

NOTICE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION
Air Traffic Organization Policy

N JO 7110.493

Effective Date:
December 14, 2008

Cancellation Date:
December 13, 2009

SUBJ: Identification of Northwest Airlines Aircraft Painted with Delta Colors

- 1. Purpose of This Notice.** Phraseology is required to avoid confusion when Delta Air Lines and Northwest Airlines aircraft are communicating with air traffic control but are not painted in the colors of the airline matching the call sign they are using.
- 2. Audience.** This notice applies to the Terminal Services organization and all associated air traffic control facilities.
- 3. Where Can I Find This Notice?** The notice is available on the MYFAA employee Web site at https://employees.faa.gov/tools_resources/orders_notices/ and on the air traffic publications Web site at http://www.faa.gov/airports_airtraffic/air_traffic/publications.
- 4. Procedures.** Use the following phraseology to describe aircraft using Northwest Airlines call signs but painted with a Delta Air Lines color scheme:

a. On departure, the phraseology “Delta colors” will be used by Northwest flightcrews on initial contact with ramp control (where applicable), on initial contact with ground control, and on initial contact with local control.

EXAMPLE-

“Detroit Ground, Northwest two twenty-two with you, Delta colors.”

b. On arrival, the phraseology “Delta colors” will be used by Northwest flightcrews on initial contact with the approach control, on initial contact with the tower (local control), and on initial contact with ground control.

EXAMPLE-

“Potomac Approach, Northwest two twenty-two, one zero thousand with Alpha, Delta colors.”

“Dulles Tower, Northwest two twenty-two, at the marker, Delta colors.”

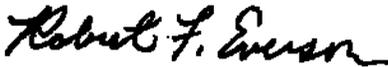
NOTE-

In both the departure and arrival cases, read back of the words “Delta colors” by air traffic personnel is not mandatory.

c. The words “Delta colors” will be filed with the aircraft’s flight plan and will be displayed in the remarks section of the flight progress strip. This will be done to the maximum extent possible, but because of the limited size of the remarks section, it may not be possible in all cases, especially with international flights.

5. Distribution. This notice is distributed to the Air Traffic Organization Terminal and Safety Service Units; the service center offices; the Air Traffic Safety Oversight Service; and all terminal air traffic control facilities.

6. Background. As a result of the recent joining of Northwest Airlines and Delta Air Lines, beginning mid-December 2008, Northwest aircraft will begin to be painted with the Delta color scheme. Since over 350 aircraft will need to be repainted, it is expected the job will take 12 to 14 months to fully complete. Additionally, until the merging of the airlines operating certification process is completed, Northwest Airlines will continue to use the “Northwest” aircraft call sign and the “NWA” three-letter identifier in its flight plan. This will be the case regardless of the paint scheme of the aircraft.



fn Nancy B. Kalinowski
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Air Traffic Organization

12/9/08
Date Signed