids Training, NATS maintains a facility at Heckfield in Hampshire. This allows a hands-on training experience to Depth B on equipment such as:
- Instrument Landing System and Far Field Monitor
- Digitally Resolved Direction Finding
- Instrumented Runway Visual Ranging
- Distance Measuring Equipment
- Doppler VHF Omni-Range all with associated antenna systems.

Our own training system takes delegates through all levels from ab-initio to equipment qualification and we run our own Engineering Technician scheme which is endorsed by the Institute of Engineering & Technology (IET).

Air Traffic Safety Electronics Personnel (ATSEP) training

Basic training covers all recognised ATSEP threads (Surveillance, Voice Communications, Data Communications, Navigation Aids and System Monitoring and Control). Many courses are 50% theory and 50% practical, enabling delegates to achieve a thorough understanding of a basic concept or system before moving on to more specific equipment courses.
The UK was the first European country to organise regular training courses for Air Traffic Controllers. In 1949 the School of Air Traffic Control was formed at Hurn to train the Air Ministry’s controllers and assistants.
End to End training approach
Through our progressive “End to End” ATCO training approach we constantly improve every aspect of our training courses, from Safety and the Environment through to improved success and reduced average training times, ensuring that our training courses provide the very best value for money.

Playing an active role in key ATM development programmes such as Single European Sky (SES) and the Single European Sky ATM Research Programme (SESAR), ensures that NATS is well placed to provide quality, affordable training products for today and for future ATM Concepts of Operation.

Purpose built facility
In August 2011, NATS relocated to a purpose built training facility at the NATS Corporate and Technical Centre. This is where we continue to provide NATS with all of its Tower, Approach and En-Route training requirements as well as training for all NATS Engineering staff.

Supplying training worldwide
From 1959 other nations began to send students to the UK for ATC training. Since then almost all of NATS’ air traffic controllers have been trained at our training school, alongside students from many countries worldwide. Some client brands we have recently worked with include LPS (Slovakia), CAD (Hong Kong), Avinor (Norway), Brunei Shell Petroleum and Jersey Airport.

Innovation
The training and research conducted by NATS has had a significant impact on UK and global Air Traffic Management. Throughout this time the NATS simulation and development teams have played a pivotal role in bringing innovation into our ATM tools. As an integral part of NATS, our training benefits from active involvement of operational controllers in the development of new airspace, tools and methods of operation.
Our people
The highest levels of instructional capability and experience

ATC Training Capability
All our instructional staff are experienced controllers. Many remain operationally valid or partake in annual refresher programmes at our airports or area control centres. Our local competency scheme ensures confidence in our instructional capability. Our staff training is compliant with European regulation and both our Air Traffic Controllers (ATCOs) and pseudo pilots are examined annually to ensure that a high degree of capability is maintained.
Highly experienced team
Our training is supported by an experienced team of ATC support staff providing pseudo pilot services, data prep and ATC project support. Our pseudo pilots provide support for ab-initio training through to complex airspace re-design and ATM tools development in a busy and complex environment. Staff are trained under an approved Unit Training Plan (UTP) and our specialist training team can deliver training and development of a UTP under any regulatory environment. Data preparation provision includes airspace mapping, Flight Data Processing (FDP) and exercise creation, including the use of live traffic samples. Our project specialists deliver airspace design programmes and ATC training materials.

Experience beyond the classroom
The experience of our instructors extends beyond involvement in the classroom and simulators. They play an integral part in course development and the writing and editing of lessons. Our courses are continually revised in order to remain compliant with legislation and an ever-changing technological landscape. Our aim is to always bring out the best in our students and equip them with the skills and knowledge to make them trusted experts in this highly specialised field.

Engineering Training
Our Engineering Trainers are time served personnel who have a wealth of experience both internally with NATS and externally. All of our Engineering Trainers are certified under the TAP© training scheme and are reassessed annually to maintain their delivery skills competence. We also have engineering training consultancy experts who are able to carry out a full training needs analysis of your requirements before recommending bespoke training courses to best suit those requirements.
Courses at NATS are delivered using an all-encompassing blend of learning techniques developed in conjunction with our in-house Human Factors experts.

