



Federal Aviation Administration

Memorandum

Date: DEC - 8 2008

To: Gary A. Norek, Manager, Air Traffic Terminal Airspace, AJT-25
Dan Diggins, Manager, Air Traffic Terminal Services, AJT-22
Joseph Teixeira, Manager Air Traffic Operations Oversight Division, AOV-100
Danny E. Hamilton, Manager Production Integration Team, AJW-32

From: *fw* John W. McGraw, Manager, Flight Technologies and Procedures Division, AFS-400 *J W McGraw*

Subject: Cancellation of Memorandum for Houston Intercontinental Airport Simultaneous Area Navigation /Instrument Landing System Authorization

PURPOSE

This memorandum rescinds the attached October 29, 2003, Flight Technologies and Procedures Division, AFS-400 memorandum, Houston Intercontinental Airport (IAH) Simultaneous Area Navigation (RNAV)/Instrument Landing System (ILS) Authorization.

BACKGROUND

The referenced memorandum imposes operational constraints on IAH simultaneous independent operations which are obsolete based on a subsequent Flight Systems Laboratory, AFS-450 safety study.

POLICY

This memorandum cancels the October 29, 2003, AFS-400 memorandum, Houston Intercontinental Airport (IAH) Simultaneous Area Navigation (RNAV)/Instrument Landing System (ILS) Authorization, thereby eliminating any associated operational restrictions/limitations.

This memorandum does not relax, modify, or invalidate the results, findings, recommendations, or restrictions detailed in DOT-FAA-AFS-440-29, Safety Study Report on Simultaneous Parallel Instrument Landing System (ILS) and RNAV/RNP Approaches - Phases 1A and 2A or in any other future study or standard.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Thomas J. Nichols, Flight Procedure Standards Branch, AFS-420, at (405) 954-4164.

Attachment



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

Memorandum

Subject: **ACTION:** Houston Intercontinental Airport (IAH)
Simultaneous Area Navigation (RNAV)/
Instrument Landing System (ILS) Authorization

Date: OCT 29 2003

From: Manager, Flight Technologies and Procedures
Division, AFS-400

Reply to
Attn. of:

To: Manager, Terminal and Enroute Procedures
Division, ATP-100

AFS-400 is processing approval of six Special RNAV Instrument Approach Procedures (IAP) to the George Bush Houston Intercontinental Airport instrument approach procedure (IAH), for use by Continental Airlines. These IAPs include authorization to conduct simultaneous approach operations with ILS approaches to parallel runways.

In order to maintain the acceptable Target Level of Safety, it is imperative that these RNAV simultaneous operations are restrained. For example, the approval allows a single RNAV approach operation to a runway with a simultaneous ILS approach operation on only one side of the RNAV final approach course. An RNAV approach operation with simultaneous ILS operations on both sides of the RNAV aircraft presents an unacceptable level of risk and cannot be allowed.

Procedural notes on the IAP chart, in conjunction with operational restrictions issued to Continental, are designed to prevent unacceptable risk scenarios; however, to fully connect the "Safety Net," we believe Air Traffic should evaluate the need for appropriate guidance to controllers, on the local level, to ensure that Air Traffic Control initiated clearances or instructions do not compromise the safety levels maintained through procedural and operational restrictions.

Additionally, Flight Standards is interested in obtaining relevant Radio Detection and Ranging tracking data from the Houston Terminal Radar Approach Control, in support of wider application of RNAV simultaneous approach operations at a future date.

Questions relating to this subject should be directed to Hooper Harris, Manager, AFS-410, 202-385-4621, or Mike Werner, AFS-420, 405-954-5843.


For
John W. McGraw