## Washington DC Post-Implementation Analysis



### Washington DC Metroplex Implementation Overview

### Primary Facilities

- Washington ARTCC (ZDC)
- Potomac TRACON (PCT)

### Airports

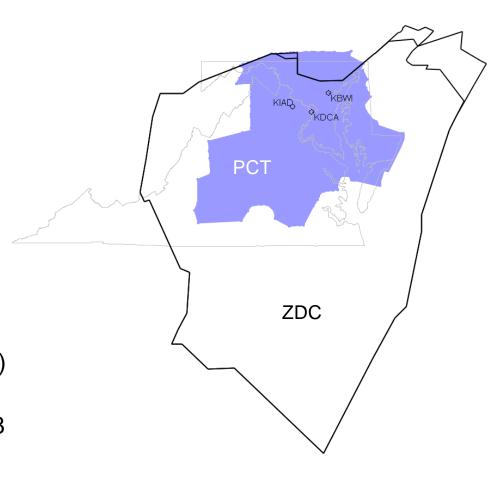
- Reagan National (DCA)
- Washington Dulles (IAD)
- Baltimore Washington (BWI)
- Satellite airports

### Implementation/Amendments

- Seven implementation phases (August 2012 – June 2015)
- Seven amendment phases
  (December 2014 March 2016)

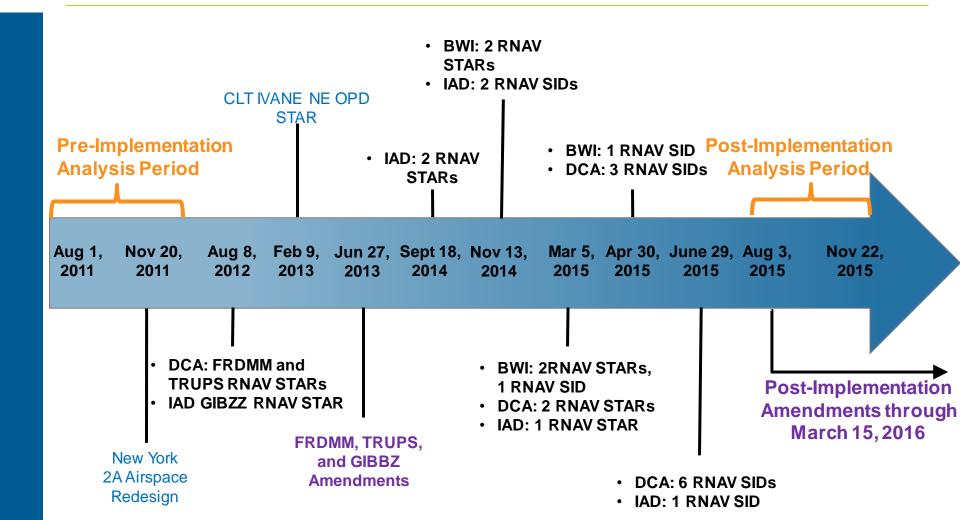
### Procedures/Airspace

- 51 procedures implemented (58 with Q/T routes)
- 13 airspace changes





## **Washington DC Timeline**



## Washington DC Metroplex Improvements

### Primary procedure changes

- OPDs to all airports from the west and south
- Segregated BWI, DCA and IAD arrivals from the west and south
- Connectivity between RNAV off the ground at DCA and en route structure to reduce reliance on radar vectors
- Segregated BWI westbound and IAD eastbound departures
- Provided segregated routes for satellite airports where possible
- Created Q-routes to deconflict from New York flows

#### Qualitative benefits

- Reduction in controller/pilot transmissions
- Predictable and repeatable flight paths
- Reduced complexity for pilots and controllers



## Methodology

### Flight efficiency metrics

- Fuel burn, time flown, distance flown, level flight
- Metrics collected beginning after June 29, 2015 final implementation
  - Pre-implementation analysis period: August 1, 2011 to November 20, 2011
  - Post-implementation analysis period: August 3, 2015 to November 22, 2015
- Controlled for non-Metroplex-related FAA initiatives, industry practices, and data sample variations where practical
  - Controlled: runway configuration, runway closures, origin-destination pair demand shifts, fleet mix, seasonality, severe weather
  - Not controlled: TBFM usage changes, FMS cost index changes, winds
- Filtered for pistons, holding, midnight operations, and non-primary runway configurations



## **Analysis Challenges**

- Significant time elapsed between pre (2011) and post (2015) analysis periods
- Multiple implementation dates, including post-implementation amendments
- Many major airports in close proximity to DC Metroplex airports
  - Analysis captures both climb and descent phases of these flights
- Extended runway closures during analysis period (BWI)
  - BWI analysis only includes dates when Runway 10/28 was open in the post-implementation period
    - Pre: August 1-29, 2011 and November 17-20, 2011
    - Post: August 3-31, 2015 and November 19-22, 2015
- Neighboring airspace and procedure changes
  - New York/New Jersey/Philadelphia 2A
  - CLT IVANE OPD STAR



## **Industry Changes from 2011 to 2015**

- Airline mergers have changed regional landscape
  - United and Continental (2012)
    - IAD: shift in traffic to EWR
  - Southwest and AirTran (2014)
    - BWI: expanded presence in major markets, started international routes
    - DCA: Southwest re-allocated AirTran slots
  - American and US Airways (2015)
    - DCA: emergence as a hub, slot reallocation to low cost carriers
- Cost of fuel has decreased approximately 50%
- Changes in markets served
  - Significant reduction in operations at CVG
  - Adjustments to international routes



