

NATS

leidos



Intelligent   
Approach

Enhancing airport resilience  
and runway capacity

# What is Intelligent Approach?



Building on the experience with Time Based Separation

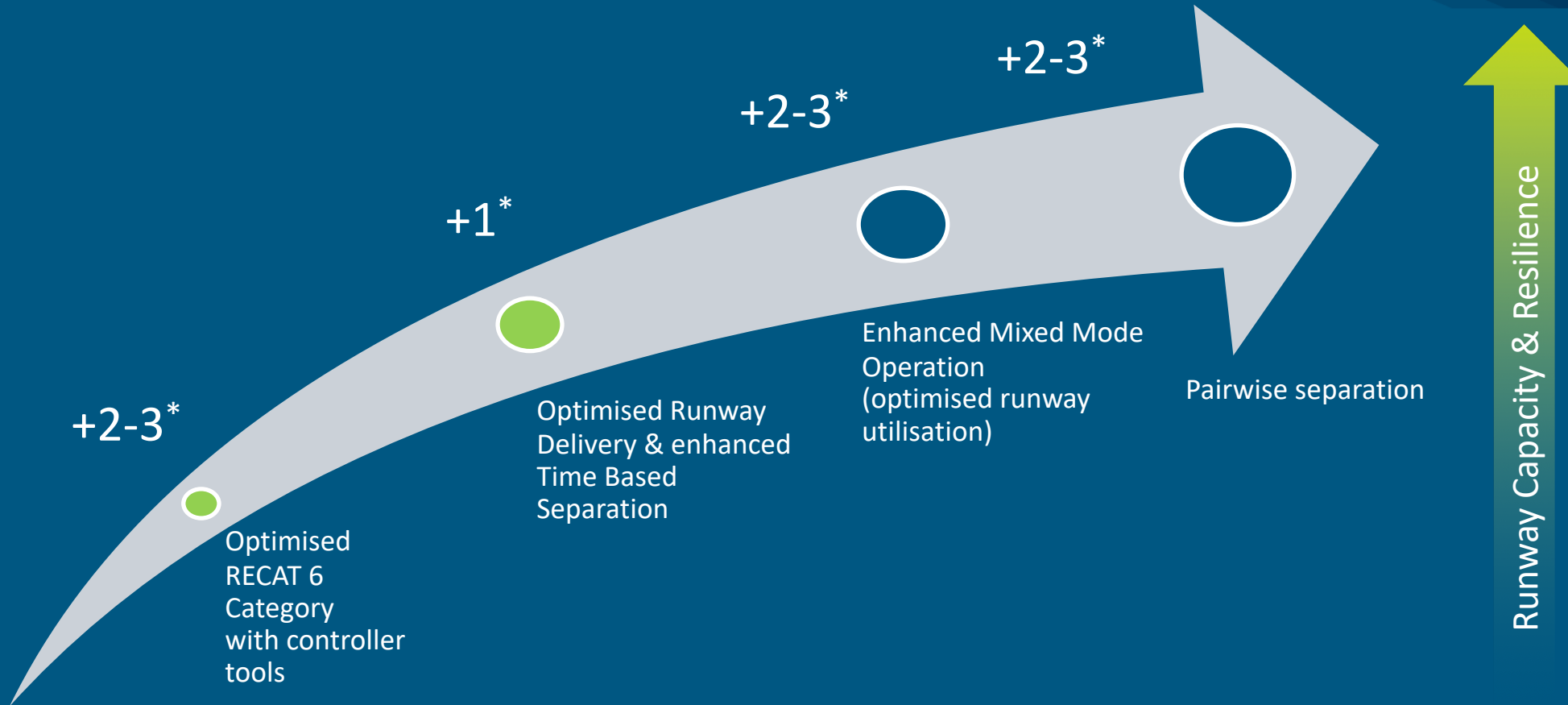
Adaptive controller tools to safely optimise arrival spacing for all conditions, including:

- Optimised wake vortex spacing (RECAT, ORD & Pairwise)  
= **additional runway capacity & consistency**
- Optimised spacing for mixed mode (arrival/departure) runways  
= **additional runway capacity & safety**
- Time Based Separation providing mitigation for lost capacity due headwinds  
= **resilience**
- Improved consistency of operational service delivery  
= **better overall on time performance**

Intelligent Approach is modular in design and can be easily integrated into customer existing ATM system

# Optimisation Of Runway Capacity & Resilience

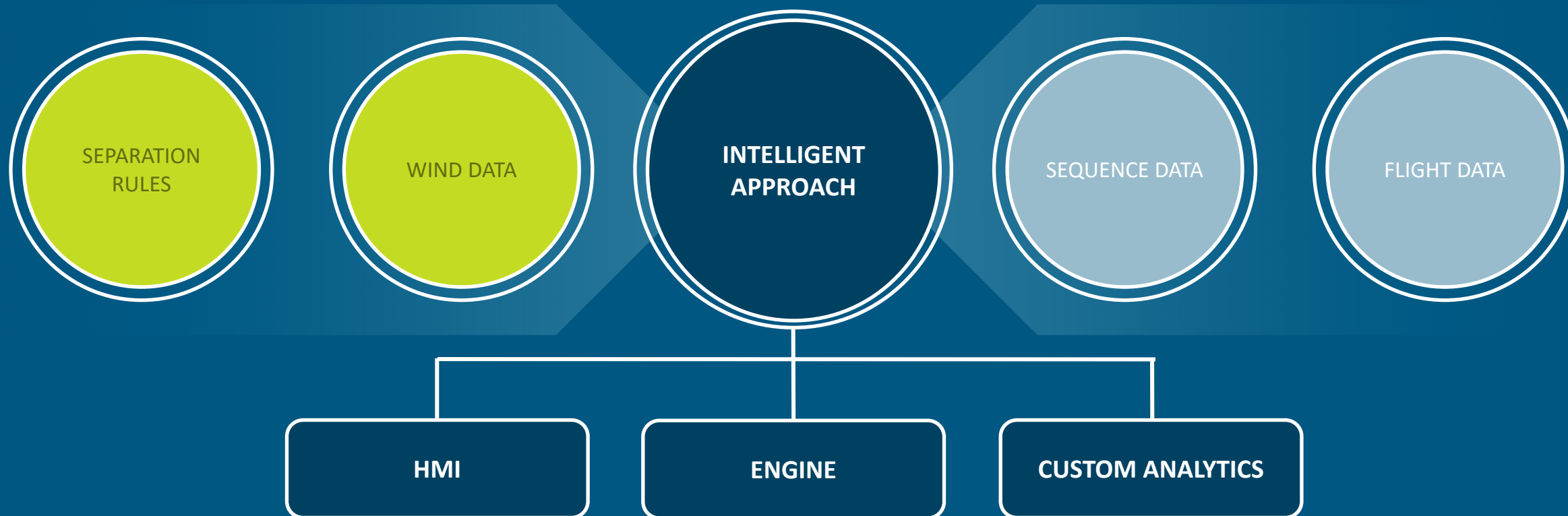
for any airport & runway configuration



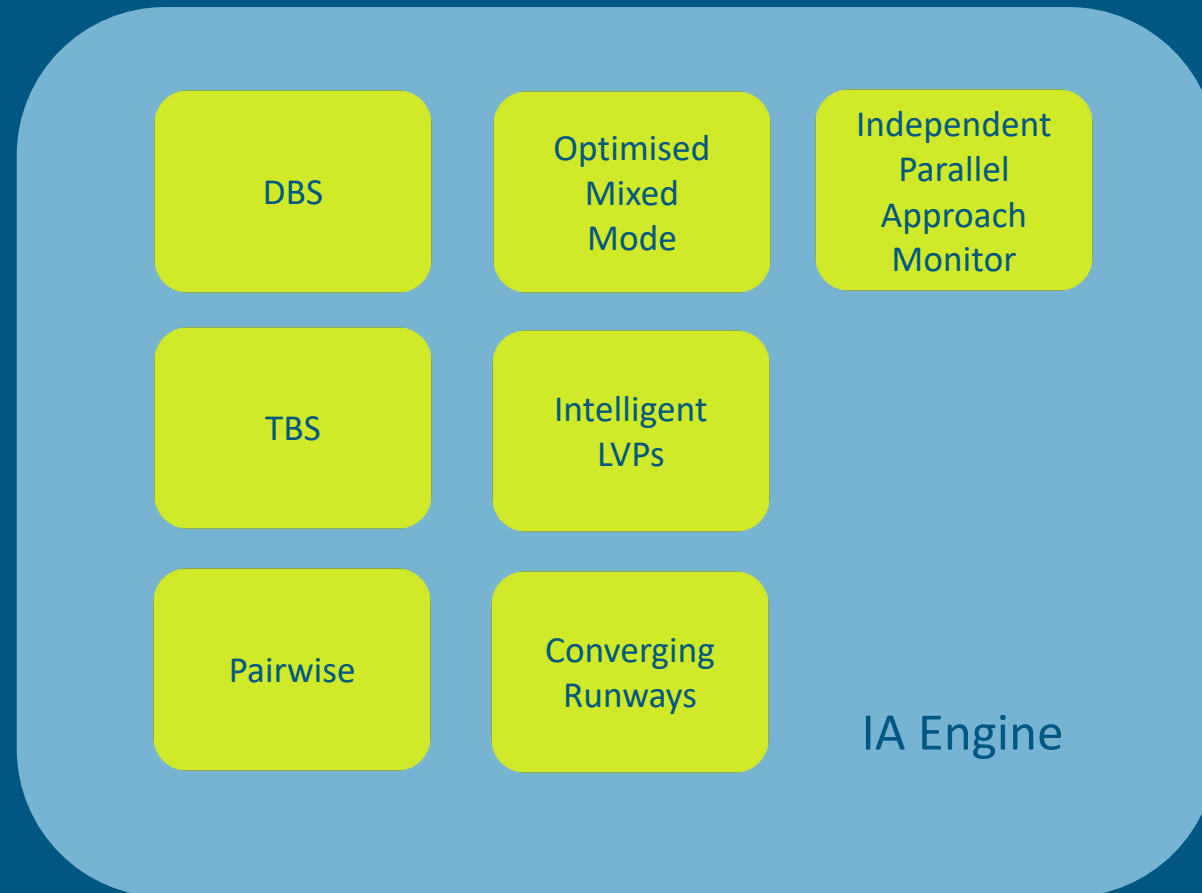
\*Indicative Capacity Gain will vary with traffic mix, runway strategy & current wake vortex rules used

