The U.S. Air Force (USAF) Navigational Aids (NAVAIDS) Family of Systems (FOS) program will modernize the USAF NAVAID infrastructure across the U.S. as well as at international USAF bases. The infrastructure provides navigation signals that allow aircraft to navigate en route and provide approach guidance to aircraft. Thales will replace the existing NAVAIDS with more advanced and modern products that provide lower maintenance costs and remote maintenance monitoring capability.

How many NAVAIDS will be impacted?
The program will modernize the AN/FRN-44 Very High Frequency Omni-Directional Range (VOR), AN/FRN-45 Tactical Air Navigation (TACAN), and AN/FRN-43 Very High Frequency Omni-Directional Range Tactical Air Navigation (VORTAC) infrastructure – more than 150 NAVAIDS.

Why is the program being deployed?
The modernization activity will result in advanced remote monitoring capability and higher system reliability, reducing USAF operating expenses while providing the highest availability for the most advanced navigation support in the National Airspace System.

What international standards will the new technology comply with?
The VOR will be compliant with ICAO annex 10, and U.S. FAA FAR-171 approval. The TACAN will be compliant with MIL-STD-291.

What experience does Thales bring?
Thales has supplied navigation solutions to the U.S. aviation community for more than 80 years. More than 3,000 Thales Air Traffic Management NAVAIDS are operational in the U.S., with over 7,000 operational across 170 countries around the globe.