

DATE 6/29/81

ADVISORY CIRCULAR



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

Washington, D.C.

FAR GUIDANCE MATERIAL

Subject: AIRPORTS - REQUIRED DATA

1. PURPOSE. This advisory circular provides guidance as to acceptable methods for compliance with changes to the Federal Aviation Regulations (FAR) 121.97(b) and 121.117(b).

2. BACKGROUND. The Federal Aviation Administration determined that previous rules which described airport data and its dissemination were inadequate. The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) Report 72-17 also stated that irregularities in the collection and dissemination of airport information cause the air carrier operational control system to be ineffective. Therefore, Sections 121.97 and 121.117 were changed to require the affected carriers to establish a program to obtain, maintain, and distribute specific data on the airports that they use.

3. DISCUSSION. The new rules, Sections 121.97(b) and 121.117(b), state that in pertinent part, after September 9, 1981, each air carrier or commercial operator must show that it has an approved system for obtaining, maintaining, and distributing to appropriate personnel current aeronautical data for each airport that it uses to ensure a safe operation at that airport. The aeronautical data must include the following: (1) Airports, (2) Runways, clearways, and stopways, (3) Displaced thresholds, (4) Obstacles, (5) Instrument flight procedures, and (6) Special information.

4. DATA SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS. The objective of this requirement is that each carrier develop a system that provides appropriate flight and ground personnel all the current airport data necessary for the safe operation of each flight. The Administrator will approve any system that can be demonstrated to meet this objective. The principal operations inspector assigned to each carrier is the appropriate person from which to seek approval.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading 'Bernard A. Geier', is written over a horizontal line.

BERNARD A. GEIER

Acting Director of Flight Operations

Initiated by: AFO-260