

**Publication Information.** The FAA Notice below will be published in the 4 February 2016 edition of FAA Notices To Airmen, Domestic/International. It will be located in Part 3, Section 2 (International Oceanic Airspace Notices). It should be located on/around page **3-INTL-17**. An electronic version of FAA Domestic and International Notices can be found at: [http://www.faa.gov/air\\_traffic/publications/notices](http://www.faa.gov/air_traffic/publications/notices)

For NAT Resource Guide purposes, in paragraph 6, we have added information on the availability of the 2016-1 version of the NAT Operations and Airspace Manual (NAT Doc 007).

## **Re-designation of North Atlantic Minimum Navigation Performance Airspace (NAT MNPSA) As NAT High Level Airspace (NAT HLA)**

**1. Purpose of this Notice.** It is the purpose of this Notice to inform the United States (U.S.) aviation community of the ICAO North Atlantic Systems Planning Group (NAT SPG) plan to re-designate North Atlantic Minimum Navigation Performance Specifications Airspace (NAT MNPSA) as NAT High Level Airspace (HLA) on 4 February 2016. This re-designation supports the NAT MNPS to PBN (performance based navigation) transition plan.

This action is taken in accordance with ICAO NAT Implementation Management Group (NAT IMG) Decision 45/2 (Re-naming of the NAT MNPSA). NAT IMG Decision 45/2 was announced in a 5 January 2015 letter to States and industry organizations from the ICAO European and North Atlantic Office.

**2. Boundaries of NAT HLA as of 4 February 2016.** The boundaries of NAT HLA are planned to remain the same as those for NAT MNPSA with the exception that Bodo Oceanic is planned to be included in NAT HLA. NAT HLA boundaries are planned to include the volume of airspace between Flight Levels (FL) 285 to 420 in the following Oceanic Control Areas (OCA):

- Gander Oceanic
- New York Oceanic East
- Reykjavik
- Santa Maria
- Shanwick with the exception of the Brest Oceanic Transition Area (BOTA) and the Shannon Oceanic Transition Area (SOTA)
- Bodo Oceanic is not currently included in NAT MNPSA, however, it is proposed to be included in NAT HLA as of 4 February 2016.

**3. Letter X for ICAO flight plan.** Item 10a of the ICAO flight plan will continue to be annotated with the letter “X” to indicate that the aircraft meets the requirements for HLA operations.

**4. Effect on FAA Operations Specifications (OpSpec), Management Specifications (MSpec) and Letters of Authorization (LOA) B039.** (B039 is “Operations in North Atlantic Minimum Navigation Performance (NAT MNPS) Airspace”). The following guidance applies:

a. OpSpec/MSpec paragraph B039 and LOA B039 approvals issued to authorize MNPSA operation will remain valid for NAT HLA operations until 31 December 2019, however, new B039 OpSpecs, MSPECs and LOAs for NAT HLA are being developed. (See below). This provision allows OpSpec/MSpec paragraph B039 and LOA B039 approvals based on the NAT MNPS navigation specification to be “grandfathered” (i.e., aircraft not yet approved for Required Navigation Performance 10 (RNP 10) or RNP 4 may continue to operate in NAT HLA).

b. A new OpSpec/MSpec/LOA B039 tentatively entitled “Operations in North Atlantic High Level Airspace (NAT HLA)” is under development. The FAA will keep U.S. operators informed on plans to introduce the new B039 HLA authorizations.

**5. RNP 10 or RNP 4 requirements for new applicants.** Starting in January 2015, operators applying for authorization to operate in NAT MNPSA have been required to be approved for RNP 10 or RNP 4. This will remain the policy for NAT HLA approval.

**RNP 2 Note:** in the future, RNP 2 may be introduced into NAT HLA operations. It is currently listed in the ICAO Performance Based Navigation Manual (ICAO Doc 9613) as a navigation specification that can be applied in oceanic operations, however, it has not yet been addressed for NAT HLA operations.

**6. Status of NAT Operations and Airspace Manual (NAT Doc 007).** NAT Doc 007, Version 2016-1 is available on the ICAO European/North Atlantic website. It contains updates that reflect the re-designation of NAT MNPS Airspace as NAT High Level Airspace. It is posted under:

[www.icao.int/EURNAT](http://www.icao.int/EURNAT) >> [EUR & NAT Documents](#) >> [NAT Documents](#)

**7. FAA NAT Resource Guide For U.S. Operators.** The NAT Resource Guide will be updated as the program to transition to NAT HLA progresses.

[http://www.faa.gov/about/office\\_org/headquarters\\_offices/avs/offices/afs/afs400/afs470/media/NAT.pdf](http://www.faa.gov/about/office_org/headquarters_offices/avs/offices/afs/afs400/afs470/media/NAT.pdf)

**8. Questions.** If you have questions, please contact one of the following:

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