

**MAS Improves Aircraft Communication System To 10 Minutes Interval**  
**Bernama**  
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KUALA LUMPUR, March 7 (Bernama) -- Malaysia Airlines (MAS) has improved its Aircraft Communication and Reporting System (ACARS) to five minutes quicker than the new international standard requirement, enabling them to gain better detection of their aircraft position.

MAS managing director and chief executive officer, Ahmad Jauhari Yahya said in the aftermath of the MAS MH370 disappearance on March 8 last year, the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) had set a new standard of 15-minute time interval for the aircraft to transmit its data to the control centre.

"MAS has set 10 minutes of time interval for some of its aircraft to transmit the flight data," he told Bernama in an interview in conjunction with the first anniversary of the MH370 mysterious disappearance.

He said Acars was an aircraft communication system that transmitted the flight data including its speed, velocity, direction, position and location to the airlines control system via satellite.

"The biggest lesson that we have learned is that we need to know our aircraft location and position better. And I think we have done that," he said.

Ahmad Jauhari said the 10-minute time interval applied to all its Airbus aircraft coded A380 and A330 and its Boeing 738 planes.

Meanwhile, for all Boeing 777 aircraft, the time interval for data transmission was 15 minutes, he said.

On the training programme for MAS pilots, Ahmad Jauhari said presently there was no need for MAS to revise it because the existing programme was already stringent and comprehensive.

Flight MH370, which carried 12 crew members and 227 passengers, went missing from the radar screen while en route from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing, about an hour after it departed from the KL International Airport on March 8. It was scheduled to arrive in Beijing at 6.30am on the same day.

On Jan 29, the Malaysian Government declared the loss of Flight MH370 as an accident under international aviation regulations and that all the 239 passengers and crew members were presumed to have died.

To date, the search for the aircraft was still on-going in the remote area of the Indian Ocean, about 2,500 kilometres off Perth, Australia.

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