



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION
National Policy

ORDER
7910.5C

Effective Date:
09/17/12

SUBJ: Aeronautical Charting Forum

1. Purpose of this Order. 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 charts and flight information products. The forum also affords the public an avenue to provide comments to the FAA regarding policy, design, criteria, and charting of instrument flight procedures.

2. Audience. This order is distributed to selected FAA addressees and Special Military and Public addressees.

3. Where Can I Find This Order. You can find this order on https://employees.faa.gov/tools_resources/orders_notices/ or public Web site; http://www.faa.gov/regulations_policies/orders_notices/.

4. What This Order Cancels. Order 7910.5B, Aeronautical Charting Forum, dated 02/01/2006 is canceled.

5. Explanation of Changes.

a. Cover. Updated to provide a brief synopsis of the intent of the Order.

b. General. Formatting is revised to meet current FAA standards. Paragraphs are realigned for better editorial flow. Office identifications and routing codes are updated to reflect the current FAA organizational structure. All references to other FAA Orders reflect the current edition.

c. Chapter 1.

(1) Paragraph 8a. Paragraph revised to reflect the Air Traffic Organization Vice President, Mission Support Services, AJV-0, as co-sponsor of the ACF.

(2) Paragraph 8b. Paragraph revised to reflect the National Aeronautical Navigation Products Office (AeroNav Products), Quality Assurance and Regulatory Support Group, AJV-3B, as co-chair of the ACF.

d. Appendix A.

(1) Paragraph 1. Distribution updated.

(2) Paragraph 2d. Added paragraph to include history of the Order since the last change.

(3) Paragraph 3. Related publications updated.

6. 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 flight procedure development, policy, and design.

c. Provide a medium for government to brief and interested participants to discuss, new navigation concepts, terminal instrument procedures (TERPS) criteria changes, and charting specifications and methodologies.

d. Form additional subgroups/subcommittees to address specific issues as necessary.

7. 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 (AFS), the Air Traffic Organization (ATO), and the Department of Defense (DoD). Meetings are open to the public and anyone who attends may participate in discussions and initiate recommendations.

8. Responsibilities.

a. The Director of the Flight Standards Service (AFS-1) and the Air Traffic Organization, Vice President for Mission Support Services (AJV-0), sponsor the forum and provide administrative support.

b. The Flight Procedure Standards Branch (AFS-420), and the National Aeronautical Navigation Products Office (AeroNav Products), Quality Assurance and Regulatory Support Group (AJV-3B), will co-chair the forum. The Flight Procedure Standards Branch chairs the Instrument Procedures Group (IPG), and the AeroNav Products, Quality Assurance and Regulatory Support Group 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 United States-Instrument Flight Procedures Panel (US-IFPP) for consideration.

(8) Ensuring that comments concerning changes to charting specifications and flight information publications are forwarded to the Interagency Air Cartographic Committee (IACC) for consideration.

(9) Ensuring that comments concerning changes to instrument approach/arrival/departure procedure policy are forwarded to Flight Technologies and Procedures Division (AFS-400) for consideration.

(10) Ensuring that recommended changes to instrument flight and air traffic control procedures, as well as aeronautical information publications are forwarded to the appropriate OPR for action.



Michael P. Huerta
Acting Administrator

Appendix A. Administration Information

1. Distribution. This order is distributed in Washington headquarters to the group and team level in the Air Traffic Organization (Terminal Services, En Route and Oceanic Services, System Operations Services, Technical Operations Services, and Mission Support Services); to the Branch level in the Flight Standards Service, to the Flight Technologies and Procedures Division, AFS-400; to the Aeronautical Navigation Products Office, AJV-3, and to the Regulatory Standards Division, AMA-200, at the Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center; to the branch level in the regional Flight Standards Divisions; to the team level in the ATO Service Area Technical Operations and Operational Support Groups; to the ATO Technical Operations Service Flight Inspection Central Operations (FICO); and Special Military and Public Addressees.

2. Background.

a. In December 1988, the Air Line Pilots Association (ALPA), Aircraft Owner and Pilots Association (AOPA), Air Transport Association (ATA), Helicopter Association International (HAI), and the National Business Aircraft Association, Inc. (NBAA) urged the Administrator to establish a Federal Advisory Committee that would review/recommend actions dealing with aeronautical charting and the U.S. Standard for Terminal Instrument Procedures (TERPs). 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 provided the mechanism for discussing aeronautical charting and TERPs 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 regarding instrument flight procedures for approach, arrival, and departure. This explanation 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 was the FAA element responsible for the production and distribution of United States 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 flight 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.

d. In 2006, the Order was administratively updated to reflect the Director, FAA Flight Standards Service, AFS-1 and the Air Traffic Organization, Vice President, Technical Operations Service, AJW-0, as co-sponsors of the Forum. The Flight Procedure Standards

Branch, AFS-420, and the National Aeronautical Charting Group (NACG), AJW-35, were designated as co-chairs of the forum.

3. Related Publications.

- a. Aeronautical Information Manual (AIM).
- b. FAA-H-8083-15, Instrument Flying Handbook.
- c. FAA-H-8261-1A, Instrument Procedures Handbook.
- d. Interagency Air Cartographic Committee (IACC) Specifications.
- e. Order 8260.3, United States Standard for Terminal Instrument Procedures (TERPS).
- f. Order 8260.19, Flight Procedures and Airspace.

4. 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.