

AERONAUTICAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORK PANEL (ATNP)

WORKING GROUP 3 - APPLICATIONS AND UPPER LAYERS

Honolulu, Hawaii
18 January-29 January 1999

ATN SARP ELECTRONIC LIBRARY IMPROVEMENTS

Agenda Item: 8a Document Tracking/Version Control

Presented by Hoang N. Tran

Prepared by J. McConnell

Summary

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) continues to develop an electronic library to search, display and analyze the requirements identified in the Aeronautical Telecommunications Network (ATN) Standards and Recommended Practices (SARP). The purpose is to trace changes and additions in order to maintain consistency and accuracy in this document, and to delineate the design implementation according to the requirements in the ATN SARPs. The information provided identifies the numerous improvements made since the demonstration in Bordeaux.

ATN SARP ELECTRONIC LIBRARY UPDATE

DISCUSSION:

The FAA is continuing to develop and improve an application based on internet technology to track and compare modifications to the ATN SARPs. During the Fourteenth ATNP Meeting in Bordeaux, the FAA presented a paper and a demonstration showing the operational features of the Electric Library. Several suggestions were made at the meeting as to how the tool could be improved while understanding the complexities of the ICAO documentation and editing. Although it was mentioned that this capability could be made available to other members of the WG, when it has been suitably refined, procedures to implement this offer are being finalized.

SUMMARY OF IMPROVEMENTS:

During the demonstration of the Electric Library, several suggestions to improve the operational and user interface procedures were made. The following is a summary of some of those recommendations.

1. Search and display in Case Sensitive mode or Case Insensitive mode.
A new option has been added to the search request so that user has the option of search in Case Sensitive mode or Case Insensitive mode.
2. A Spelling Checker.
A simple spelling checker has been incorporated into the Electronic Library. User can select a particular volume to view the result. The spelling checker will first identify a list of sections that it believes to contain misspelled words. User can select any section on the list to display the spelling check result. What the user will see is the entire content of the section with misspelled words indicated by the red color.

Note: The Spelling Checker will try to accommodate the standard acronyms from the SARPs documents.
3. Side By Side Comparison is more user friendly.
Side By Side Comparison of two documents has been improved. The number of key clicks (that a user needs to apply in order to view the changes) has been reduced by about a factor of 3 to 1. User can expect to see the text changes right after the selection of two section numbers without doing many clicks (or a long scrolling) of the text.
4. A list of ACRONYMS.
A list of ACRONYMS has been included as an option in the Electronic Library (since the current SARPs document does not provide one).

5. An improved Search Header for the user.

Each search result will now provide a detailed Search Header (on the top) which contains relevant data like Document Name, Keyword(s), Display Option, Search Mode, Loading Option, and Case Mode with respect to a particular search request.

CONCLUSION:

The meeting is invited to note these improvements. Additional efforts are planned to continue to improve this application to be more user friendly and resource manageable. Further information can be provided by Mr. Hoang Tran, Program Manager, International Communications.