

Avoid Costly Mistakes:

What You Should Know Before Buying a NavAid, AWOS or Other System.

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Avoid Costly Mistakes: Contact the FAA's "Non-Federal Program" Before You Buy!

The FAA won't let you operate a non-Federally owned NavAid, AWOS,¹ or other system, until it's been commissioned by the Non-Federal Program, which:

- Oversees these systems' commissioning, operation, & maintenance.
- Regulates the non-Federally employed technicians who perform that maintenance.

"Non-Federal" Means Entities Other Than The Federal Government. Examples include: U.S. territories, states, local governments, companies, & individuals.

Mistakes That Airports (& Consultants) Often Make:

- Fail to comply with relevant Advisory Circulars (ACs), FAA Orders, and/or Federal Regulations. (These documents contain siting and maintenance requirements, among other things.)
- Don't fully recognize the significant maintenance costs & responsibilities of owning the system.
- Mistakenly assume that if a vendor is selling a system, the FAA has approved it for use in the NAS.²
- Don't receive FAA approval before installing the system.
- Mistakenly assume that FAA approval of their Form 7460 is also approval to proceed with installation.
- Don't follow procedures to obtain facility identifiers, frequency development, &/or FCC³ licenses.
- Turn on the system before the FAA has commissioned it.
- **Wait to contact their Non-Federal Program Liaison until after they've made a mistake.**

Some Consequences That Airports May Suffer:

- System is sited in a less-than-ideal location, which hinders its capabilities.
 - Commissioning inspection is significantly delayed, which results in the system going unused.
 - Airport feels forced to decommission the system before its lifecycle ends, because maintenance is more expensive than expected.
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To Avoid Making Costly Mistakes:

[Identify & Contact Your Non-Federal Program Liaison.](#)⁴

Learn More:

Visit The Non-Federal Program's website at
www.FAA.gov/Go/NonFed

¹ Air Navigation Aid (NavAid); Automated Weather Observing System (AWOS).

² National Airspace System (NAS).

³ Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

⁴ The web address for the contact list https://www.faa.gov/airports/planning_capacity/non_federal/nfp_liaisons