# Modular Design

works with existing ATM systems



# Intelligent Approach Application features



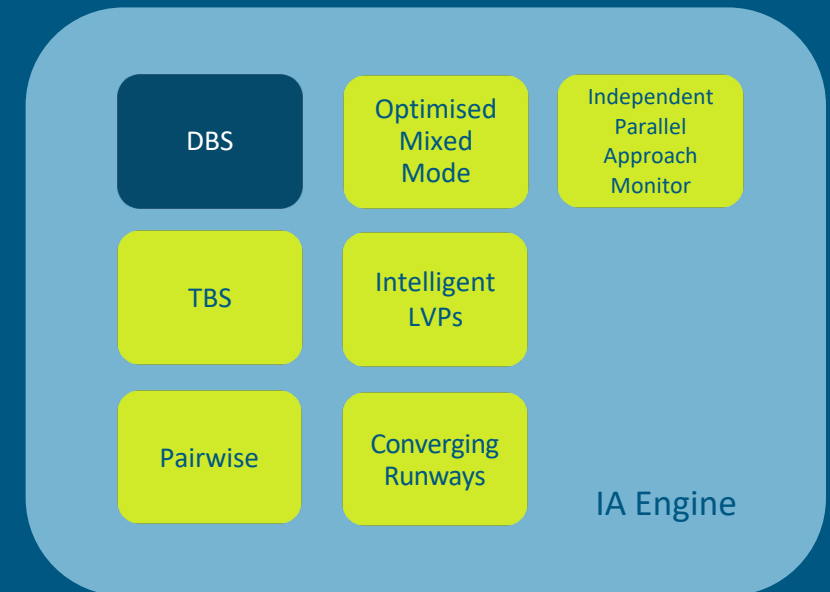
# Distance Based Separation (DBS)

First deployed at Heathrow February 2015

- Improves the consistency of approach spacing
- Provides controllers with visual indication of the required separation between aircraft with optimised wake spacing rules
- Simplifies the implementation of RECAT (6 or 7 Category) Wake Vortex Separation

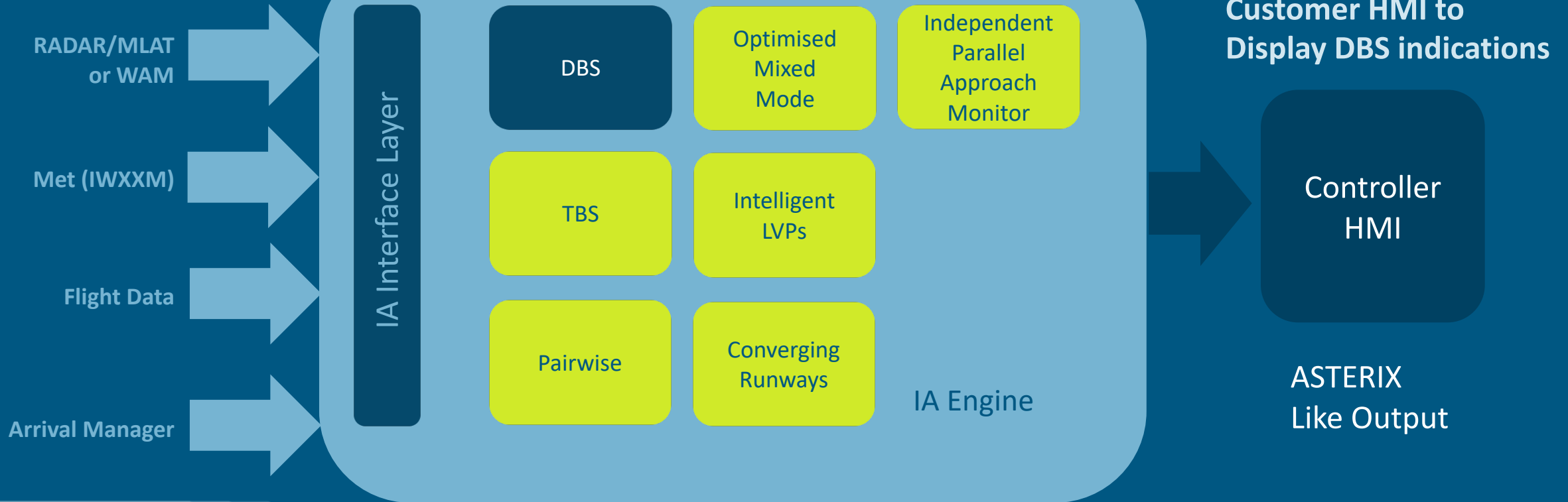
## Benefits

- Typical capacity gain +2-3 landings per hour (may be higher for some airfields)



# DBS Implementation

Uses Existing Customer ATM System output data



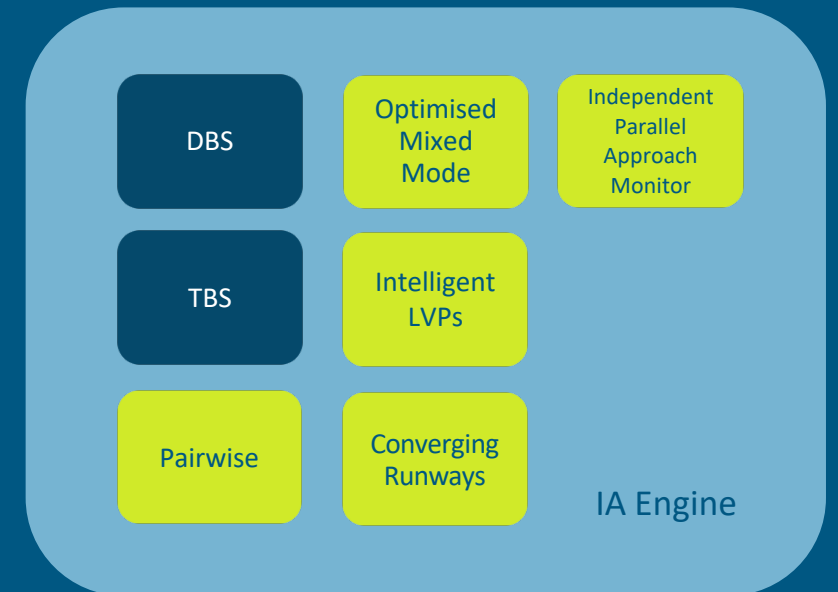
# Time Based Separation (TBS)

In operation at Heathrow since March 2015

- Dynamically adjusts final approach separation for headwind component keeping spacing equivalent to 5-7 knot headwind
- Allows controllers to manage changing wind conditions

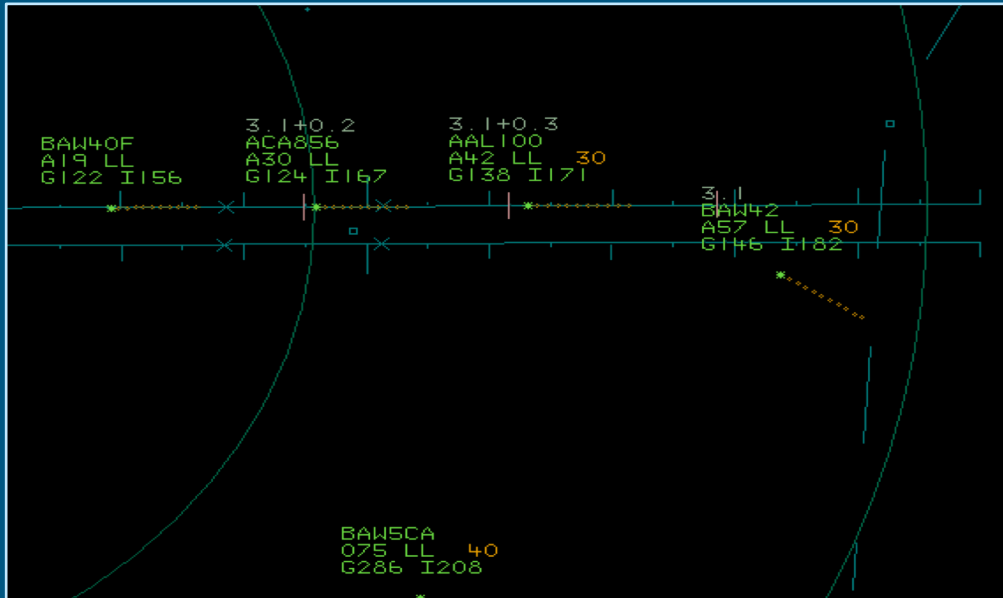
## Benefits

- Typical capacity gain +2.6 landings per hour in headwinds on final approach >20 knots
- No increase in wake encounters or go-arounds

