

FANS Interoperability Team Meeting (FIT/18)

Honolulu, Hawaii, USA, 22-23 March 2011

Agenda Item 7: INMARSAT, Iridium

IRIDIUM PERFORMANCE FOR VOICE, AOC AND FANS DATALINK

Presented by Airbus

SUMMARY

This Airbus paper gives a short information as to Iridium performance for voice, AOC and FANS Datalink as currently tested on Airbus a/c.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Use of Iridium Satcom for both voice and Datalink services is currently tested on Airbus flight test aircraft. Promising results have been so far demonstrated.

2. DISCUSSION

- 2.1 The A320 flight test a/c has been fitted with an ICS-220A Satcom Data Unit to sustain a test campaign for both voice and Datalink communications over Iridium. The following results have been demonstrated:
- 2.2 No interference was noted with GPS system. However interferences with Inmarsat Satcom have been noticed, but not measured.
- 2.3 Voice calls were established with a good quality during up to 30 min, including flight manoeuvres, with successful recording on CVR.
- 2.4 Simultaneously, FANS A+ over Iridium capability (using SITA service) has also been successfully assessed, as well as AOC messages exchange and F-PLN uplink.

3. CONCLUSION

- 3.1 Promising results of Iridium system have been demonstrated in flight tests for both voice and Datalink communications on an A320 a/c.
- 3.2 Further industrial aspects are currently under study to offer different Iridium solutions on all Airbus aircraft.



4. ACTION BY THE MEETING

4.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) note the content of this information paper.

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