



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION**

**ORDER  
7910.5B**

Effective Date:  
02/01/2006

**SUBJ: AERONAUTICAL CHARTING FORUM**

---

**1. PURPOSE.** This order establishes a forum for interaction between the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the aviation community relating to informational content and design of U.S. Government aeronautical products. The forum also affords the public an avenue to provide comments to the FAA regarding instrument flight procedure policy, design, criteria, and charting.

**2. DISTRIBUTION.** This order is distributed to the branch level in the Flight Standards and Air Traffic Services, to the Technical Operations Aviation System Standards Office, to the National Aeronautical Charting Group (NACG); to the branch level in the regional Flight Standards and Air Traffic Divisions; to the regional Flight Procedures Field Offices; to all Flight Inspection Field Offices, Flight Standards District Offices, and Flight Standards Certificate Management Offices.

**3. CANCELLATION.** Order 7910.5A, Aeronautical Charting Forum, dated April 1, 2002 is cancelled.

**4. EFFECTIVE DATE.** The effective date of this order is February 1, 2006.

**5. BACKGROUND.**

a. In December 1988, the Air Line Pilots Association, Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, Air Transport Association, Helicopter Association International, and the National Business Aircraft Association, Inc. urged the Administrator to establish a Federal Advisory Committee that would review/recommend actions dealing with aeronautical charting and instrument procedures. At that time, the Administrator determined that additional Advisory Committees were not desired and that a different medium should be used. The Flight Standards Service, AFS-1, and the Air Traffic Rules and Procedures Service, ATP-1, jointly established the Aeronautical Charting Forum (ACF). The ACF provides the mechanism for discussing aeronautical charting and terminal instrument procedural issues.

b. In 1994, it was noted that the ACF's initial scope of aeronautical information publications and charting products had expanded to include pilot procedures for instrument flight, as well as criteria, design, and development policy for instrument approach/ arrival/departure procedures. This expansion led to the separation of the ACF bi-annual meetings into two separate portions; a Procedures portion to address TERPS related issues and the Charting portion to address aeronautical charting issues.

c. In 2002, the order was updated to reflect the transfer of the Office of Aeronautical Charting and Cartography from the National Ocean Service of the Department of Commerce to the FAA, Aviation System Standards (AVN), and its subsequent designation as the National Aeronautical Charting Office (NACO). NACO is the FAA element responsible for the production

---

**Distribution:** A-W(FS/AT/VN)-3; A-X(FS/AT)-3; AVN-500 (15 Cys);  
Regional FPOs (STD); A-FFS-4/7/9 (STD)

**Initiated By:** AFS-420

and distribution of U.S. Government civil aeronautical charts and related publications and products. The 2002 revision of the order also formally divided the ACF into two separate, yet equal groups. The Instrument Procedures Group (IPG) was formed to address issues relating to instrument procedure criteria, design, policy, and development, as well as pilot procedures for instrument flight. The Charting Group was formed to address issues relating to aeronautical charting specifications, database coding, and flight information products.

## **6. EXPLANATION OF CHANGES.**

- a. Paragraph 5 updated to reflect the history of the order to date.
- b. Paragraph 10a revised to reflect the Air Traffic Organization, Vice President for Technical Operations Services, AJW-O, as co-sponsor of the Forum.
- c. Paragraph 10b revised to reflect the National Aeronautical Charting Group (NACG), AJW-35, as co-chair of the forum.

## **7. RELATED PUBLICATIONS (latest editions).**

- a. Order 8260.3, United States Standard for Terminal Instrument Procedures (TERPS).
- b. Order 8260.19, Flight Procedures and Airspace.
- c. Aeronautical Information Manual (AIM).
- d. Inter-Agency Air Cartographic Committee (IACC) Specifications.

## **8. SCOPE AND OBJECTIVE.** The ACF is established to:

- a. Identify issues concerning safety and usefulness of aeronautical charts and flight information publications.
- b. Discuss and evaluate proposals concerning aeronautical charts and flight information publications, digital aeronautical products, database coding, instrument flying procedures, and instrument procedure development, policy, and design.
- c. Provide a medium for Government to brief, and interested participants to discuss, new navigation concepts, TERPS criteria changes, and charting methodologies.
- d. Form additional subgroups/subcommittees to address specific issues as necessary.

**9. ORGANIZATION.** The ACF has no specifically designated members; however, those government agencies directly involved in the development and production of instrument flight procedures regularly attend meetings. This includes representatives from the FAA Flight Standards Service, the Air Traffic Organization, and the Department of Defense. Meetings are open to the public and anyone who attends may participate.

## 10. RESPONSIBILITIES.

a. The Flight Standards Service, AFS-1, and the Air Traffic Organization, Vice President for Technical Operations Services, ATO-W, sponsor the forum and provide administrative support.

b. The Flight Procedure Standards Branch, AFS-420, and the National Aeronautical Charting Group (NACG), AJW-35, will co-chair the forum. AFS-420 chairs the Instrument Procedures Group, and the NACG chairs the Charting Group. Specific responsibilities of each group chair include:

(1) Determining when meetings are required. A minimum of two joint meetings per year must be scheduled. Additional, specific group meetings may be called at the discretion of the individual group chair.

(2) Formulating an agenda for each meeting.

(3) Notifying the public of the time, place, and agenda for each meeting. This information will be published in the Federal Register at least 30 days in advance of the meeting to ensure public awareness.

(4) Conducting the meeting, including exercising the authority to adjourn the meeting when considered in the public interest.

(5) Recording and publishing minutes. Every effort will be made to distribute minutes within 30 calendar days of the meeting.

(6) Assigning an Office of Primary Responsibility (OPR) for open issues and ensuring follow-up action is taken to resolve the concerns.

(7) Ensuring that comments concerning changes to TERPS criteria are forwarded to the TERPS Working Group (TWG) for consideration.

(8) Ensuring that comments concerning changes to charting specifications are forwarded to the IACC for consideration.

(9) Ensuring that comments concerning changes to instrument approach/arrival/ departure procedure policy are forwarded to AFS-420 for consideration.

**11. INFORMATION UPDATE.** For your convenience, FAA Form 1320-19, Directive Feedback Information, is included at the end of this order to note any deficiencies found, clarifications needed, or suggested improvements regarding the contents of this order. When forwarding your comments to the originating office for consideration, please provide a complete explanation of why the suggested change is necessary.

ORIGINAL SIGNED by Carol E. Giles, For  
James J. Ballough  
Director, Flight Standards Service

### Directive Feedback Information

Please submit any written comments or recommendations for improving this directive, or suggest new items or subjects to be added to it. Also, if you find an error, please tell us about it.

Subject: Order 7910.5B, Aeronautical Charting Forum

To: DOT/FAA  
Flight Procedure Standards Branch, AFS-420  
P.O. Box 25082  
Oklahoma City, OK 73125

*(Please check all appropriate line items)*

An error (procedural or typographical) has been noted in paragraph \_\_\_\_\_ on page \_\_\_\_\_.

Recommend paragraph \_\_\_\_\_ on page \_\_\_\_\_ be changed as follows:  
*(attach separate sheet if necessary)*

In a future change to this directive, please include coverage on the following subject:  
*(briefly describe what you want added):*

Other comments:

I would like to discuss the above. Please contact me.

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

FTS Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Routing Symbol: \_\_\_\_\_