European Union Aviation Safety Agency

FAQ n.139177

FAQs:

Development Assurance for Software or Hardware, Air Traffic Management / Air Navigation Services (ATM/ANS) ground equipment, Regulations

Question:

If the software design assurance level (SW DAL) of equipment depends on ATM functions of the air navigation service provider (ANSP), how do you guarantee that certified/declared equipment will be available with such an expected level? Aren't we creating a chicken-and-egg issue?

Answer:

This is similar to the case of safety objectives; the market will tend to provide products that are demanded by the ANSPs. A design or production organisation (DPO) will develop products per their anticipated selected software assurance level (SWAL). The ANSP will select the equipment that meet the required SWAL to meet their safety objectives of the functional system.

See also answer to FAQ 'Who is going to define software/SWAL requirements for a particular ATM/ANS system? EASA, ANSP, ...?'.

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Link:

https://www.easa.europa.eu/en/faq/139177