

**Twenty Sixth Meeting of the
Informal South Pacific ATS Co-ordinating Group (ISPACG/26)**

Nadi, Fiji, 1-2 March 2012

Agenda Item 4: AI 19-1 Flight Plan Issues

Airservices Implementation of FPL 2012 changes

Presented by Airservices Australia

SUMMARY

Airservices plans to upgrade systems and employ FPL converter software to meet its obligations to accept and process “NEW” format FPL and associated messages from November 2012.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 ICAO has announced changes to the ICAO model flight plan form and ATS Messages in Amendment 1 to 15th Edition of PANS ATM Doc 4444 which will come into effect on 15 November 2012.
- 1.2 This paper details Airservices plans to cater for and transition to the new flight plan format.

2. DISCUSSION

- 2.1 Airservices has implemented a project to upgrade its various systems to cater for the new FPL format and associated messages. This project will handle the procurement, testing, training, safety assessment and commissioning as required to ensure that Australia is able to meet its obligations in accordance with the Amendment 1 requirements.
- 2.2 Airservices solution consists of software changes to a number of flight plan processing systems including Eurocat and also the purchase of converter software in our message switch to enable down conversion of FPLs and messages to both legacy systems and in addition to some neighbouring FIRs. All messaging initiated from the two Australian FIRs (YBBB & YMMM) will comply with the new format from November 2012.

- 2.3 Airservices plans to cutover to the new flight plan format in November 2012. From the time of cutover Australian flight planning systems will no longer accept flight plans in the current format. This will necessitate careful planning for the timing of the actual cut over.
- 2.4 Testing and transition plans are under development within the project and will be closely coordinated with neighbouring states as soon as possible. Testing with the new software components on off line platforms to neighbouring states and customers is envisaged to ensure a smooth transition. These plans will be communicated with the individual entities in due course.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

- 3.1 The meeting is invited to:
 - a) Note the information contained in relation to Australia's readiness for the changes to the flight plan format.
 - b) Contact the 2012 FPL project at flightplan2012@airservicesaustralia.com with any additional questions in relation to Airservices transition to the new flight plan format.