

In a move that industry analysts have declared 'revolutionary', France has flipped the table on the provision of Air Traffic Control services.

With a [new guide](#) published on the topic, instead of issuing Strike Notams, France will now **'activate ATC service' by Notam only**, on specific dates.

When ATC is available in French airspace, and when airports are running normally, France will issue an A-series Notam with the specific wording *'Warning: Full ATC service available'*. Officials have been tight-lipped on when the first day of routine French service can be expected in 2020.

Speaking after the decision made in Paris earlier this month, a DGAC spokeswoman told us "We're unhappy that France is only responsible for about 30% of the delays in European airspace over the last 15 years. Although commendable, **we can only be truly proud** of a number in excess of 50%, to ensure we retain the #1 spot for years to come."

Adjoining ATC Centers have applauded the move, saying that the new system will bring an end to the endless [Eurocontrol NOP](#) warnings about French strikes. "It's a much more sensible system", said a Eurocontrol Network Manager staffer in Brussels. "With this new method, we only have to occasionally highlight a Notam that is issued when French airspace is operating normally. We anticipate this being a rare occurrence, so the workload for us is much lower and more manageable."

Airlines too have welcomed the new plan. **"We really enjoy the banana routes"**, said a pilot at Easyjet. "Too often these days we get long, straight, direct clearances from these boring,