

Collaborative Decision Making

Pathfinder Team Report

Shawn McClosky

Tim Matuszewski



Federal Aviation
Administration



Pathfinder Team

Shawn McClosky	FAA Co-lead
Tim Matuszewski	NKS Ind Co-lead
Mel Davis	NATCA
Kevin Maney	NATCA
Adam Davis	UPS
Jim Enders	AAL
Dave Surridge	AAL
Jan Planten	NBAA
Brian Gonzalez	A4A
Ralph Tamburro	PANYNJ
Ron Renk	UAL
Charles Bland	UAL

Rob Goldman	DAL
Bill Tuck	DAL
Brad Ward	ASA
Chris Vital	JBU
Louisa Ocasio	FAA



CDM
Collaborative
Decision Making



Federal Aviation
Administration

General Overview

Pathfinder is an established process, but it is slow and clunky

- The process of re-opening routes is very subjective.
- Current communication methods are slow and/or ineffective
 - No established procedures for airlines to volunteer a flight
- The Pathfinder label has a negative connotation, but it is not the primary cause of the issues.



CDM
Collaborative
Decision Making



Federal Aviation
Administration

Recommendation #1

Continue to refer to the program as Pathfinder but do not use the term when issuing route clearances

Why:

Program is known by the name Pathfinder. Changing the name would create confusion.

The negative connotation is mainly within the pilot community. Avoid using the term when giving clearances.



CDM
Collaborative
Decision Making



Federal Aviation
Administration

Recommendation #2

Evaluate the need for tools to assist the decision to re-open a route

Why:

Eyeball estimate using radar is subjective

Flight deviations drive the decision on when to close a route

Past N90 study indicated routes opened earlier when tools (RAPT) were used
(MIT-LL Study in 2008)



CDM
Collaborative
Decision Making



Federal Aviation
Administration

Recommendation #3

Evaluate and organize communication FAA and Industry procedures for requesting and volunteering Pathfinders

Why:

Multiple undocumented/unregulated methods currently in use

A streamlined process improves overall speed/efficiency

Efficiency team studying use of PF comms

Tool on NOD



CDM

Collaborative
Decision Making



Federal Aviation
Administration

Recommendation #4

Publish a survey tailored to the FAA and a separate survey tailored to Flight Operators

Why:

Identify best practices, differences, and gaps



CDM
Collaborative
Decision Making



Federal Aviation
Administration