

**AERONAUTICAL CHARTING FORUM**  
**Charting Group**  
**Meeting 17-02 – October 25 - 26, 2017**

**RECOMMENDATION DOCUMENT**

**FAA Control # ACF-CG RD 17-02-312**

**Subject: Standardized Communications on DPs and STARs**

**Background/Discussion:**

A similar topic was discussed at the ACF back in 2015 (15-02-300). This topic was closed and it was agreed that any chart specific frequencies would be requested to NFDC instead of requested on the 8260. That solution was very helpful and has been working well. However there was another question that was never agreed upon. What specific type of frequencies should be charted on DPs and STARs when available?

The IACC 4 SPECs list, in order, which frequencies will be charted when available for each IFP chart (see below)

**3.4.3.3 Bottom Briefing Strip**

The bottom briefing strip will contain communications information when available, in separate boxes, in the following sequence from left to right:

- ATIS, AFIS (AK Only) or ASOS/AWOS frequencies (when available, ATIS or AFIS will be the only weather frequency/s published)
- the Approach Control (APP CON) name and frequencies
- the Control Tower (TWR) name and frequencies, to include Precision Radar Monitoring (PRM) and frequency
- Ground Control (GND CON) frequencies
- Clearance Delivery (CLNC DEL) frequencies
- Controller Pilot Data Link Communication (CPDLC)
- Ground Communications Outlet (GCO) frequency
- CTAF, shown in parentheses when shares a frequency, e.g. UNICOM 122.8 (CTAF)
- UNICOM or AUNICOM frequency

The IACC-7 and 14 SPECs state that frequencies should be shown “when available and identified by the formulating agency.”

**IACC 7, Graphic Instrument Departure Procedure Charts**

**Table 3.1 Additional Communications**

Automatic Terminal Information Service	(ATIS)
Automatic Flight Information Service (AK Only)	(AFIS)
Clearance Delivery	(CLNC DEL)
Ground Control	(GND CON)
Tower	(TWR)
Center	(only when there is no terminal facility or DEP CON involved)
Flight Service Station	(RADIO)
Common Traffic Advisory Frequency	(CTAF)
Automated Weather Observing Systems	(AWOS/ASOS)

**IACC 14, Standard Terminal Arrival Charts**

Automatic Terminal Information Service	(ATIS)
Automatic Flight Information Service (AK Only)	(AFIS)
Ground Control	GND CON
Tower	(TWR)
Center	(only when there is no terminal facility or APP CON involved)
Flight Service Station	(RADIO)
Common Traffic Advisory Frequency	(CTAF)
Automated Weather Observing System	(AWOS/ASOS)

Are all of these frequencies necessary for DPs and STARs when available? If not what specific frequencies should be charted on all DP and STAR charts when available and in what order? If there was anything more than the list agreed upon (i.e. a center from a different airport) would it be requested on the procedure?

**Recommendations:**

The ACF should establish standard list of communications to be charted, when available, on all DPs and STARs. The procedure would only request extra communication that was not specified on the standard list of communications. Suggestion: for DPs chart ATIS, CLNC DEL, and DEP CON, for STARs chart APP CON and ATIS. The procedure would only request any additional communications. For area STARs, list ATIS for all airports that have it.

**Comments:**

**Submitted by:** IFP Charting

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**Date:** 3/6/17

**MEETING 17-02**

Krystal (Behrns) Kime, FAA/AJV-5613, briefed the issue. She stated that she was seeking ACF pilot audience input on the specific communication information that pilots need to see charted on Departure Procedures (DPs) and Standard Terminal Arrivals (STARs). She explained that between what is requested on procedure source forms, what is in the authoritative database (NASR) for frequencies and what the charting specifications outline, it is often confusing for chart producers to know what to chart. She is seeking simplification of the requirements from pilot users of the charts in order to standardize the depictions and insure that the FAA is

charting only those frequencies that are necessary. ([Refer to Presentation for examples; Slides #1-#4 DPs and Slides #5-#8 STARS](#))