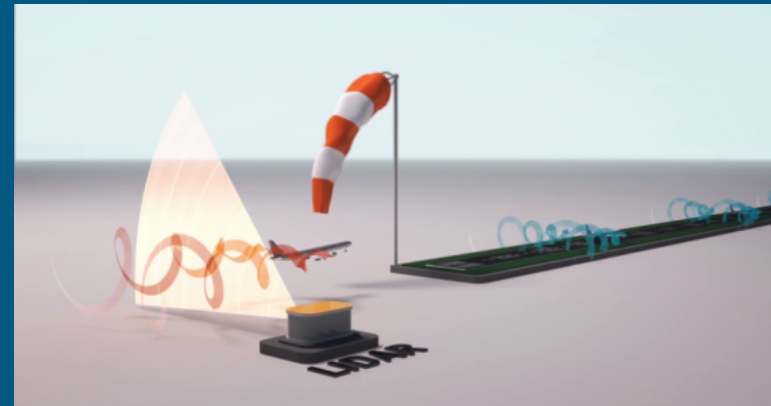




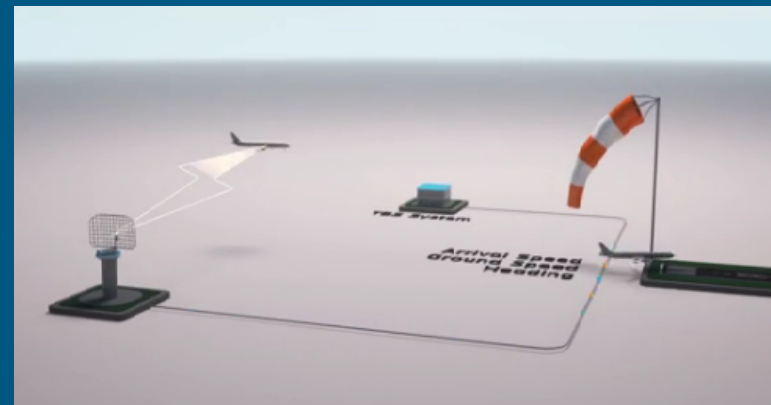
# Intelligent Approach Features



Controller HMI with Dynamic separation  
Indicators based on DBS/TBS rules and Actual winds

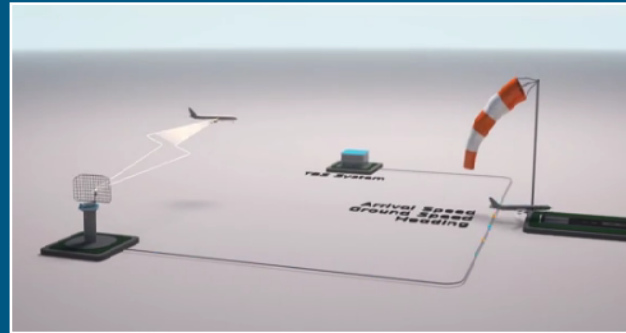
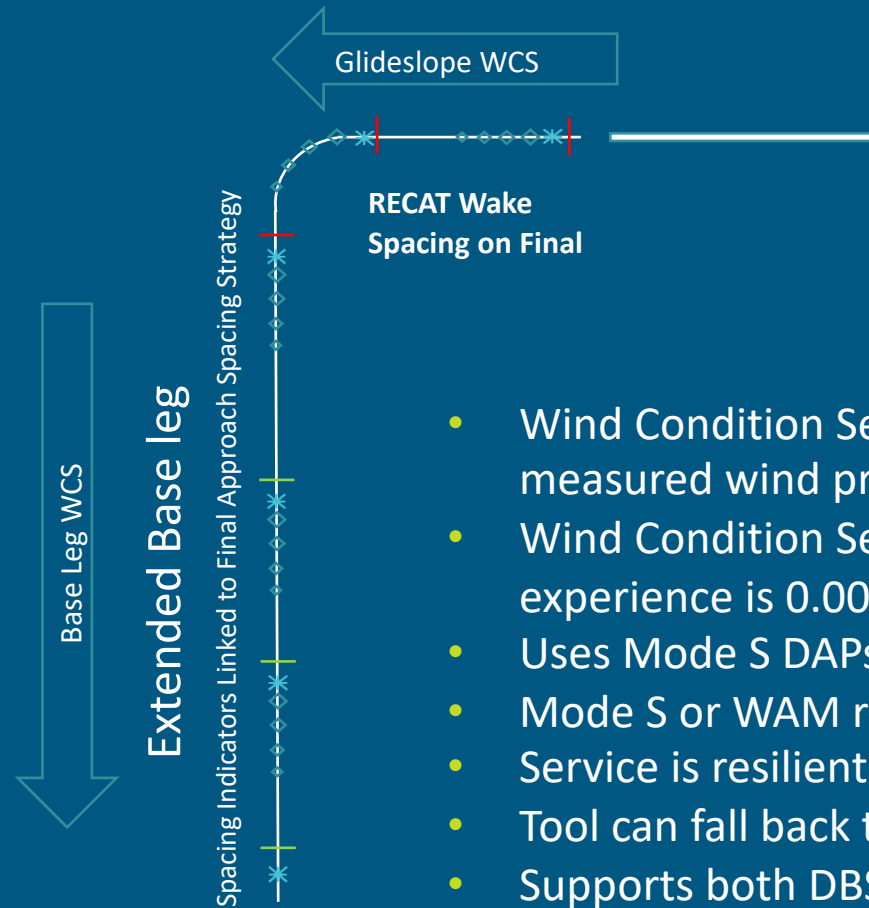


Time based wake rules.  
Safety case based on LIDAR  
wake vortex measurements  
from 150,000 movements  
supported by  
SESAR/Eurocontrol



Real time wind data derived from  
Mode S downlinked aircraft  
parameters

# Wind Condition Service



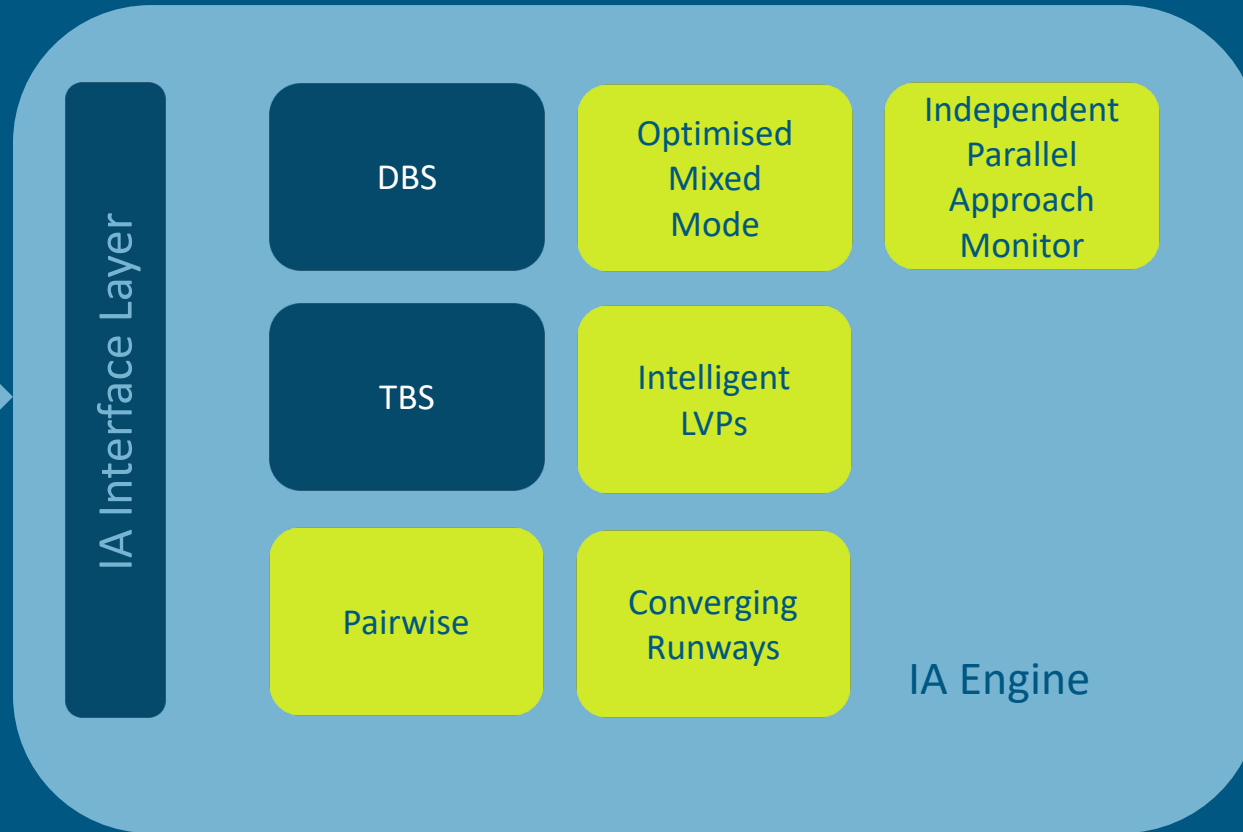
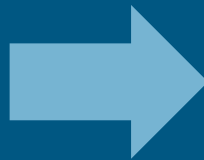
Real time wind data derived from Mode S downlinked aircraft parameters

- Wind Condition Service allows accurate spacing indicators based on actual real time measured wind profile
- Wind Condition Service already proven at Heathrow and is highly accurate (Heathrow experience is 0.006% errors up to 10 knots)
- Uses Mode S DAPs data to support calculation of wind profile
- Mode S or WAM required (most ADS-B squitters lack IAS)
- Service is resilient to intermittent loss of data
- Tool can fall back to groundspeed algorithm if Mode S data lost
- Supports both DBS and TBS operations as required

# TBS Implementation

Uses Existing Customer ATM System output data

Mode S DAPS From WAM or RADAR

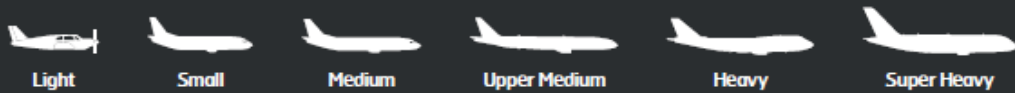


Simple changes to Customer HMI to Display TBS indications



ASTERIX Like Output

# Pairwise Separation



Pairwise Separation identifies safe separation distances between specific types of aircraft not just the wake vortex category

