

# NOTICE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION  
Air Traffic Organization Policy

N JO 7110.486

**Effective Date:**  
June 5, 2008

**Cancellation Date:**  
March 12, 2009

**SUBJ:** Lateral Separation

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- 1. Purpose of This Notice.** This notice amends Federal Aviation Administration Order (FAAO) JO 7110.65S, Air Traffic Control, by reducing the minimum lateral separation standard to 50 nautical miles for qualified aircraft in portions of the North Atlantic and Caribbean airspace.
- 2. Audience.** This notice applies to the En Route and Oceanic Service unit and select En Route and Oceanic air traffic control facilities.
- 3. Where Can I Find This Notice?** The notice is available on the MYFAA employee Web site at [https://employees.faa.gov/tools\\_resources/orders\\_notices/](https://employees.faa.gov/tools_resources/orders_notices/) and on the air traffic publications Web site at [http://www.faa.gov/airports\\_airtraffic/air\\_traffic/publications](http://www.faa.gov/airports_airtraffic/air_traffic/publications).
- 4. Procedures.** Amend FAAO JO 7110.65S, Paragraphs 8-7-4 and 8-8-4, Lateral Separation, to read as follows:

#### **8-7-4. LATERAL SEPARATION**

In accordance with Chapter 8, Offshore/Oceanic Procedures, Section 4, Lateral Separation, apply the following:

- a. 50 NM between Required Navigation Performance (RNP 4 or RNP 10) approved aircraft which:
  1. Operate on routes or in areas within WATRS, the San Juan CTA/FIR or the Atlantic portion of the Miami Oceanic CTA/FIR; or
  2. Operate in the New York Oceanic CTA/FIR outside of WATRS.

**NOTE-**

*This reduced lateral separation shall not be used if track-keeping capability of the aircraft has been reduced for any reason.*

- b. 60 NM or 1- degree latitude between:
  1. Supersonic aircraft operating above FL 275.
  2. Aircraft which meet the MNPS and which:
    - (a) Operate within MNPS airspace; or
    - (b) Are in transit to or from MNPS airspace; or
    - (c) Operate for part of their flight within, above, or below MNPS airspace.

**NOTE-**

*This reduced lateral separation shall not be used if track-keeping capability of the aircraft has been reduced for any reason.*

- c. 90 NM or 1 and  $1/2$  degree latitude between aircraft not approved for RNP 4 or RNP 10 and which:
  - 1. Operate on routes or in areas within WATRS, the San Juan CTA/FIR or the Atlantic portion of the Miami CTA/FIR;
  - 2. Operate between points in the U.S. or Canada and Bermuda;
  - 3. Operate west of 55° West between the U.S., Canada, or Bermuda and points in the Caribbean ICAO Region.
- d. 120 NM or 2 degrees latitude between aircraft not covered by subparas a, b or c above.

**NOTE-**

*Tracks may be spaced with reference to their difference in latitude, provided that in any interval of 10 degrees of longitude the change in latitude of at least one of the tracks does not exceed 3 degrees when operating south of 58°North.*

No further changes to the paragraph.

**8-8-4. LATERAL SEPARATION**

In accordance with Chapter 8, Offshore/Oceanic Procedures, Section 4, Lateral Separation, apply the following:

- a. 50 NM between Required Navigation Performance (RNP 4 or RNP 10) approved aircraft which:
  - 1. Operate on routes or areas in WATRS, the San Juan CTA/FIR or the Atlantic portion of the Miami Oceanic CTA/FIR; or
  - 2. Operate in the New York Oceanic CTA/FIR outside of WATRS.

**NOTE-**

*This reduced lateral separation shall not be used if track-keeping capability of the aircraft has been reduced for any reason*

- b. 60 NM between:
  - 1. Supersonic aircraft operating above FL 275 within the New York oceanic CTA/FIR.
  - 2. Supersonic aircraft operating at or above FL 450 not covered in subpara 1 above.
  - 3. Aircraft which meet the MNPS and which:
    - (a) Operate within MNPS airspace; or
    - (b) Are in transit to or from MNPS airspace; or
    - (c) Operate for part of their flight within, above, or below MNPS airspace.

**NOTE-**

*This reduced lateral separation shall not be used if track-keeping capability of the aircraft has been reduced for any reason.*

- c. 90 NM between aircraft not approved for RNP 4 or RNP 10 and which:

- 1. Operate within WATRS;
- 2. Operate west of 55° West between the U.S., Canada, or Bermuda and points in the Caribbean ICAO Region.
  - d. 100 NM between aircraft operating west of 55° West not covered by subparas a, b or c above.
  - e. 120 NM between aircraft operating east of 55° West.

No further changes to the paragraph.

**5. Distribution.** This notice is distributed to the following Air Traffic Organization service units: En Route and Oceanic, Safety, and System Operations Services; service center offices, the Air Traffic Safety Oversight Service; the William J. Hughes Technical Center; the Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center; and air traffic control facilities.

**6. Background.** In 1998, lateral separation was reduced to 50 nautical miles (NM) in conjunction with the introduction of Required Navigation Performance 10 (RNP 10) for aircraft operating in the North Pacific Route System. Since that time, application of 50 NM lateral separation and RNP 10 has been expanded throughout the Pacific Flight Information Regions (FIR). Effective June 5, 2008, this reduced lateral separation minimum will be authorized for qualified aircraft operating on specified oceanic routes or areas in the New York Oceanic Control Area (CTA), the San Juan CTA/FIR, and the Atlantic portion of the Miami Oceanic CTA/FIR.

**7. Implementation.** This notice shall be implemented on the effective date and the content of this notice will be incorporated into FAAO 7110.65S, change 2, effective March 12, 2009.

  
 Nancy B. Kalinowski  
 Vice President, System Operations Services  
 Air Traffic Organization

5/21/08  
 Date Signed