# AIRTEL ATN

## CASE STUDY

## Remote Test Services for SAS

### OBJECTIVES

- Comply with EU mandate
- Test CPDLC scenarios
- Test DK-DL1 aircraft

### WHY AIRTEL ATN?

- 20 years industry experience
- Test platform used by EUROCONTROL,
- ARINC and SITA
- Tests carried out independent of ANSP

### RESULTS

- Successful testing of two Air Traffic Control centres
- Tested DK-DL1 aircraft
- Easy to coordinate, set-up and execute
- Cost effective and completed in 2 days

### BACKGROUND

SAS is Scandinavia's leading airline with daily flights to destinations in Europe, USA and Asia. SAS is a member of Star Alliance and, together with 26 partners offers over 1,300 destinations worldwide in more than 190 countries.

As a result of the EU CPDLC (Controller Pilot Data Link Communications) mandate requiring all new aircraft to be ATN compliant from February 2013 and all other aircraft by February 2015, SAS needed to test its CPDLC Data Link on its aircraft.

The ATN enables fast, secure Data Link text communications between Air Traffic Control (ATC) and aircraft and removes the need for routine voice contact.

SAS is in the process of renewing and harmonising its existing aircraft. This is part of the airline's ongoing development to continue with its excellent customer service at the same time as ensuring the safety of passengers by meeting the EC rule.

### ENABLING TECHNOLOGY

SAS approached Airtel ATN as it is the test solution used by EUROCONTROL, SITA and ARINC. Airtel ATN conducts the validation tests required by aircraft operators and avionics manufacturers to support the Data Link qualification process.

Airtel ATN's Remote Test Service enables CM and CPDLC testing. Airtel ATN can provide remote test services from its Dublin office to airlines that are located in an area of VDLM2 coverage. SAS used this service to simulate two ATC centres. Airtel ATN also can also provide on-site test services when no VDLM2 coverage is available.

### RESULTS

SAS was the first airline to test its Data Link with the EUROCONTROL Test Centre many years ago which uses Airtel ATN's test solutions. This more recent successful test connected over ARINC's VDL network to the grounded SAS aircraft.

CPDLC messages were successfully exchanged between the airline's aircraft and Airtel ATN's Remote Test Facility in Dublin.

> "We are renewing and harmonising our existing aircraft between 2013 and 2016. This is all part of the airline's ongoing process to continue with our excellent customer service including most punctual airline, at the same time as ensuring the safety of our passengers by meeting the EC rule."

**Kim Lindhardt,
Head of Data Link-ACARS Avionics, SAS Group**