Target Winter 2021/22  
London Heathrow

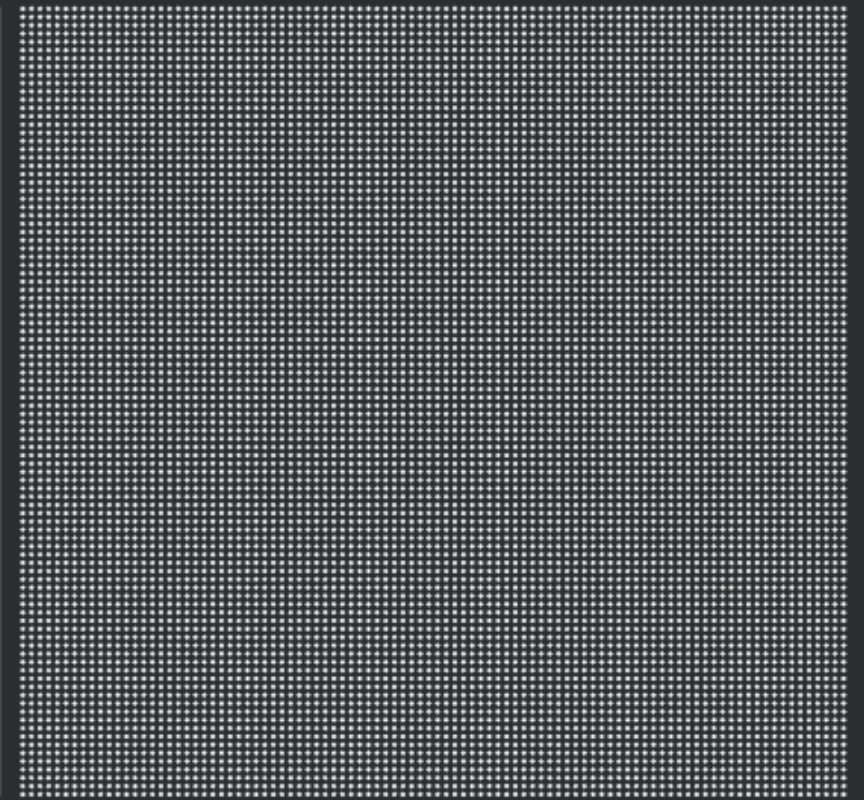
+2 landings/hour

Development starts  
May 2019

Safe separation based on 'worst-case scenario' from each class - e.g. heaviest lead aircraft and smallest following'

  
6 x 6

Now recognises  
**96**  
classes  
of aircraft,  
up from six classes



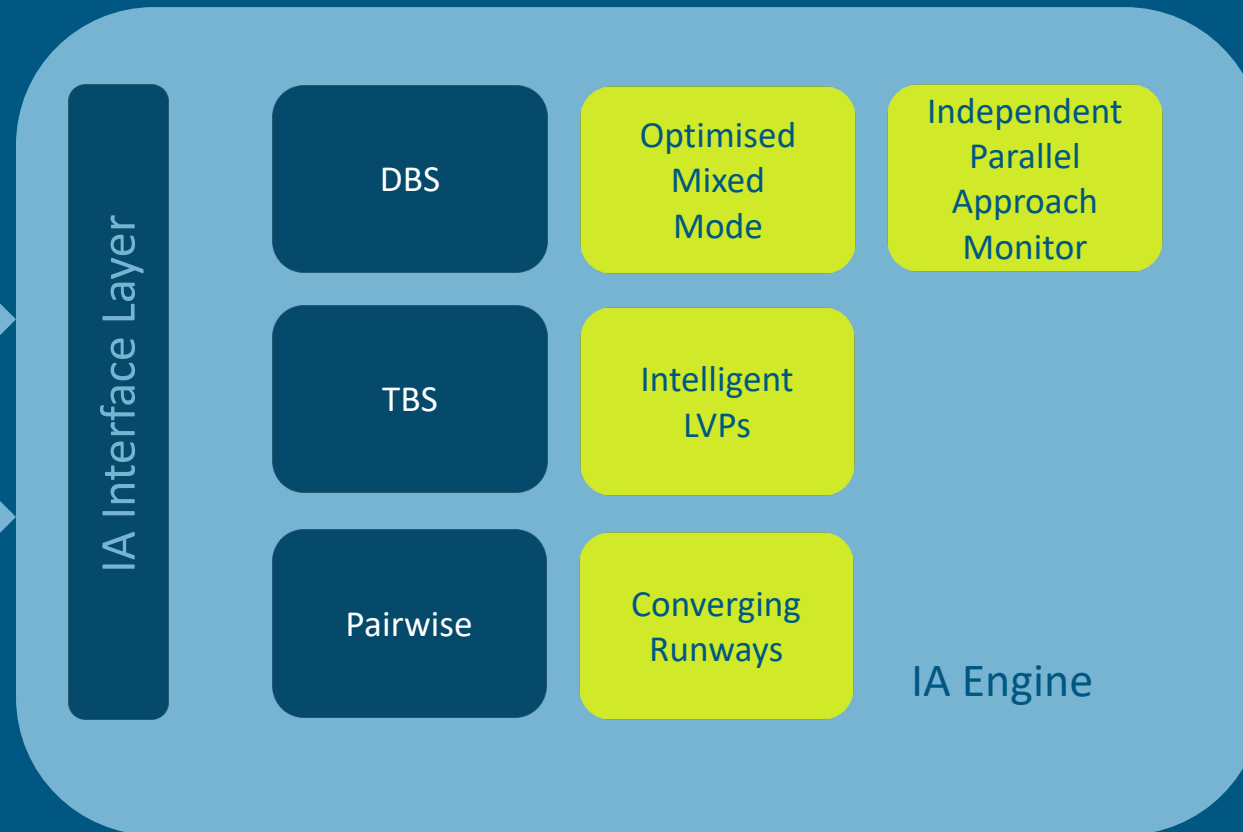
96 x 96

# Pairwise Implementation with TBS

Uses Existing Customer ATM System output data

Mode S DAPS From WAM or RADAR

Separations defined by Aircraft type

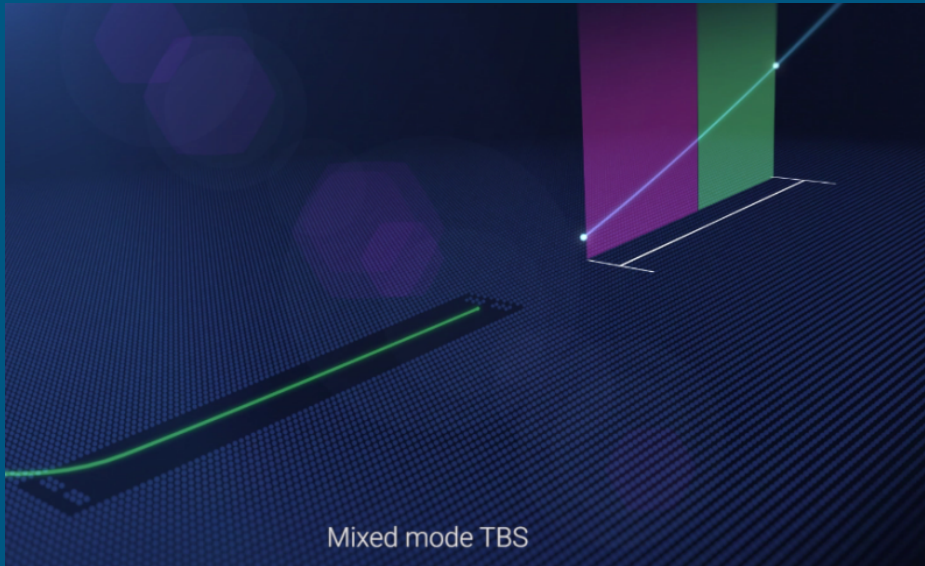


Change to Customer HMI to Display Pairwise indications

Controller HMI

ASTERIX Like Output

# Optimising Mixed Mode Runways



Target 2022 Gatwick

New capability being developed for Mixed Mode runway based on SESAR simulations:

- Intelligent Approach is fed the gapping policy from AMAN-DMAN
- IA is fed the departure sequence from either DMAN or Tower Strips System

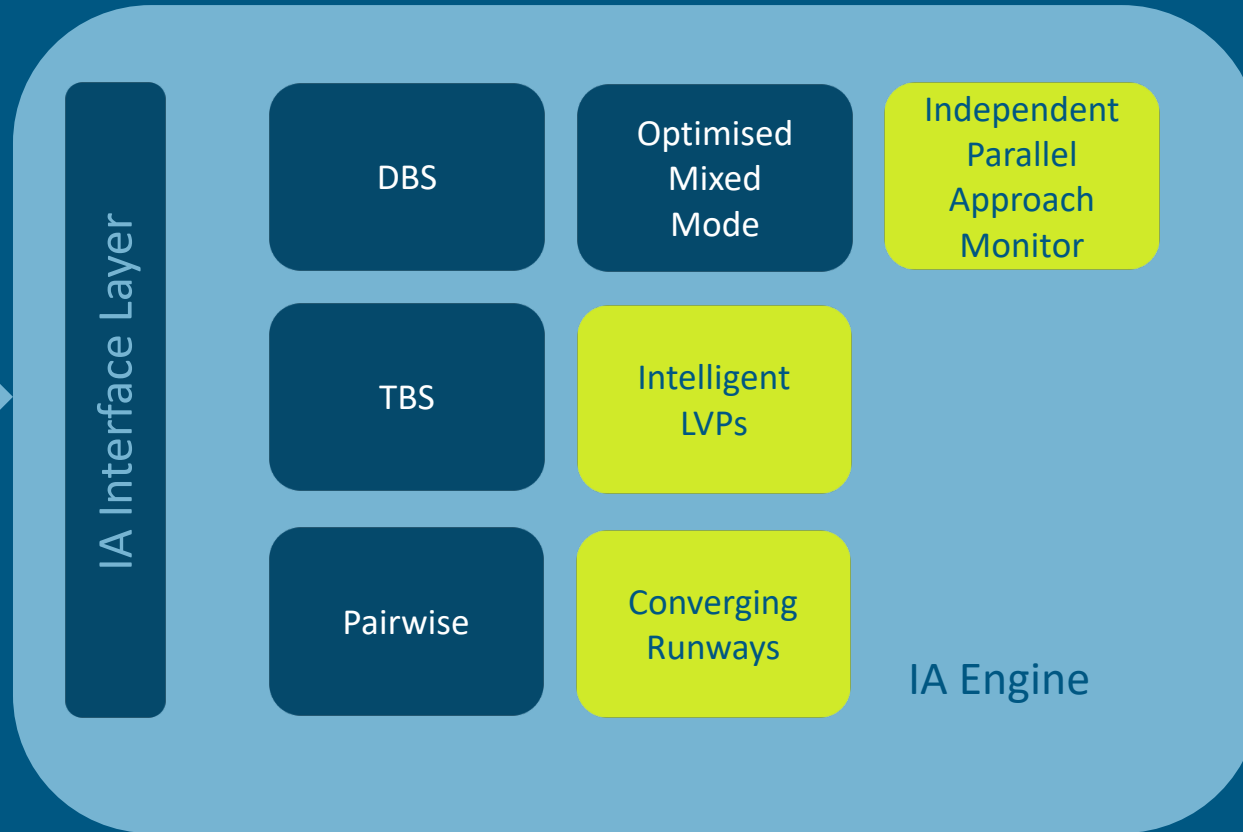
Gatwick simulation experience suggests this could increase runway capacity by 2-3 movements

