

Change ID: 5.1-16

Remove AirspaceAssociation class

Summary

It is proposed to remove the AirspaceAssociation class from the model because it does not provide any real benefit. The only kind of association that it supports ("distinct activation times") is too simplistic for modelling airspace configurations.

Background

The [AirspaceAssociation](#) has been inherited from earlier versions (AIXM 3.3 and 4.5). The idea was to model other associations that can exist between Airspace, different from the simple geometrical dependence between AirspaceVolumes.

Rationale for the change

Theoretically, the AirspaceAssociation can be used to record the temporal exclusivity of a airspace configuration. If an airspace had two different geometries, due to operational constraints, then each of these geometries was modelled as an airspace on its own. Then, an AirspaceAssociation of type TIME-DIST ("distinct times") was put between the two, in order to indicate that these two Airspace do not exist at the same moment in time.

However, the simple AirspaceAssociation class lacks many attributes that would be required in order to completely model such configurations and it was practically never used. Therefore, it is proposed to remove it from AIXM 5.1. A proper solution for modelling sector configurations will be investigated for a future version of the model, initially through an extension.

Change proposal details

Remove from the model:

- the AirspaceAssociation feature
- the CodeAirspaceAssociationType data type