

JOINT AWG – AVIARETO TASK FORCE ON ACCEPTANCE, USE AND DELIVERY OF DIGITAL SIGNATURES

In view of the need, made clear by the disruptions caused by the spread of COVID 19, to accelerate the use of digital signatures (**DS**) on legal and other documents affecting aviation leasing, financings and registration (and related regulatory documents), AWG and AVIARETO have agreed to –

- Create a task force (**DSig – TF**) to explore options, and, if possible, propose [a global approach or system](#) for the acceptance, use, and efficient delivery of DS to the industry and government officials

This DSig – TF will build on the prior work on DS by AWG in creating (with FEXCO) the GATS trading platform and by AVIARETO in creating and operating since 2006, the Cape Town Convention International Registry.

Other key players, *including major aviation regulators and authorities*, will be invited into the DSig – TF, as needed.

Core objectives of the work of the DSig – TF and any resulting approach or system are as follows –

- Providing a global approach or system, which may include use of a platform, to be recognized by authorities and as a matter of law or practice around the world
- Providing highest level participation (on-boarding) procedures, taking advantage of AVIARETO's 14 years of tested aviation-industry vetting process
- Providing highest level IT security, and appropriate authentication, and verification procedures
- Providing execution, consent, and delivery mechanics geared to the needs of the aviation industry, which may include use of an escrow or closing-type facility as used in the Cape Town Convention International Registry and/or GATS

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About AWG: The Aviation Working Group is a not-for-profit legal entity comprised of major manufacturers, leasing companies, and financial institutions that contributes to the development of policies, laws, and regulations that facilitate advanced international aviation financing and leasing. AWG was the key industry entity contributing to the development of, and now compliance with, the Cape Town Convention. The GATS trading platform is being developed under AWG auspices. See www.awg.aero

About AVIARETO: Aviareto has gained the trust of the aviation finance industry through its role in designing and operating the International Registry where, since 2006, it has processed over 1.2 million registrations, all of which are digitally signed and legally effective under the Cape Town Convention. Aviareto is expert in the design and operation of digital signature systems and wants to lend its expertise to this effort which will explore how the aviation industry can deal with regulatory authorities and each other more efficiently and safely during the COVID-19 crisis.

About FEXCO: Fexco develops and operates technology to connect people and businesses across the world through innovation in a range of mission critical transactions platforms across multiple industry sectors. Growing to over 2,000 employees since its inception in 1981, Fexco brings a rigorous methodology and management focus to all projects: leveraging in-house architecture, design, software development and IT infrastructure. Fexco platforms process over \$14bn per annum and is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland and the Financial Conduct Authority for the conduct of payment business in the United Kingdom.