Development starts in May 2019

# Optimised Mixed Mode

Tower System provides departure sequence

Departure Sequence From EFS or DMAN



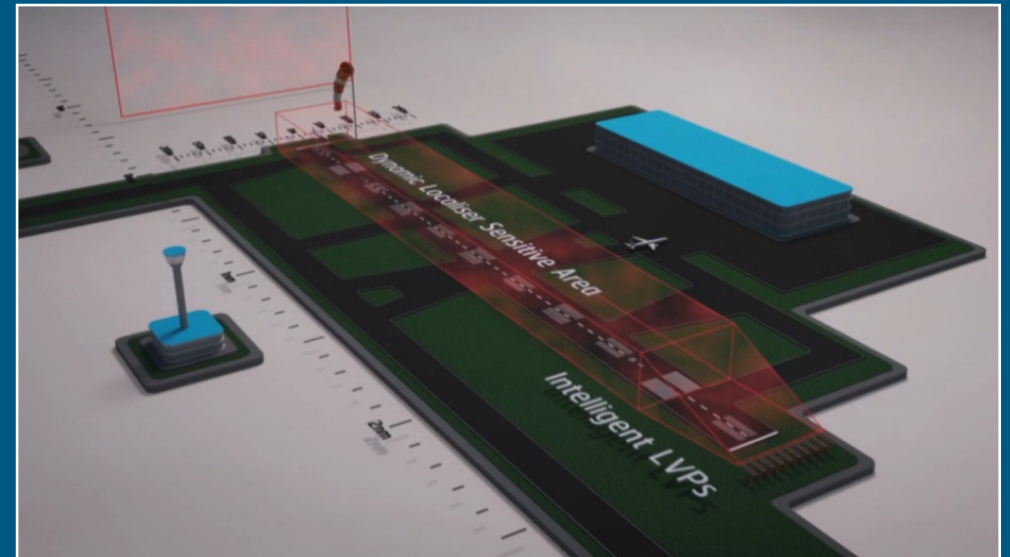
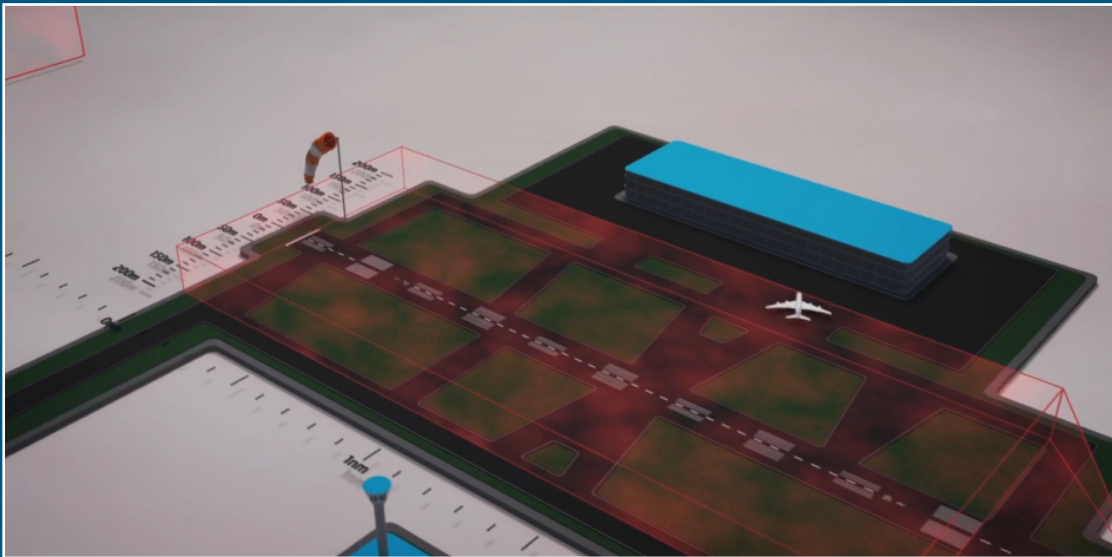
Change to Customer HMI to Display OMM indications



ASTERIX Like Output

# Intelligent LVPs

- Reducing fog delays by 50%
- Automated indicators for LVP spacing based on “Dynamic Localiser Sensitive Area” & NATS safety case using Landing Clearance Trigger Line
- Spacing on final dictated by aircraft type in front, ILS & airport characteristics & landing system in use + Rules built into the IA tool - simple for approach controller

