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NATO E-3A Flight Training Device (FTD) Ready For Training and Transferred to NAEW&C Force Headquarters

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Important milestone in the Communication, Navigation, Surveillance / Air Traffic Management (CNS/ATM) Programme was achieved on 18 August 2017, as the NE-3A FTD transfer took place at NE-3A Main Operating Base (MOB) GK, Ready For Training (RFT).

Executed under a contract between NAPMA and CAE GmbH (Stolberg, Germany), the NATO E-3A Flight Simulator Training Devices (FSTD) will be updated to reflect the new CNS/ATM cockpit configuration. This update to the training devices is a planned follow on to the design, development and qualification of the CNS/ATM capabilities which have been executed via a cooperative program with the United States Air Force (USAF), under a contract with the Boeing

Company (Seattle, USA) leveraging NE-3A aircraft 459. The first modified aircraft was due to be delivered to MOB GK by the end of Calendar Year 2016.



The FSTD CNS/ATM update project had to work with the continuously evolving aircraft configuration and documentation. But despite the challenges, it has been proven a successful results-orientated collaboration. The CNS/ATM updated FTD, pictured at left, is now up and running, ready to ensure aircrew are qualified to perform all missions NATO is asking the NAEW&C Force and Component to do. The FFS, pictured at

right, was powered down on 4 August 2017. The FFS CNS/ATM update will take approximately 7 months and NAPMA expects to have it available for operator use in Spring 2018.

