
Federal Aviation Administration Plans To Contract Out U.S. Air Traffic Control Services without Congressional Approval and Oversight.

The Air Traffic Control System in the United States is the largest and safest National Airspace System in the world. Our system is the envy of all nations. It has been carefully designed to ensure that administrative tragedies like the one in Switzerland this year – a collision between two airliners – will not happen here.

Unfortunately, the FAA is meddling with America's success.

The FAA has the wheels in motion to privatize our National Airspace System. The agency has already contracted out small airport towers and some equipment maintenance. Now, the FAA intends to contract out Air Traffic Control Specialists.

Ensuring the safety and security of its citizens is the clearest mandate the federal government has. They are clearly inherently governmental functions. However, there has been a recent reversal of the FAA's direction – Air Traffic Control is now designated as "NOT INHERENTLY GOVERNMENTAL".

Congressional approval will not be sought for FAA's new direction. Nor does the FAA desire Congressional oversight. In fact, the FAA is deliberately not publicizing its new direction. The agency cancelled its own press

release. In a further attempt to maintain a low profile, FAA management has delayed their own reporting to Congress.

One only needs to look to Europe and Canada's results to see how FAA's new direction will

turn out. Nationalization and privatization of Air

Traffic Control services in Canada and Europe have been expensive and inefficient failures by any standard.

After the events of 9/11, why would any government agency try to compromise aviation safety and security?

The American flying public enjoys great safety and security in our system today. However, the

FAA's plan to privatize our Air Traffic Control System puts that in jeopardy. As the war on terrorism continues to unfold, safety and security remain as major issues. With a private corporation running Air Traffic Control, which will come first – profits, or safety and security?

That's why Congressional oversight is needed --

NOW. First, to halt the funding for the A76 study currently underway. Then, hold hearings to explore the reasoning and methodology behind such a drastic action as selling Air Traffic Control to the lowest bidding for-profit company.



**Tell the FAA:
America's aviation safety and security are not for sale.**

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF AIR TRAFFIC SPECIALISTS



(<http://www.naats.org>)