The discussion opened with communications on STARS. Krystle asked the audience if providing APP CON and ATIS on the chart is sufficient. Rich Boll, NBAA commented that ATIS is probably the most important frequency on STARS followed, by Approach Control (APP CON) and, in some cases, Center frequencies. Krystal stated that one of the issues chart compilers face is that Center frequency information is difficult to determine in the source database (NASR). Terminal charting is currently working with the National Flight Data Center (NFDC) on that particular issue. Ted Thompson, Jeppesen, agreed and stated that the procedure-specific frequency issue in NASR has been solved for DPs, but for STARS it is difficult to determine which frequencies to show on a specific chart, particularly when the frequencies are sectorized. Valerie Watson, FAA/AJV-553, suggested that the specification be written to always chart ATIS and APP CON when available in the source database and to only chart Center frequencies when specified for charting on the procedure source document. John Bordy, FAA/AFS-420, agreed, but emphasized that the specific numerical frequencies themselves will not be published on the procedure source document, only the request to chart the Center frequencies. Further coordination with NFDC will be needed to ensure the frequencies are databased clearly and correctly.

Krystle then brought up the same issue with regard to DPs. She asked the audience if ATIS, CLNC DEL, and DEP CON would be sufficient. Rich stated that CLNC DEL is not needed because it is on the Instrument Approach Procedure. He thinks pilots only need DEP CON charted. Gary McMullin, Southwest, suggested that ALL frequencies could be removed from DPs and STARS because what is issued by ATC is often differs from what is printed on the chart. Rich agreed with Gary with regards to ATIS, however disagreed on the DEP CON frequency, voicing that pilots use them at secondary airports if they don't get clearance on the ground. Rich asked that the FAA retain DEP CON. Several pilots in the audience agreed. Valerie asked if there was general support to only chart DEP CON on DPs, unless other frequencies are specifically requested on the procedure source form. There was agreement from the pilot audience. John Bordy, FAA/AFS-420, voiced that revisions to support this would need to be made to the Arrival portion of the 8260.19 Order and the 8260.46 Departure Order. He stated that there is no frequency documentation guidance in FAA Order 8260.46, only examples. Valerie suggested that based on this discussion, Krystle put together a working group to draft a proposal for the next ACF with specific recommended changes to the charting specifications and to FAA Orders 8260.19 and 8260.46.

**STATUS: OPEN**

**ACTION:** Krystal (Behrns) Kime, FAA/AJV-5613, will coordinate a working group to draft a proposal of specification and order changes necessary to standardize the communications for DPs and STARS.

**ACTION:** Krystal (Behrns) Kime, FAA/AJV-5613, will continue to coordinate with Scott Jerdan, FAA/AJV-533, to ensure Center frequencies for STARS are databased clearly and correctly.

**MEETING 18-01**

Valerie Watson, FAA/AJV-553, reviewed the issue. Valerie stated that based on discussions at the previous meeting and on internal discussions within AJV-5 since that time, she will draft an Interagency Air Committee (IAC) specification change for standardized communications on DPs and STARs.

**STATUS: OPEN**

**ACTION:** Valerie Watson, FAA/AJV-553, will draft a specification change for standardized communications on DPs and STARs and report progress at the next meeting.

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**MEETING 18-02**

Valerie Watson, FAA/AJV-553, reviewed the issue. She reminded that audience that on STARs, there was ACM agreement to chart ATIS and APP CON when available in the authoritative source database and Center frequencies (not numerical) when specified on the procedure source document. On Departures, there was ACM agreement to chart DEP CON when available in the authoritative source database, and any other frequency type (numerical frequencies should never appear on the procedure source document) will only be charted when specified on the procedure source document and preceded by the command "CHART". Valerie stated that an Interagency Air Committee (IAC) Specification change has been drafted for standardized communications on DPs and STARs. She intends to await coordination and concurrence on the proposed changes to FAA Orders 8260.19 and 8260.46 before submitting the specification change. This will allow all parties (especially those designing Departure and Arrival procedures) to read, understand and approve the revised .19 and .46 guidance well ahead of time, so they will understand that any comm types, outside of what will now be the standard (ATIS and APP CON for STARs, DEP CON for DPs), will need to be documented on the specific procedure source form preceded by the command "CHART".