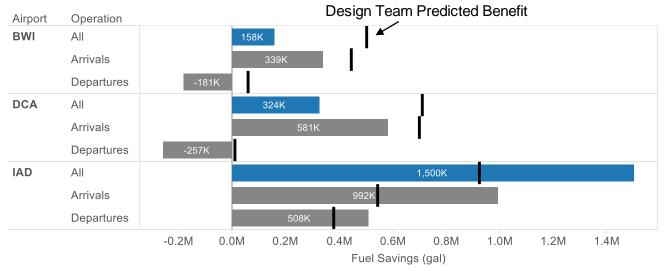
# Impact of Industry and DC Market Changes to Analysis

- Fleet mixes have changed, leaving fewer common types to compare
  - Reduction in use of certain aircraft (i.e., B717, B733, B757)
  - IAD: shift from A320 to B737; upgauging of smaller regional jets
  - DCA: upgauging to E190 and B737 from smaller regional jets
- Markets served have changed, making comparisons more difficult
- Reduction in price of fuel may have changed airlines' FMS cost index which may impact climb rates
  - Implementation of BADA fuel model assumes max thrust for entire climb phase and does not distinguish between different climb rates



# DC Metroplex Fuel Summary and Key Findings

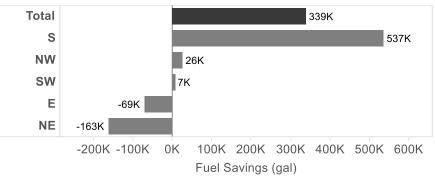
- Design Team (DT) Predicted Savings: 2.1M gal (\$5.9M)
- Post-Implementation Analysis Savings: 2.0M gal (\$5.6M)



- Post-implementation benefits were smaller than DT predictions for BWI and DCA but larger for IAD
- Arrival savings at DCA and IAD due to reductions in time, distance, and level flight
- Departures have distance and time savings at all airports but other factors result in costs

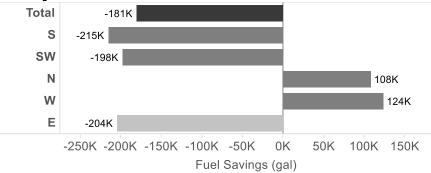
## **BWI Summary**

### **Arrivals**



- DT predicted: 444K gal
- S savings largely due to level flight reductions
- Airports within 300NM had a disproportional cost, especially from the E and NE

### **Departures**

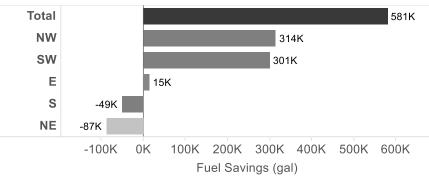


- DT predicted: 59K gal
- Reduced time and distances overall
- Slower climbs and lower cruise altitudes
- DC Metroplex did not create a new departure procedure to the east (not included in total)



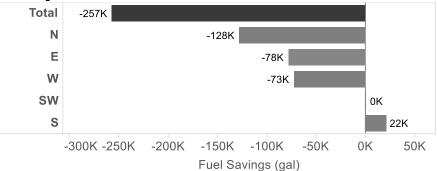
## **DCA Summary**

### **Arrivals**



- DT predicted: 700K gal
- NW savings primarily due to level flight reductions
- SW savings due to reduced distance and time
- DC Metroplex did not create a new procedure for NE arrivals (not included in total)

### **Departures**

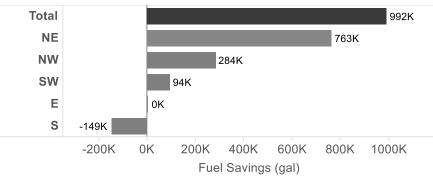


- DT predicted: 11K gal
- Reduced time and distances
- Lower cruise altitudes
- CLT IVANE OPD may be adding benefit to SW results
- Some E departures to LGA excluded due to alternate routing



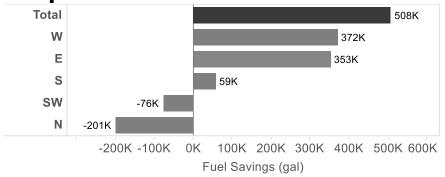
## **IAD Summary**

### **Arrivals**



- DT predicted: 543K gal
- NE savings due to shorter distance on HYPER and MAPEL (post-implementation amendments)
- Level flight savings from the NW
- Lower cruise altitudes from S and SW result in small savings or costs

### **Departures**



- DT predicted: 380K gal
- W savings due to FedEx DC10 departures to MEM climbing faster
- E savings due to distance reductions
- N costs due to lower cruise altitudes and slower climbs



### **Conclusions**

- Total estimated post-implementation benefits were similar to DT predictions
  - DT Predicted Savings: 2.1M gal (\$5.9M)
  - Post-Implementation Analysis Savings: 2.0M gal (\$5.6M)
- Arrival savings at BWI, DCA, and IAD due to reductions in time, distance, and level flight
  - BWI arrivals during the runway closure were not included in analysis
- Many of the departure costs appear to be due to non-Metroplex related factors since distance and time savings were observed for BWI, DCA, and IAD
  - Slower climbs and lower cruise altitudes
- DC Metroplex amendments implemented after analysis period may provide additional benefits

