

Keilir Conference on Eyjafjallajökull and Aviation
September 15-16, Keflavik Airport, Iceland
Presentation of Conference Chairmen, Panelists and Speakers#



Mr. Peter Sørensen

Policy Officer, Single Sky and modernisation of air traffic control, DG Move Transport
European Commission
Brussels, Belgium

www.cec.europa.eu

Peter.sorensen@ec.europa.eu

Peter Sørensen joined the European Commission in March 2010 as a Policy Officer in the Directorate General for Mobility and Transport (DG MOVE), and specifically for the unit dealing with the Single European Sky (SES) and the modernization of air traffic control. He has acted as the directorate's focal person for activities linked with the Eyjafjallajökull eruption. He is 42 years of age, and of Danish and American nationality. He has a solid knowledge of and experience in the aviation sector, which he has obtained through the various positions he has held over the years.

Prior to joining the European Commission Peter worked as the acting Director for IATA's European Safety, Operations & Infrastructure office in Brussels. Spanning the 3 areas of competence for this position his main responsibilities have centered on acting on behalf of IATA member airlines to promote safe, environmentally friendly, efficient and cost-effective operations in accordance with IATA's Industry priorities and objectives, specifically with regard route network and airspace improvements.

Peter previously worked for the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) as the Manager of the Executive Director Office. His main responsibilities were to function as a 'chef de cabinet', ensuring the internal liaison with the various directorates, but equally with external interested parties, be they industry stakeholders, national authorities or state representatives. This has seen Peter's involvement in the negotiation of outsourcing contracts with 3rd parties, notably the [EU] national aviation authorities, chairing the Agency's 'Work Programme and Budget Resources' working group, and being the Executive Directorate's focal point for contacts with the JAA, FAA and ICAO.

Preceding his joining EASA Peter held the position as General Secretary for the European Cockpit Association (ECA). In his interaction with the various aviation regulatory instances he ensured both a technical and industrial representation, which saw him closely involved with the creation of the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA), where he held the position of Vice-Chair of the Advisory Body of Interested Parties (ABIP), being the focal point for a number of JAA initiatives (e.g JSSI, RST), coordination of the ECA Air Traffic Management working group activities (e.g SES, AGAS, Runway Incursions), participation in the European Commission's 'Stakeholders Advisory Group on Aviation Security (SAGAS)', and being part of the EU delegation in the EU/US Air Services Agreement negotiations..

Peter's background is also linked to the operational experience gained in having initially undergone two separate airport management trainee programmes with respectively Stansted and Heathrow Airports Ltd., supplemented by the operational experience of having worked with Virgin Express S.A. as Flight Operations Supervisor.

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