John Bordy, FAA/AFS-420, said that the FAA Order 8260.19 changes should appear in Change 2 which will begin coordination in November 2018. Revisions to FAA Order 8260.46 will have to wait for the next edition, which will be updated in the next 12 months.

Valerie said that when the new language in the 8260.19 and 8260.46 is coordinated, it should be made clear that the above stated communications will be the only ones charted unless other communications are specifically requested on the procedure source form. She also said that AJV-5 will not remove any existing communication information from the charts until a new procedure source form is received with revised communications.

**STATUS: OPEN**

**ACTION:** John Bordy, FAA/AFS-420, to report on the status of revised guidance for standardized communications on STARs and DPs in FAA Orders 8260.19 and 8260.46.

**ACTION:** Valerie Watson, FAA/AJV-553, will submit an Interagency Air Committee (IAC) Specification change for standardized communications on DPs and STARs after the revised guidance has been published in FAA Orders 8260.19 and 8260.46.

### **MEETING 19-01**

Valerie Watson, FAA/AJV-A250, reviewed the issue. John Bordy, FAA/AFS-420, said that the FAA Order 8260.19 changes are in 8260.19I, scheduled for publication in August 2019. Revisions to FAA Order 8260.46 will be in Change 1, scheduled to be released in December 2019.

Valerie stated that an Interagency Air Committee (IAC) Specification change has been drafted for standardized communications on Departure Procedures (DPs) and Standard Terminal Arrival Routes (STARs). The change, recommended and approved by the ACM, supports automatic depiction of ATIS and APP CON on STARs and only DEP CON on DPs and stipulates that other communication types will be depicted *only when specifically requested on the procedure source document*. She intends to await coordination and concurrence on the proposed changes to FAA Orders 8260.19 and 8260.46 before submitting the specification change. She further briefed that the change will not be implemented on individual procedures until such time as they are formally amended (up numbered), giving procedure proponents the opportunity to request communications in addition to those that will be automatically charted.

### **STATUS: OPEN**

**ACTION:** John Bordy, FAA/AFS-420, to report on the status of revised guidance for standardized communications on STARs and DPs in FAA Orders 8260.19 and 8260.46.

**ACTION:** Valerie Watson, FAA/AJV-A250, will submit an Interagency Air Committee (IAC) Specification change for standardized communications on DPs and STARs after the revised guidance has been published in FAA Orders 8260.19 and 8260.46.

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### **MEETING 19-02**

Samer Massarueh, FAA/AJV-A221, reviewed the issue. John Bordy, FAA/AFS-420, stated that since the last ACM, his office has been working on [revised guidance](#) for standardized communications on STARs (ATIS and APP CON) and DPs (DEP CON) in FAA Orders 8260.19 and 8260.46. The revised guidance will support that the above-mentioned communications will always be published when sourced in the authoritative database (currently NASR) and that any additional communications types must be requested on the procedure source document, preceded by the command word "CHART". It is anticipated that changes to the 8260.19 will be published in December 2019 and changes to the 8260.46 will be published in June 2020.

Valerie Watson, FAA/AJV-250, reiterated that communication revisions to charts will not be made until procedures are formally amended (up numbered), giving the local facility a chance to revise the document to request communications outside the standard for charting.

### **STATUS: OPEN**

**ACTION:** John Bordy, FAA/AFS-420, to report on the status of revised guidance for standardized communications on STARs and DPs in FAA Orders 8260.19 and 8260.46.

**ACTION:** Valerie Watson, FAA/AJV-A250, will submit an Interagency Air Committee (IAC) Specification change for standardized communications on DPs and STARs after the revised guidance has been published in FAA Orders 8260.19 and 8260.46.

