

AERONAUTICAL CHARTING FORUM
Charting Group
Meeting 10-02 October 27- 28, 2010

RECOMMENDATION DOCUMENT

FAA Control # (10-02-231)

Subject:

Deletion of 10 NM Reference Circle From IAP Planview


Background/Discussion:

The 10 NM reference circle depicted on the planview of Instrument Approach Procedures (IAPs), though intended for scale reference only, has been misinterpreted by pilots, pilot instructors, ATC and others. Many users are under the impression that the area of the procedure turn is contained within this circle (Remain within 10 NM). This is not necessarily the case. Others believe that only data within the circle is drawn to scale. This is not the case – all data on the planview is drawn to scale unless a scale break, inset box or concentric rings are used. The 10 NM circle is not (nor has it ever been) depicted on RNAV procedures. Although the center point on which the circle is predicated is usually the FAF, this is not standardized. The circle is not a part of the published procedure, is not documented on the source 8260, but is added to the chart by cartographers.

(The 10NM reference does not appear on the Jeppesen IAPs).

Chart User's Guide contains the following:

PLANVIEW

The data on the planview is drawn to scale, unless one of the following three charting devices are utilized: concentric rings, scale breaks or inset box(es). Most non-RNAV instrument procedure charts depict a reference or distance circle (not to be confused with the concentric rings) which is normally centered on the Final Approach Fix (FAF) and has a radius of 10NM. This circle is intended only to provide a sense of distance and scale. Data both within and without the circle is drawn to scale, unless a scale break symbol  is utilized.

Recommendations:

It is suggested that the 10 NM circle is of limited value, is grossly misinterpreted, causes undo planview clutter and might be better removed from the charts. This RD supports deletion of the 10 NM circle from all charts except where the use of concentric rings is necessary.

Comments:

This recommendation affects Flight Information Publication Instrument Approach Procedures and Airport Diagrams

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Date: 1 Oct 2010

MEETING 10-02: Ms. Valerie Watson, FAA/AJV-3B, briefed the issue.

Ms. Watson is proposing to delete the 10NM distance ring from the IAP planview. The 10 NM distance ring depicted on the planview of Instrument Approach Procedures (IAPs), though intended for scale reference only, has been misinterpreted by pilots, instructor pilots, ATC and others. Many users are under the impression that the area of the procedure turn is contained within this ring (Remain within 10 NM). This is not necessarily the case. Others believe that only data within the ring is drawn to scale. This is not the case – all data on the planview is drawn to scale unless a scale break, inset box or concentric rings are used. Although the center point on which the ring is predicated is usually the FAF, this is not standardized. The ring is not a part of the published procedure, is not documented on the source 8260, but is added to the chart by cartographers. Ms. Watson added that the 10NM reference ring does not appear on the Jeppesen IAPs and there have been no complaints from pilot groups. The 10 NM distance ring is not (nor has it ever been) depicted on RNAV procedures. She also pointed out that deletion of the 10NM distance ring would reduce clutter in the planview.

Geoff Waterman, NGA, said that DOD has agreements with other countries to keep the circle. Mr. John Moore, FAA/AJV-3B, said ICAO requires the circle 'except where not practical'. Mr. Moore said that, if this removal is approved, then he will take this action to ICAO and let them know about the change to the FAA charting requirements.

There were no other objections to the proposal.

ACTION: Ms. Valerie Watson, FAA/AJV-3B, will report back at the next ACF on the progress of the IACC Specification change.

MEETING 11-01: Mr. Valerie Watson, FAA/AJV-3B, provided an update on the issue. Ms. Watson reported that a Requirement Document (RD) to remove the 10NM Reference Circle had been approved by the IACC and that the signed RD was being implemented by Terminal. The 10NM reference circle will be removed from charts beginning with the 10 June 2011 update cycle.

STATUS: CLOSED