Flight Procedures Management Information Sheet

How is the Flight Procedures Management Program evolving?

- The FAA introduced the **Performance Based Navigation (PBN) National Airspace System (NAS) Navigation Strategy** in 2016. It continues to be the FAA- and industry-endorsed way forward to airspace modernization.

- The conventional airway structure has been augmented with its PBN equivalent. Continued development and optimization of the route structure are required to complete the transition to a PBN-centric NAS.

- The transition to a PBN-centric NAS is a top priority of the FAA and aviation stakeholders who advise the FAA on Air Traffic Management System modernization.

- The FAA prioritizes the deployment of PBN instrument flight procedures (IFPs).

- IFP production has transformed from a regional view to a national process for coordinating, approving, and prioritizing each request.

- The **IFP Information Gateway** is the primary means to request a public IFP.

Why are validation and prioritization of IFP production important?

- Deployment of PBN IFPs is an essential element of NAS modernization.

- IFPs have grown exponentially in the NAS, and every IFP requires periodic review and maintenance. Every new request for IFP development is evaluated to ensure it is aligned with FAA policies and the PBN NAS Navigation Strategy and that it provides value and benefit to the NAS.

- Prioritization establishes and maintains an IFP production schedule that gives the highest priority to IFP actions related to NAS safety and integrity.

- Prioritization allows IFP production on a national basis that meets current safety, operational, and strategic needs while positioning the process to meet future demand with greater efficiency and effectiveness (National IFP Production Strategy).

How does IFP production work?

- IFPs are developed, validated, processed, and prioritized according to where they fall in the FAA's order of precedence: critical safety-related, mandatory publication date, national initiatives (including PBN), and all other requests.

- Flight Procedures Specialists conduct internal feasibility assessments of IFP requests. If the request comes from a source other than an airport, they confirm the airport owner/sponsor supports the request. Once the Flight Procedures Specialists approve the IFP request, the request proceeds to the IFP Validation Team.

- The IFP Validation Team evaluates all IFP requests within each Air Traffic Service Area, ensuring the requests align with the efficient use of FAA resources to benefit the NAS.

- Service Centers' IFP Validation Teams work together to create a priority category list for the national IFP Prioritization Team.

- The IFP Prioritization Team establishes and maintains a national IFP prioritization list of validated requests and produces an IFP production schedule in line with the needs of the NAS.

- The IFP Oversight Committee ensures that the policies and practices of the subordinate teams maintain the safety, integrity, and efficiency of the NAS, provides guidance on national initiatives, and resolves competing initiatives.

Where can I find more information?

- **PBN NAS Navigation Strategy:**
  https://www.faa.gov/nextgen/media/pbn_nas_nav.pdf

- **FAA Instrument Flight Procedures Information Gateway:**
  https://www.faa.gov/air_traffic/flight_info/aeronav/procedures/

Instrument Flight Procedures

Federal Aviation Administration