

CHAPTER 1 GENERAL

1.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

These specifications provide basic criteria and guidance for the production (compilation and color separation) and reproduction of Helicopter Route Charts.

The charts in this series shall be used for all types of VFR helicopter operations within and below the low altitude airway/airspace structure. The primary objective is to provide optimum presentation and portrayal of topographic and cultural features with an overprint of selected aeronautical data based on the user's requirements.

The purpose of the specifications is to provide appropriate guidelines to effect uniformity and standardization of content and portrayal techniques in the preparation of production of charts for use by pilots operating in the National Airspace System.

Although the digital chart files are compiled in accordance with these specifications, the final product may vary slightly in appearance due to differences in printing techniques/processes and/or digital display technique.

1.2 REQUIREMENTS

1.2.1 General

The Helicopter Route Charts shall be the primary navigational reference used by helicopter pilots operating under visual flight rules. The charts shall provide a large scale portrayal of selected metropolitan areas to satisfy pilotage and local control requirements.

1.2.2 Quality and Accuracy

The low altitude use of these charts and the critical characteristics of many of the missions emphasizes the need for graphics of the highest degree of accuracy. Final copy shall conform to the best accepted standards of practice with respect to clear, uniform, opaque lines, symbol and type as illustrated in the Appendices.

Care shall be exercised in the plotting and interpretation of the detail to be applied to the chart. The center and orientation of a symbol shall normally correspond with the center and orientation of the feature represented. All line features such as roads, railroads, power lines and streams shall be plotted in their true positions and shall retain, wherever scale permits, the variations of alignment which actually exist. Roads, railroads, streams, etc. lying parallel to and close to each other may require an exception to this rule. An exaggeration of the area covered may be necessary to show these features by the proper symbol. The displacement should be distributed evenly with the true center of the parallel features taken collectively and held wherever possible.

The graticule layout shall be accurate to within +/- .020 inch, overall diagonal measurement.

1.2.3 Colors

Colors for printing the various component parts of this chart series shall basically consist of the following. Detailed specifications of color separation shall be found in [Chapter 4](#) and the Appendices.

BLACK

BLUE

BROWN

GREEN

1.2.4 Title

The name of each chart in this series shall include the name of the metropolitan area to be covered, e.g., NEW YORK HELICOPTER

The title of this series of charts shall be HELICOPTER ROUTE CHART.

1.2.5 Scale

The optimum scale desired is 1:125,000; however, the scale used should be dependent on sheet size and area of coverage. Inset scale should be tailored to the individual chart requirement.

1.2.6 Projection

The Lambert Conformal Conic Projection based on standard parallels which best accommodate the source materials from which the chart is compiled shall be used.

1.2.7 Area of Coverage

The area of coverage shall be restricted to selected areas within the United States.

The area of coverage shall be consistent with that area needed to satisfy local pilotage and control requirements as mutually agreed to by the participating and using agencies.

1.2.8 Symbolization

Symbolization on the final reproduction copy shall be in accordance with the Appendices included within this specification. The size and lineweights specified therein should also be adhered to but may be varied when necessary.

1.2.9 Type Styles

It is recognized that a variance occurs between different composition mediums such as Fotosetter, Photon, Monotype and Foundry settings. However, type styles specified within these specifications shall be as stated, or their equivalent, as may be determined by the manufacturers' nomenclature.

Unless otherwise specified, all type shall be Helvetica 65 Medium or its equivalent. Use of capital letters is intended, unless shown otherwise in the Appendices, or specified as "C/L" (caps and lower case).

1.3 SPECIFICATION APPENDICES AND REFERENCES

1.3.1 Appendices

References:

[Appendix 1](#) - Topographic Information - Culture

[Appendix 2](#) - Topographic Information - Hydrography

[Appendix 3](#) - Topographic Information - Relief

[Appendix 4](#) - Aeronautical Information - Airports

[Appendix 5](#) - Aeronautical Information - Radio Aids to Navigation

[Appendix 6](#) - Aeronautical Information - Flight Service Stations

[Appendix 7](#) - Aeronautical Information - Airspace

[Appendix 8](#) - Aeronautical Information - Navigational & Procedural

[Appendix 9](#) - Type Styles & Sizes

1.3.2 References

Photon Photocomposition Specimen Catalog.

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