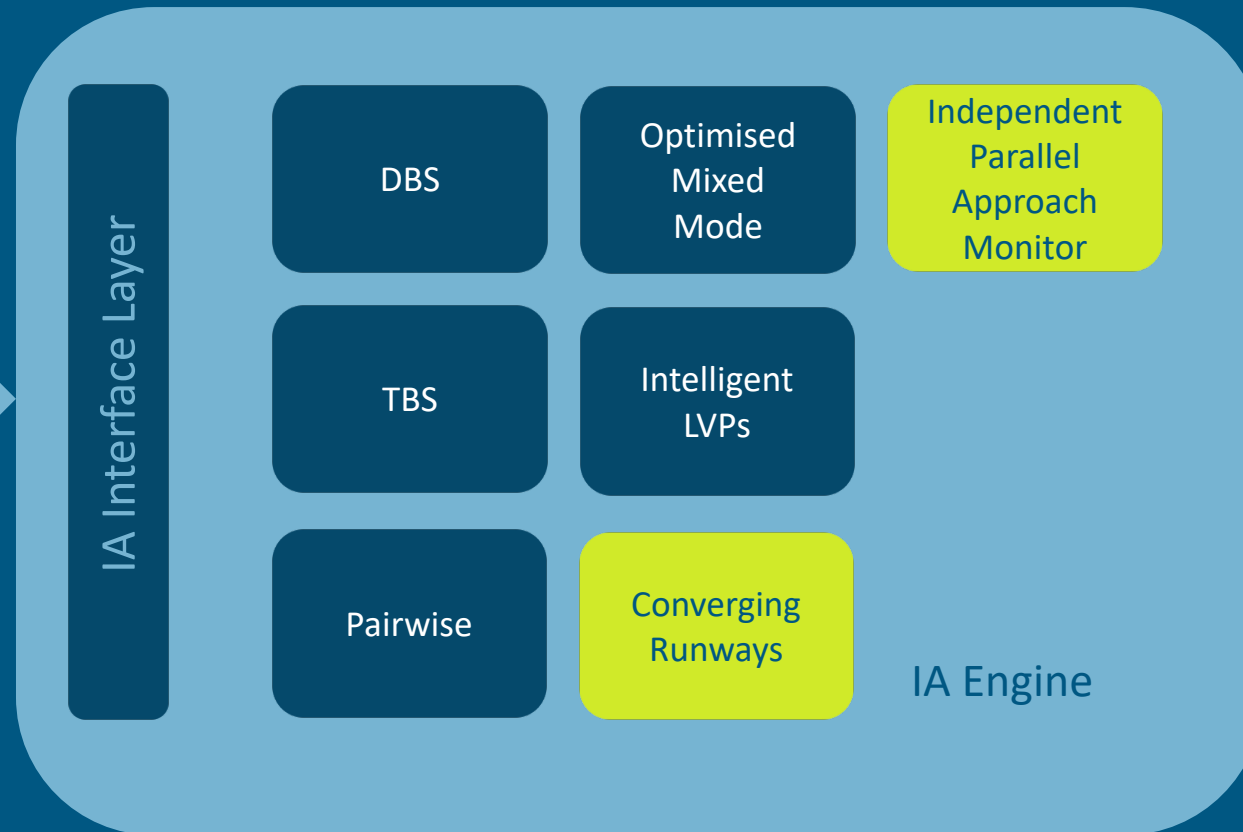




# Intelligent LVPs

Requires Landing System in use

Landing System in Use ILS/GBAS

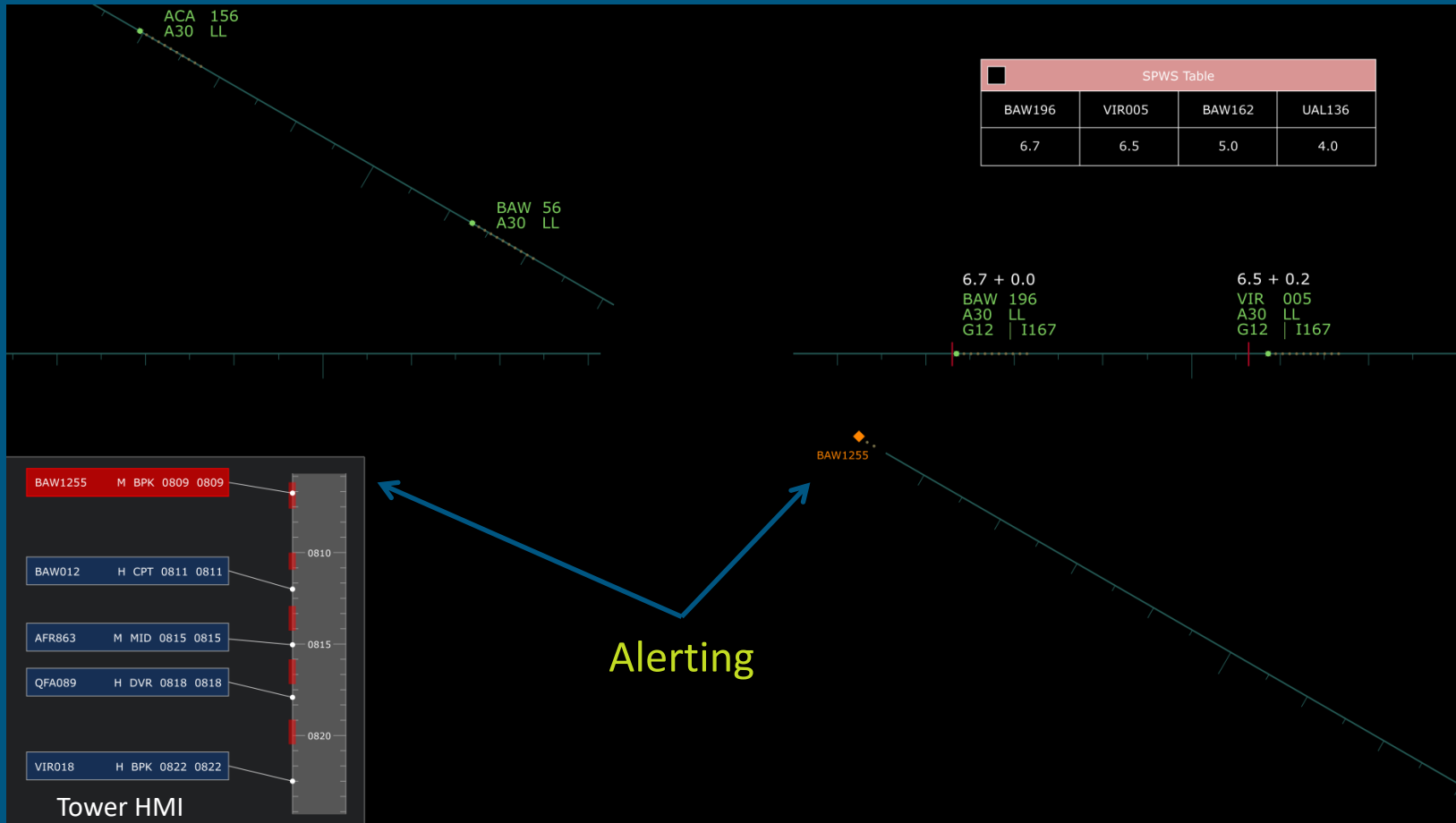


Adaptation of IA HMI

Controller HMI

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# Converging Runways Concept

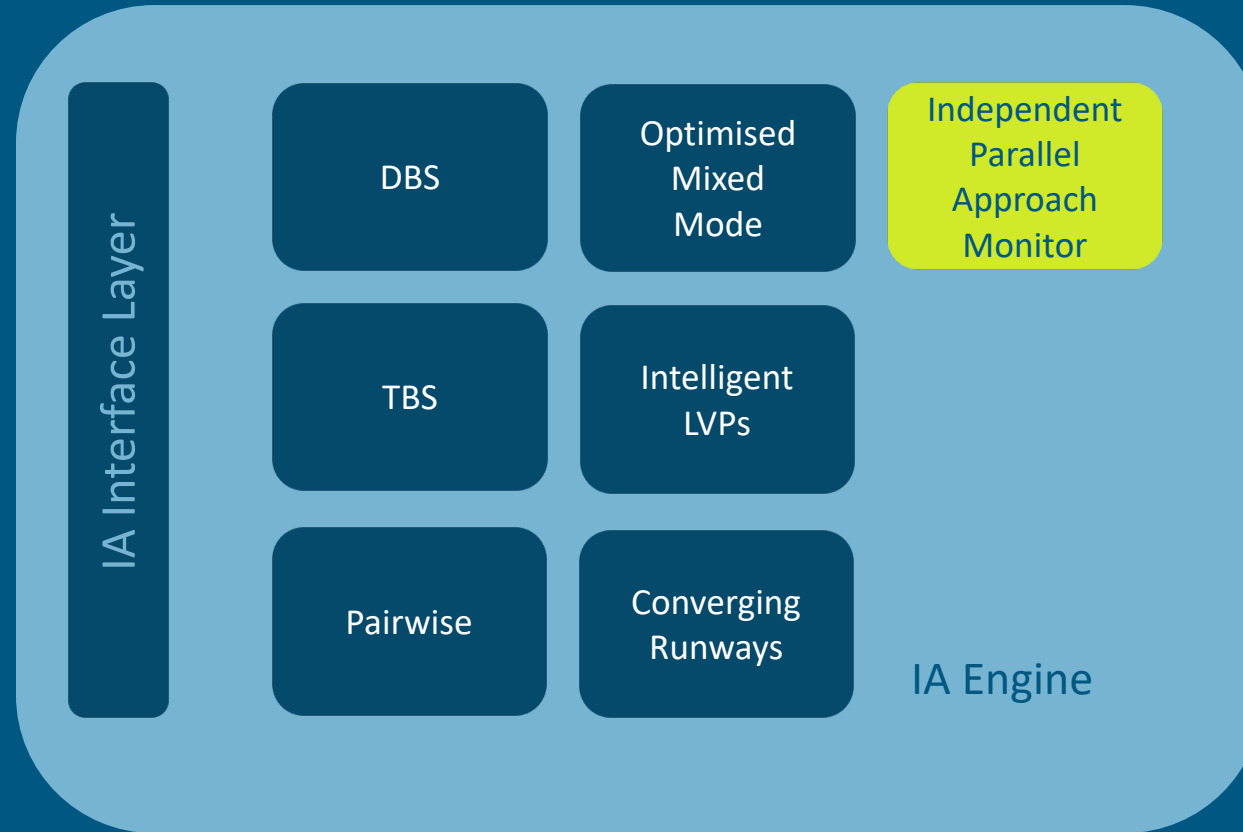


Separation takes into account Configuration of runways and approach + missed approach, winds, runway occupancy & wake

