



**Twenty Second Meeting of the
Informal South Pacific ATS Co-ordinating Group (ISPACG/22)
FANS Interoperability Team Meeting (FIT/15)**

Papeete, Tahiti, 11-12 March 2008

Agenda Item 8: Iridium Satcom

Proposal for Additional Airlines To Be Involved In Iridium Validation Project

Presented by Airservices Australia

SUMMARY

This working paper proposes that additional airlines be added to the project to validate FANS over Iridium

1. Introduction

- 1.1 A project has been initiated to evaluate the Iridium sub network with an aim of achieving approval for Iridium to be used as a viable sub-network for aeronautical safety services.
- 1.2 The details of this project are contained in the document “FANS 1/A Over Iridium Project Plan” (Version 0.5, dated 8-Feb-08). The project will be administered by PARC (Performance-based Operations Aviation Rulemaking Committee), with Brad Cornell being the coordinator for the project plan.
- 1.3 The project involves a number of additional Stakeholders, including Boeing, FAA standards, ATSU's, Continental Airlines, data link services providers and avionics manufacturers.

2. Involvement of other airlines

- 2.1 A number of other airlines have expressed an interest to participate in this project:
 - i) Cargolux (CLX) intends to implement “FANS over Iridium” in the near future. ASA had been previously approached by CLX with a request to be permitted to use FANS over Iridium on routes to and from Australia. CLX has been notified of the PARC project and is keen to participate.
 - ii) Qantas (QFA) has a proposal in process to fit Iridium to the QANTAS B737NGs, which would make it possible to operate FANS1 via Iridium from these aircraft. Qantas is also interested in participating.

3. Benefits

- 3.1 There are several benefits to the inclusion of more aircraft (and aircraft types) in this project:
- Greater resources will be available to resolve problems in the early stages, rather than after the project “wraps up”. These resources include teams of experts to analyse data, run tests in simulators etc.
 - The more aircraft (and aircraft types) that participate in the approval process, the greater the chance of identifying (and resolving) any problems in the early stages.
- 3.2 While a formal request will be made to PARC in the near future, approval is sought from this meeting for the addition of these operators.

4. Recommendation

- 4.1 The meeting is invited to support the proposal to include Qantas and Cargolux in the project to validate FANS over Iridum.