COCKPIT AVIONICS INTEGRATION
AND AUTOMATION

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Integration
What is it Really?

- The act of forming, coordinating, or blending into a functioning or unified whole.  
  Merriam–Webster

How does integration apply to Cockpit Avionics? . . . .
Benefits of Cockpit Integration

- Reduced pilot work load
- Increased system redundancy
- Increased maintainability
- Greater design flexibility for aircraft manufacturer
- Greater design flexibility for equipment manufacturer
MD-11 Flight Guidance/
Flight Deck System (FG/FDS) Overview

Flight Guidance/Flight Deck System

[Diagram of flight guidance/flight deck system including various components like aircraft system control, environmental system, glareshield control panel, electronic instrument system, flight management system, automatic flight system, digital air data computer system, inertial reference system, and centralized fault display system.]

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MD-11 Flight Guidance/Flight Deck System
Honeywell System Summary

- 44 Line replaceable units (LRUs) per shipset
- 28 Different LRU types
- 48 Microprocessors per shipset
- 8 Different types of processors
- 1.5 Million total words of software
- 175 ARINC 429 type buses
- 8 Different ARINC data protocols
- 14 Other signal types

Honeywell Approach to Avionics Systems Integration

- Goals

- Tools and techniques
Honeywell Approach

Goals

• Develop systems that are safe and meet regulatory agency requirements

• Develop systems that optimize the operation of the aircraft
  - For the pilots  
  - Passengers  
  - Operators  
  - Mechanics

• Develop, test, and certify systems on schedule at a reasonable cost
  - Minimize interface problems
  - Reduce on-aircraft development, test, and demonstration time
  - Identify and correct system problems early

Tools and Techniques

• Team approach with airframe manufacturer
  - Joint development of system architecture and system analyses
  - Use of combined systems experience—airframe/avionics

• Systems integration organization
  - Coordinate top level system design
  - Enhance communication internal/external
  - Coordinate solutions to common design problems
  - Coordinate solutions to problems involving multiple systems
  - Perform top level system testing
  - Provide flight test and flight operations support

• System level test facilities
  - Subsystem test benches
  - Subsystem validation facilities (VALFAC)
  - Integration validation facility (VALFAC)
MD-11 AFS System Bench
Cockpit Avionics Integration

Conclusions

- Level of integration in cockpit avionics has increased significantly in recent years
- Benefits of integration are readily apparent in modern aircraft cockpits
- Approach to avionics system design must change in order to take full advantage of system integration
- Different types of test facilities/test procedures are required for integrated systems
- Changes in aircraft manufacturer/avionics system supplier relationship likely

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BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPH
Cockpit Avionics Integration

What are the effects on Cockpit Automation? . . . .

Automation
What is it Really?

- Automatically controlled operation of an apparatus, process, or system by mechanical or electronic devices that take the place of human operators.

Merriam-Webster

- How does this apply to Cockpit Avionics? . . . .
## MD-11 Cockpit Automation

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<th>Typical Aircraft System</th>
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<td>Flight Director</td>
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<td>Auto Throttle</td>
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<td>Compass System (slaved)</td>
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<td>Auto Nav – Lateral</td>
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<td>Attitude Director Indicator</td>
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<td>Environmental System</td>
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<td>Electrical System</td>
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### MD-11 ASC Hydraulic System Functions

- **Pre-flight**
  - Pressure test (manually initiated)
  - Engine-driven pumps test

- **Normal**
  - System operation monitor

- **Abnormal**
  - Fault isolation and system reconfiguration
MD-11 ASC Fuel System Functions

- Pre-flight
  - Test

- Normal
  - Fuel schedule
  - Tail fuel management/CG control
  - Fuel circulation to prevent freezing
  - Wing fuel balance
  - Forward pump control
  - Ballast fuel management

- Abnormal
  - Fuel dump monitor
  - Manifold drain
  - Outboard tank monitoring (trapped/premature transfer)
  - Tank overfill
  - Component failure accommodation

MD-11 ASC
Environmental System Functions

- Pre-flight
  - Test

- Normal
  - Engine start configuration
  - Bleed air limit
  - Manifold pressurization
  - Take-off mode control
  - Economy mode

- Abnormal
  - Failure reconfiguration
  - Manifold failure
MD-11 ASC
Miscellaneous System Functions

• Pre-flight
  – Cargo fire test
  – Cargo doors test
  – Air data heaters test
  – Emergency lights battery test

• Normal
  – Engine start control
  – Auto ignition
  – Cargo fire agent timing
  – APU/CFDS interface
  – APU shut down, on/off control

• Abnormal
  – Pilot heat fault recovery

Cockpit Automation Concerns

• Crew awareness – does pilot need to know
• Crew work load
• Fail safe design
• Compatibility with existing operational environment
• Certificability
Cockpit Automation Conclusions

• Automation is unavoidable

• Automation is beneficial

• Cockpit designs must address operational/human factors concerns

• Pilot is ultimately responsible for aircraft/passenger safety. He must be able to do his job.