

AIRSPACE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS AND METHODS

ABSTRACT

A method (400) for managing air traffic in one or more sectors (124) of a controlled
5 airspace (120) is disclosed, including defining (402) a first sector configuration (200A) of
at least two adjacent sectors (124) in the airspace (120), each sector (124) being assigned
to a station controller (116) in an air traffic control station (112) and a communication
channel (118). The method (400) includes monitoring (406), for each sector (124), an
anticipated level of air traffic controller workload (117') over a selected time interval, and
10 detecting (408) a difference greater than a pre-selected threshold in anticipated levels of
air traffic controller workload (117') in the two adjacent sectors (124) over the selected
time interval. The method (400) includes redefining (410) the first sector configuration
(200A) into a second sector configuration (200B) of the two adjacent sectors (124), such
that the difference in controller workload (117') in the two adjacent sectors is below the
15 threshold, and then implementing (414) the second sector configuration (220A).

Fig. 4