Years of experience and research have proved that this is the most effective approach for achieving success from our students.
Pre-learning elements
To deliver the required learning as efficiently as possible many of our courses include an element of pre-learning to help familiarise students with the basic ATC knowledge before instructor-led training in the classroom and simulator commences.

Practical simulator training
Practical training on simulators is introduced as early as possible and includes immediate feedback and the opportunity for students to understand what they did well and learn from their mistakes. Practical training in the simulator covers a wide scope of realistic exercises within a structured timetable, with increasing traffic levels and complexity as the course progresses.

Learning Resource Centre
All NATS students have access to our extensive Learning Resource Centre (LRC). The LRC provides both private and communal study areas for students and staff to work, use the Internet, and access our resources 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Resources include a live traffic display (with feed from Swanwick Area control centre), access to NATS and Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) documentation and International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) and European publications. An incident kiosk displaying real ATC incidents is also available to enable ‘lessons learnt’ to be shared with the student community.
Whiteley, home to the NATS state-of-the-art training facility, is located in southern Hampshire between the two cities of Portsmouth and Southampton and close to the market town of Fareham. The development is situated close to Junction 9 of the M27 motorway, and is served by local rail services at nearby Swanwick railway station.
Fast routes to all parts of the UK

Southampton and Portsmouth are both easily accessible by motorway and trunk roads providing fast routes to all parts of the UK. Both cities are also linked to London by fast rail services with a journey time of approximately one and a half hours to London’s Waterloo Station terminus.

With its own international airport, Southampton is within easy reach of Europe and has good connections to cross-channel ferries and the Eurostar rail service. Southampton Airport serves many UK and European destinations and is about twenty minutes by taxi to the training facility in Whiteley. The London airports of Heathrow and Gatwick are both about one and a half hours away by road.

On the doorstep of the Swanwick Control Centre

NATS Swanwick is just three miles from our training facility at Whiteley. It combines the civil and military operations for the London Flight Information Region (FIR). In addition to en route and terminal control services our Swanwick controllers also provide an approach service to aircraft inbound to Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted.
Complying with ever-evolving ICAO and European regulation calls for on-going commitment to operational staff training.

Our training
Providing the very best consultancy in every aspect of ATM training
Beyond ATM training

NATS provides a wide range of training solutions which are continually updated to address changing requirements. Our offering extends beyond ATM courses and simulations. We are able to apply our extensive experience to provide consultancy in every aspect of ATM training. Please contact us for further information.

Added value

Our management of Air Traffic Control and engineering services at NATS Airports and Area Control centres brings significant added value to you, our customers. We provide an ATC service at some of the world’s busiest airports and area control centres. One key benefit is the access we are able to offer to these units. As well as training, our students gain knowledge, understanding and practice in the skills they need to succeed in ATM.
Our simulation capability
NATS’ own simulator: uniquely flexible and highly scalable air traffic control simulation
NATS also has significant expertise in creating and providing bespoke airspace configurations and tools as well as airspace simulations. This expertise can help your business respond to the increased need for operational capacity.

NATS Engineers are behind the ground-breaking Ace Simulator – a uniquely flexible and highly scalable air traffic control simulator incorporating many technically advanced components including Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP), video capture, speech recognition and trajectory prediction tools.

With the combination of its 50-plus expert team, superb facilities, advanced scientific software and rapid validation service, Ace has the flexibility to create bespoke simulations to suit individual objectives.
Summary
Supplying some of the world’s busiest airports and en route centres

NATS is the only training provider in the UK which is associated with an ANSP. We provide high quality training to some of the world’s busiest airports and en route centres.

We pride ourselves on the quality and calibre of our ATC and Engineering training, utilising the extensive operational capabilities of our staff. Our valued customers choose and trust NATS Training because of our:
- state-of-the-art training facilities equipped with the latest training equipment
- highly qualified and professional instructors many of whom still hold validations in some of the busiest and most complex airspace in the world
- quality training programmes approved by the UK Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) and International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO), and certified by ISO 9001:2008.

We hope you have found this literature valuable and informative. If you would like to know more, our training experts will be happy to answer your questions and discuss your training needs.
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Contact

NATS Training
Mail Box 25 (E1-105)
NATS CTC
4000 Parkway
Whiteley
Fareham
Hampshire
PO15 7FL

T: +44 (0)1489 444744
E: training@nats.co.uk

http://www.nats.co.uk