



# Aeronautical Survey Program



The Aeronautical Survey Program (ASP) provides position, height, and orientation information needed for safe navigation. NOAA's National Geodetic Survey (NGS), formerly part of the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, has been performing aeronautical surveys since the 1920's. These surveys provide critical information about airport features and about obstructions and aids to navigation. The Federal Aviation Administration uses ASP information to establish airport approach and departure procedures, determine takeoff weights, update aeronautical publications, and for airport planning and construction studies. ASP also supports engineering projects, such as constructing runways and taxiways.

ASP produces a 1:12,000-scale chart showing obstructions to air navigation, aircraft movement and apron areas, prominent airport buildings, navigational aids, and roads and other features in the airport vicinity. This work is completed through a combination of field party data collection and in-house photogrammetric analysis to produce a product that is compliant with FAA Specification No. 405 Standards for Aeronautical Surveys.

Additionally, ASP produces accurate airport surface maps for the FAA's Safe Flight-21 Program. The aviation industry uses GIS data to construct moving map displays for both pilots and air traffic controllers.

The program also supports the FAA's Standard Automation Replacement System (STARS) by positioning the various radar components that comprise this new air traffic control tool. The data is used daily to calibrate the radar systems.

**For more information, contact:**

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The U.S. Department of Commerce  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
National Ocean Service  
National Geodetic Survey

The National Geodetic Survey (NGS) defines and manages the National Spatial Reference System, which determines position, height, distance, gravity, and shoreline throughout the United States. Since 1807, NGS and its predecessor agencies have led the world in precise positioning and developed emerging technologies for the public. NGS provides its expertise and a wealth of free information, including direct access to its data base on the World Wide Web at: [www.ngs.noaa.gov](http://www.ngs.noaa.gov).