# Converging Runways

## Runway RADAR

Dependent Runways is existing function in both DBS/TBS mode, so no change



## Tower/Approach alerting



ASTERIX Like Output

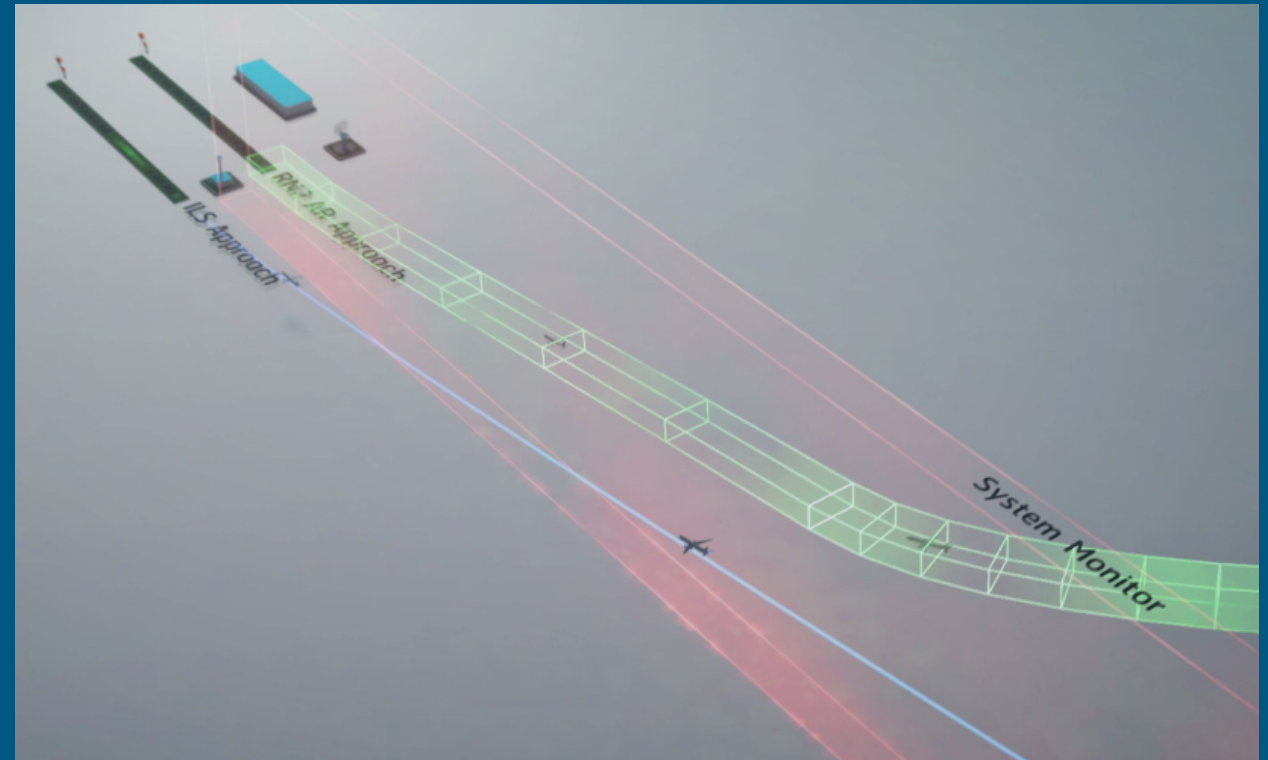
# Independent Parallel Approach

Independent operations to closely spaced parallel runways

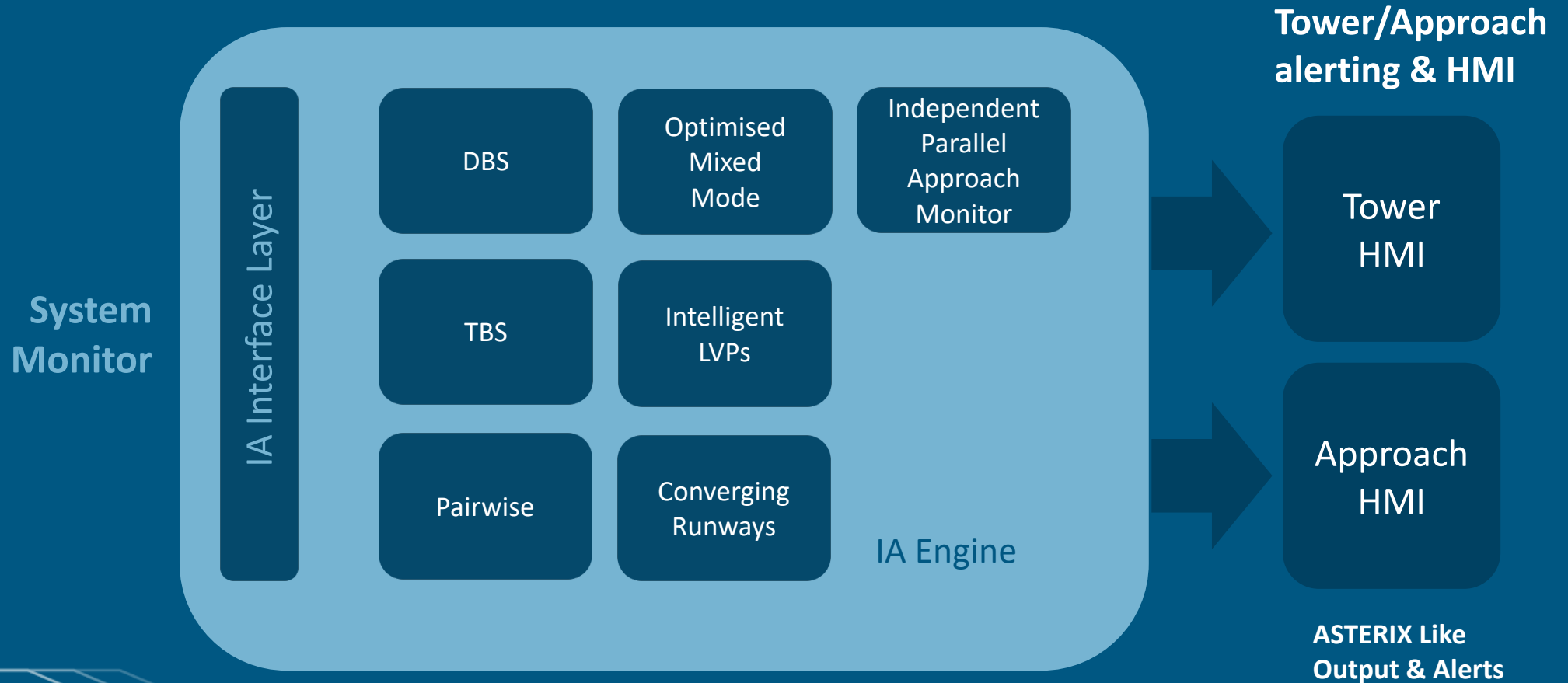
System Monitor to replace SOIR monitor controllers

In Project Definition Phase & has been fully simulated & safety concept supported by regulator

Target 2022 (subject to airspace consultation)



# Independent Parallel Approach



# Time & Distance Based Separation

Experience with World first implementation at Heathrow Airport

# Summary experience at Heathrow (TBS)



*TBS went live 24 March 2015  
and has been in operation at  
all times in all wind conditions  
since then*

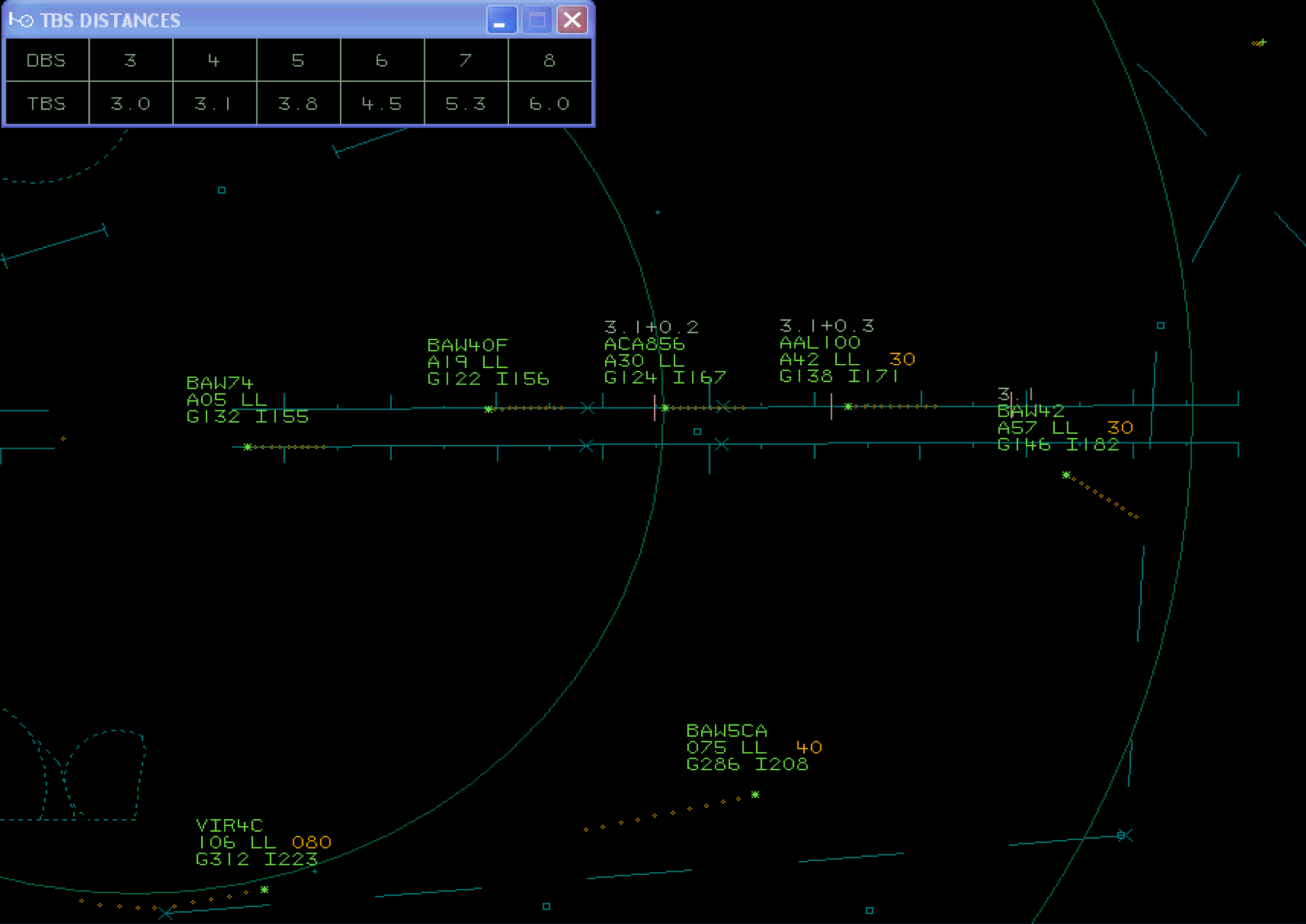
*eTBS (RECAT+ORD) live  
16 March 2018*

\*based on fuel price of €469/mT & €81/min delay  
cost including primary arrival delay & estimate of  
rotational delay

- >62% reduction in Arrival (ATFM) delays due headwinds & more stability in landing & flow rates
- Over 230,000 minutes per annum reduction in Heathrow average airborne holding
- Reduction in Wake Turbulence Encounter Reports & Go Around rate
- Average landing rate increased by 2.2-4.2 landings per hour
- Arrival spacing savings equivalent to over 30 minutes extra landings per day (TBS +eTBS)
- No Tactical flight cancellations due headwinds
- **Overall savings inc. holding & delay > €30m p.a.\***

***Happy ATC, happy airport & happy airlines...***

| TBS DISTANCES |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|---------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| DBS           | 3   | 4   | 5   | 6   | 7   | 8   |
| TBS           | 3.0 | 3.1 | 3.8 | 4.5 | 5.3 | 6.0 |



