

15-105 (July 7, 2015): Airway Altitudes shown as Feet (FT) or Flight Level (FL).

Issue: NASR has a discrepancy in how Flight Level Airway Altitudes below 18,000 are data based.

Status 10-05-15: Scott Jerdan will report back at the next AISWG. IOU Open

Status 05-04-16: In US airspace, above 18,000 feet, flight levels are used (some exceptions over in oceanic airspace). The Flight Procedures and Airspace Order 8260.19 mandates these altitudes be documented as Feet in the Form 8260-16. As a result, the NASR database stores Flight Level Airway Altitudes incorrectly as Feet following the source. The FAA directorate, Flight Standards Service (AFS-400), owns the Flight Procedures and Airspace Order 8260.19 that directs these altitudes be documented as Feet in the Form 8260-16.

IOU: Tom Schneider from Flight Standards Service AFS-420, will assess whether the 8260.19 Order should be changed to source as flight levels above 18,000 feet. IOU OPEN

Status 07-12-16: AFS-420 does not feel a change is needed to the 8260.19. The working group discussed that older -16 forms have flight levels on them, newer ones do not, STARS and departures forms do have flight levels, and the procedures themselves are mixed. Alex Rushton added that it may help to know how they are coded for use in flight management systems. Enroute automation is affected because the airway altitudes in NASR are in feet and are manually changed to flight levels when charted. Val Watson asked if the flight levels should even be shown on the charts. Don Harmer added that this is an air traffic control (ATC) communications requirement rather than a charting or specifications issue.

IOU:

- 1) Val Watson will look for the source of the original mandate to chart airway altitudes as flight levels above 18,000 feet. As of September 27th, no documentation was found in the IACC specification records that would shed any light on the issue. IOU closed.

2) Flight Standards (John Bordy / Steve VanCamp) will take the action to collaborate with operations folks to identify what users need and want and assess how inconsistent we are. IOU open.

Status 10-04-16: Flight Standards did not share specific instances of user input but stated in summation that users request the altitudes be shown in feet.

ISSUE CLOSED