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## **MEETING 20-02**

Samer Massarueh, FAA/AJV-A221, reviewed the issue. Diane Adams-Maturo, FAA/AFS-420, reported that FAA Order 8260.19I has now been published with the revised guidance for standardized communications on STARs (ATIS and APP CON). She reported that FAA Order 8260.46H has also been updated with the revised guidance for DPs (DEP CON) and that the Order is in the final stages of coordination. Valerie Watson, FAA/AJV-A250, stated that the Interagency Air Committee (IAC) specification change for standard communications on STARs has been signed and is being implemented. The IAC specification change for DPs has been drafted and will be processed once the revised guidance is published in FAA Order 8260.46H. Valerie reminded the audience that communication revisions to charts will not be made until procedures are formally amended to allow the local facility a chance to revise the procedure source document to request communications outside the standard for charting.

Bennie Hutto, NATCA, explained the difficulties that the facilities have with keeping the frequencies up to date in the National Airspace System Resource (NASR) database. He asked if it was possible for the AJV-A Aeronautical Data Team to reach out to the facilities on a regular basis to ensure the frequencies in NASR are up to date. Scott Jerdan, FAA/AJV-A310, said his team does not routinely ask the facilities for information unless there is a specific question. He said it is up to the facility to submit changes through the Aeronautical Information Portal. Valerie clarified that only the communication types specifically requested for charting are listed on the procedure source document. The numerical frequencies for those communication types are databased in NASR, not on the source document. Krystle Kime, FAA/AJV-A222, reiterated that NASR is the Terminal Charting Team's source for frequencies and when questions arise about frequencies, they work with the facility and with the Aeronautical Data Team to ensure the correct frequencies are in the database and thus on the charts.

## **STATUS: OPEN**

**ACTION:** Sue Walker, FAA/AFS-420, to report on the status of revised guidance for standardized communications on Departure Procedures in FAA Order 8260.46H.

**ACTION:** Valerie Watson, FAA/AJV-A250, will submit an Interagency Air Committee (IAC) Specification change for standardized communications on Departure Procedures after the revised guidance has been published in FAA Order 8260.46H.

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**MEETING 21-01**

Samer Massarueh, FAA/AJV-A223, reviewed the issue. Jeff Rawdon, FAA/AFS-420, reported that FAA Order 8260.46H has been updated with the revised guidance for DPs (DEP CON) and that the Order is currently in signature process. Valerie Watson, FAA/AJV-A250, stated that the Interagency Air Committee (IAC) specification change for standardized communications on DPs is in process and will be implemented once the revised guidance is published in FAA Order 8260.46H. As with implementation of the related Arrival revision, charts will be updated as they are formally amended.

**STATUS: OPEN**

**ACTION:** Sue Walker, FAA/AFS-420, to report on the status of revised guidance for standardized communications on Departure Procedures in FAA Order 8260.46H.

**ACTION:** Valerie Watson, FAA/AJV-A250, will report on the status of the Interagency Air Committee (IAC) Specification change for standardized communications on Departure Procedures.

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**MEETING 21-02**

Samer Massarueh, FAA/AJV-A223, reviewed the issue. The ACM supported the automatic depiction of ATIS and APP CON on Standard Terminal Arrival (STAR) charts and DEP CON on Departure Procedures (DPs). Other communication types will be depicted only when specifically requested on the procedure source document prefaced with the command word "CHART." For STARs, FAA Order 8260.19 has been published with the revised guidance, the Interagency Air Committee (IAC) Specification change has been signed and changes are already being applied to procedures as they are amended. For DPs, Sue Walker, FAA/AFS-420, reported that FAA Order 8260.46H was updated and published in June 2021. Valerie Watson, FAA/AJV-A250, reported that the IAC specification change for DPs has been approved and the targeted implementation date is 19 May 2022. She emphasized that, as with Arrivals, the change will only be applied to procedures as they are formally amended (upnumbered), affording procedure proponents the opportunity to request communication types in addition to the standard. Valerie said that since the criteria and charting specifications changes are now complete and an implementation plan is in place, she proposed closure of this item. There were no objections.

**STATUS: CLOSED**