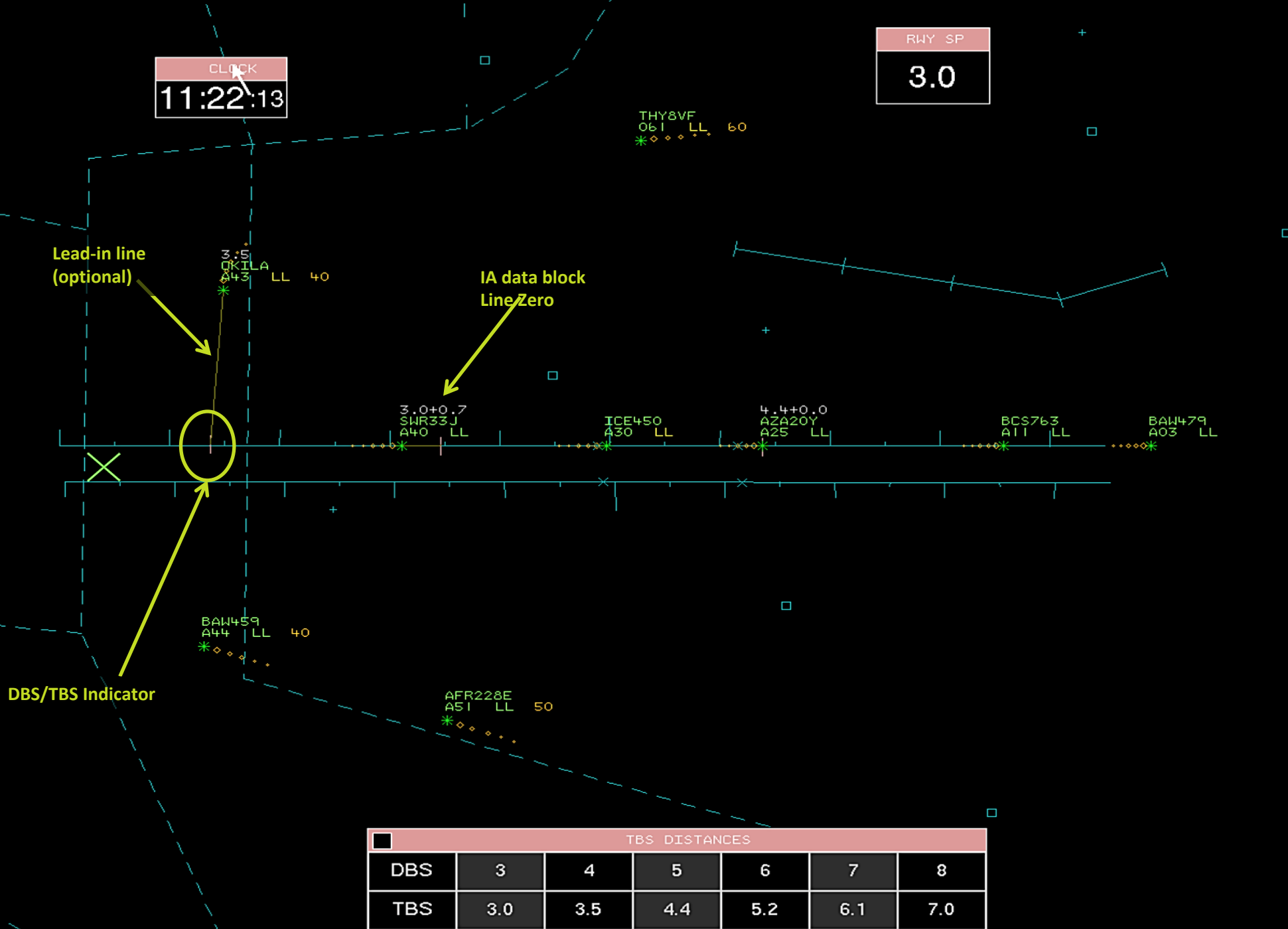
# 29 March 2015 RADAR Replay

*Live operation replay 29<sup>th</sup>  
March 2015, headwind at  
3000ft 55kts.*



## Spacing Indicators

- Linked to preceding aircraft
- Calculated to 0.1nm
- Baselined to 5-7 kts headwind
- ROT indicators shown in different colour (green)
- Tool follows controller actions to finalise sequence
- No change to speeds/vectoring technique required



N151QS  
163 GW 140

DLH2VR  
366 0 370

RWY SP

3.0

Breakthrough Wake Indicator

3.4+0.2  
BAW142  
A15 LL

3.5-0.1  
VIR118  
A26 LL

3.6  
VIR220  
A40 LL

3.6  
RBA003  
A52 LL

30

ROT Indicator

Lead-in line  
(optional)

3.5  
BAW20R  
A63 LL

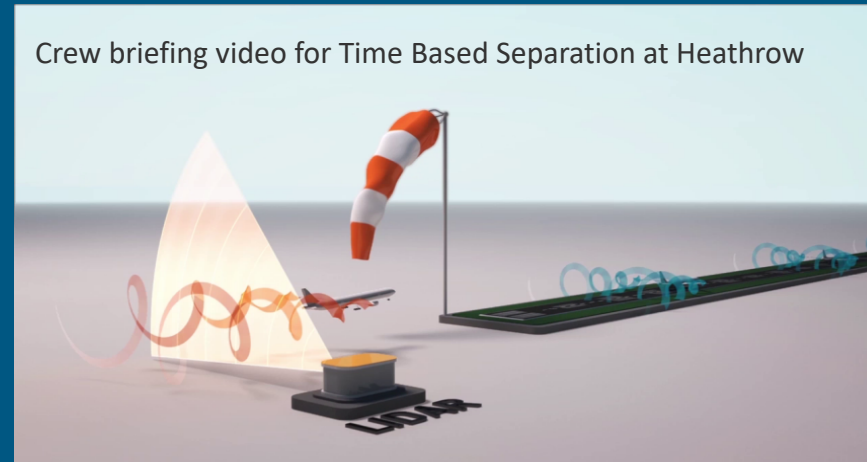
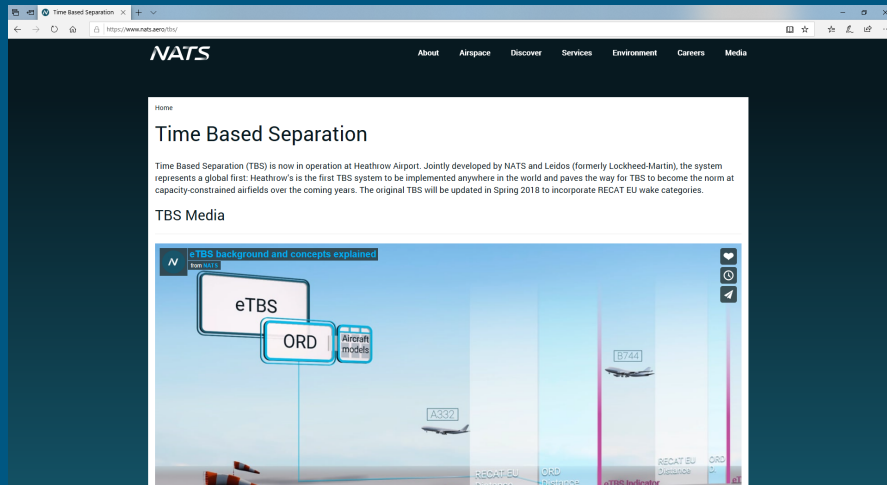
40

TBS Distances

|     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| DBS | 3   | 4   | 5   | 6   | 7   | 8   |
| TBS | 3.1 | 4.0 | 4.8 | 5.6 | 6.5 | 7.3 |

# Support for Implementation

# Airline/Crew Briefing Materials



[www.nats.aero/TBS](http://www.nats.aero/TBS)

Enhanced Time Based Separation for Heathrow Arrivals & RECAT EU for Arrivals and Departures

Goal: Improve Landing Rates in Adverse Headwinds

**The Comparison**

Distance wake vortex categories

|                      |                     |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Current Heathrow TBS | Landing rate: 40-45 | Landing rate: 32-38 |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|

TBS wake vortex categories

|                      |                     |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Current Heathrow TBS | Landing rate: 40-45 | Landing rate: 36-40 |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|

eTBS Phase 1 - RECAT EU + Optimised Runway Delivery

|                      |                     |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Current Heathrow TBS | Landing rate: 41-46 | Landing rate: 37-41 |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|

**What's New?**

RECAT EU is being introduced at Heathrow Airport during winter 2017/18. This change alters the arrivals spacing between certain aircraft pairs using an enhancement of TBS called eTBS, and ATC will provide wake separation to runway threshold rather than the 4dme point. This RECAT EU change also alters the wake turbulence separation applied on departure.

Some aircraft types, based on weight, are changing wake turbulence categories, most notably the B757 & B767 families & A300/A310s.

Prevalent Heathrow Types

| Super | Heavy | Upper* | Medium | Small    |
|-------|-------|--------|--------|----------|
| A380  | A350  | B767   | A319   | RJ1H/85  |
|       | A340  | B757   | A320/1 | E135-195 |
|       | A350  | A300   | B736-9 | B732-5*  |
|       | B747  | A310   | M80    | CRJ-9    |
|       | B777  |        | BCS1/3 | DH40     |
|       | B787  |        |        |          |

\*The new Upper category includes the B757, B767, A300 & A310  
ETBS Separations using RECAT EU will be used in place of current UK 6 CAT. This will see some aircraft moved to a new category. It is important that both the aircraft type and variant is passed on first contact with Heathrow Director. For example B773 rather than B777. The air crew procedures and RT does not change with the introduction of ETBS.

# Features of solution – can be offered as modules

- **NATS/Leidos IA™ solution can be offered as a complete turn-key package or tailored to customer needs including:**
  - IA Tools
  - Safety Case & support with local regulator
  - Training (typically train the trainer) for Engineering & ATC
  - Configuration for customer airspace and MOPS
  - Support for HMI development from TBS Core Team ATCOs
  - Technical integration
- **Is proven and in operation and can be delivered as modules**
  - DBS (RECAT)
  - TBS
  - Tools continue to be developed and will soon also offer Static Pairwise separation & optimised Mixed Mode

# Typical Deployment Timescale

- Typically will require 12-18 months to implement from start of programme
- NATS/Leidos adopt an “Agile” approach to delivery
- Dependencies include:
  - Radar data for evaluation, tuning of local airspace model and test
  - ROT data
  - METARs
  - Customer resource to support implementation and tuning of tool to customer airspace and MOPs