

SMART TRACKING — CANBERRA

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Satellite technology has proved to be a quantum leap in aircraft navigation capability and new aircraft are being designed to accommodate this technology.

For simplicity, we refer to the most advanced satellite based technology currently available as 'Smart Tracking'. Smart Tracking was permanently implemented at Canberra Airport in 2013.

To enable a wider range of aircraft to use Smart Tracking at Canberra Airport, Airservices is implementing new international standard Smart Tracking procedures on Runway 17 and 35 to improve safety, noise and emissions outcomes for Canberra Airport.

WHAT IS SMART TRACKING?

A growing number of modern aircraft are now fitted with navigation systems that use satellite-assisted guidance. Specialised flight management systems in the cockpit use GPS information to fly aircraft with high accuracy and only a small variation in the actual tracks flown from one aircraft to another. These systems are known in aviation circles by the technical term, 'Required Navigation Performance' or 'RNP' meaning the aircraft can perform in accordance with a strict set of navigation parameters.

Satellite-assisted navigation is recognised internationally for its safety benefits which are achieved through navigation with high precision.

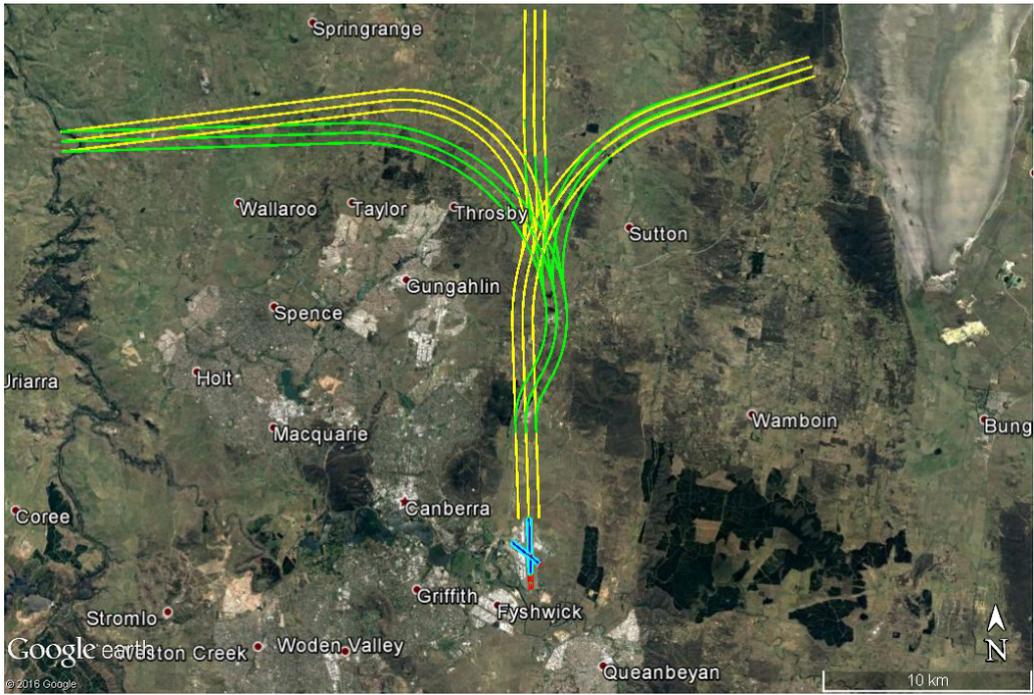
HOW DOES SMART TRACKING CHANGE THE WAY AIRCRAFT FLY?

Smart tracking aircraft fly with greater accuracy than those using conventional navigation means. This provides the ability to follow flight paths with high precision, and to make smooth curved approaches in all weather conditions.

