

# Book Review: Seamless Sky

## By H.V. Sudarshan

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Chris Stock – *Editor*

For those readers who either bought or read "The Future Air Navigation System (FANS)" by Vince Galotti, this book by another ICAO officer is a logical and welcome addition to the ATM library. The FANS book was published in 1997 when the CNS/ATM concept was in its gestation period and therefore was an ideal introduction to the subject. Now, H. V. Sudarshan's book expands on the development of CNS/ATM systems and includes the many facets of the work that is being undertaken on a regional and global basis. He focuses on the States' needs to integrate the global air traffic management system and the way forward to meet that objective.

The structure of the book follows a logical sequence opening up with an overview of CNS/ATM systems followed by an explanation of the planning mechanisms currently in progress worldwide. This is followed with a chapter on Air Traffic Management and further chapters introducing theory and practices in establishing the infrastructure in terms of communication, navigation and surveillance that meet ATM requirements. The final two chapters consider the need for interoperability and seamlessness and develop a means to achieve harmonisation of systems and procedures plus a summary of the economic, organisational and legal aspects that have to be taken into account while managing the transition to CNS/ATM systems.

The book is then brought up to date to take account of the proceedings of 11th ANC by including annexes which deal specifically with the ATM, communications, navigation and surveillance operational concepts. For those readers who are familiar with much of the ICAO output over the past few years, there is not a lot of new material however

for the majority, this book provides an excellent reference to the many developments taking place in global ATM.

Mr Sudarshan has done a great service to the aviation community in pulling together the complex strands of the developing global ATM scenario and presenting them in a

readable and easily assimilated style. I would recommend this book to anyone with an interest in the aviation industry who wishes to get a better appreciation of how the global ATM is likely to develop in the next two decades. For those involved in CNS/ATM directly, this book should be an essential reference tool.

