

AERONAUTICAL CHARTING FORUM
Charting Group
Meeting 14-02 – October 28-30, 2014

RECOMMENDATION DOCUMENT

FAA Control # ACF-CG RD 14-02-281

Subject: Publish Electronic forms of MVA Charts

Background/Discussion:

With the ubiquitous capability of iPad and other EFB solutions on the marketplace, pilots could have easy access to the minimum vectoring altitudes used by controllers. This can enhance safety as a cross check by the pilot would be feasible. Pilots have long requested this information.

Recommendations: Provide an electronic format (ideally digital vector format) for all MVA charts that can be displayed in the cockpit by pilots on their EFB.

Comments:

Submitted by: John Collins

Organization:

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Date: 04-14-14

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John Collins, GA Pilot, briefed his request to have MVA charts published in an electronic format so that they could be graphically displayed in the cockpit. Valerie Watson, AJV-344, reported that MVA data, not graphics, is currently available via an FAA FTP site (email fred.milburn@faa.gov for access). The MVA files are in line file format and are admittedly not easy to utilize. She further reported that there has been a recent internal initiative within AeroNav Products to post graphic MVA information on a public website. Val stated that the initiative is still in its embryonic stages and specifics as to format and time of release have yet to be determined.

Bob Lamond, NBAA, commented that NBAA has been engaged with the FAA for over 11 years in an attempt to obtain public access to MVA Charts in a graphic format. He stated that he was pleased with the news that MVAs will soon be released.

Ted Thompson, Jeppesen, stated that once the MVA data becomes available, Jeppesen will investigate generating an overlay for use with their digital charting products.

STATUS: OPEN

ACTION: Valerie Watson, AJV-344, to report back on the FAA initiative to provide public access to graphic MVA Charts.

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Valerie Watson, AJV-553, briefed the topic. Valerie stated that since the last ACF, AIS has established a new public website where MVA charts are published as non-geo-referenced PDFs.

URL: http://www.faa.gov/air_traffic/flight_info/aeronav/digital_products/mva_mia/mva/

Ted Thompson, Jeppesen, commented that the pilot community would prefer to see the MVA charts as a geo-referenced overlay on an electronic chart. Rich Boll, NBAA, echoed Ted's comments and inquired as to when the geographic coordinate data for the shape files would be made available.

Valerie responded that the FAA was pursuing the publication of geo-referenced graphics but that no specific timeline had been established. She reiterated that line files, admittedly difficult to work with, of the geographic coordinates are still available and may be procured by contacting Fred Milburn, AJV-56, via email at Fred.Milburn@faa.gov.

ACF consensus was to close the agenda item and move it to a briefing topic. A representative from AIS, Air Traffic Support Team will provide a briefing at the next ACF to update the progress on the release of geo-referenced graphics.

STATUS: CLOSED