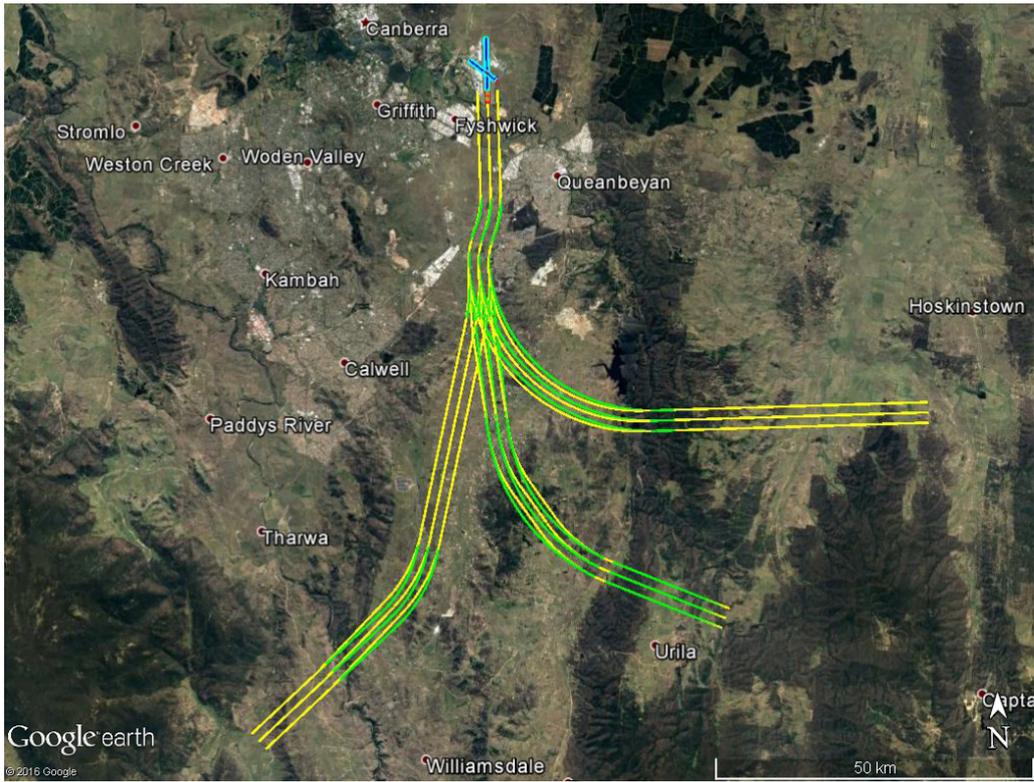
Smart Tracking provides an accurate vertical glide path which often allows aircraft arriving at an airport to place their engines at idle and glide until close to the runway under minimal power. This can reduce noise where aircraft have previously been flown manually requiring sharp changes in throttle to adjust the angle of descent.

Smart Tracking has been developed using existing and longstanding flight paths, but where possible, flight paths can be designed to curve around obstacles or to avoid noise sensitive areas in favour of overflying industrial land or other non-residential areas.

Smart Tracking also increases the reliability of landing at the airport in low visibility conditions, such as heavy rain and low cloud, which means fewer delays for passengers. This makes air travel safer, cleaner, more dependable, and can provide better noise outcomes for communities living close to airports.



Above: Runway 17 – Smart Tracking arrival flight path from 25 May 2017 shown in yellow. Smart Tracking arrival flight tracks pre-25 May 2017 shown in green.



Above: Runway 35 - Smart Tracking arrival flight path from 25 May 2017 shown in yellow. Smart Tracking arrival flight tracks pre-25 May 2017 shown in green.

WHAT IS GOING TO CHANGE?

The updated Smart Tracking arrival flight paths closely replicate the existing Smart Tracking arrival flight paths, with minor changes occurring within existing flight path corridors.

Residents may notice small changes to aircraft tracking however these changes are not expected to result in a noticeable difference in noise levels.

WHEN WILL THIS CHANGE BEGIN?

The updated flight paths will be available for all suitably-equipped operators from 25 May 2017.

WILL THERE BE MORE AIRCRAFT NOISE?

No new areas will be exposed to aircraft noise as a direct result of the updated Smart Tracking flight paths, as these areas are already overflown by aircraft. There should not be any noticeable difference in aircraft noise.

WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT SMART TRACKING?

Further information on Smart Tracking can be found at:

- Airservices website www.airservicesaustralia.com/projects/smart-tracking/canberra/
- Contacting the Noise Complaints and Information Service:
 - 1800 802 584 (free call), an interpreter service is also available on 131 450
 - online form: <https://complaints.bksv.com/asa>