GOVERNMENT/INDUSTRY AERONAUTICAL CHARTING
FORUM 03-01
April 30-May 1, 2003

Recommendation Document

Subject: Inclusion of parachute jump areas in GPS/FMS databases.

Background/Discussion: Currently, parachute jump areas are depicted on sectional charts and described in the NFD. When relying on GPS for navigation, pilots see no indication that the airport they are flying over is an active parachute jump area. This can lead to conflicts between skydivers and aircraft.

Recommendations: That a procedure be devised and instituted whereby active parachute jump areas are included in GPS databases and displays.

Comments: This recommendation affects

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03-01 MEETING: (Editors Note: Per ACF consensus 03-01-156 contains both of Mr. Scott’s issue submissions which were originally 03-01-156 and 03-01-157). Mr. Ed Scott, US Parachute Association, presented this issue. He requests that a procedure be developed and instituted whereby active parachute jump areas are included in GPS databases and on aircraft displays. In addition, he requests the depiction of a parachute symbol and/or text describing the extent of parachute jump activity on instrument approach plates and arrival/departure procedures to ensure that pilots are aware of their proximity to parachute jump operations.

Mr. Terpstra stated that GPS/FMS database specifications, ARINC 424, don’t currently support the inclusion of the data. He stated that if there are radii it would make it easier to add the information to the database. It was stated that the information comes to ATA-100 from the FSS as a bearing/distance from an airport and that some are charted and all are listed in the Airport Facility Directory. It was stated that the PAJAs must be in operation for a year before they are charted. Mr. Hal Becker stated that in the mid-80s there was a midair between a commuter and a jump aircraft. He said that the NTSB felt that PAJAs should become restricted area and that the FAA had fought this. ACTION: Mr. Jim Terpstra will bring this issue up at the next ARINC Navigation Database meeting. Jeppesen, ATA-100, ATA and ALPA.

03-02 MEETING: Meeting canceled.

04-01 MEETING: Issue 03-01-156 (contains 03-01-156 and 03-01-157 original submissions of Mr. Scott.) Mr. Dick Powell, ATA-100 reported that there are 211 IAP airports with associated
PAJA. Ms. Valerie Watson, ATA-130 reported that the PAJA are in NASR and published/maintained in the NFDD and in the A/FD. ACF discussion led to the consensus not to chart PAJA on IAPs, SIDs or STARs since SIDs and STARs are not to scale, and PAJA are not active during IFR conditions. Mr. Greg Yamamoto, AVN-503, stated that GPS/FMS database specifications, ARINC 424 don’t support the inclusion of PAJA data. He started that ARINC may develop a record or directory standard for PAJA but manufactures may filter this data out. Mr. Yamamoto stated that in order to add PAJA data to the GPS/FMS, geographical positions of the PAJA would need to be obtained. Currently, position data for PAJA is not available in NASR. ACF consensus was to close both issues. **CLOSED**