

NOTICE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION
Air Traffic Organization Policy

N JO 7110.607

Effective Date:
November 15, 2012

Cancellation Date:
August 22, 2013

SUBJ: ICAO Flight Plan 2012 Changes to FAA Order JO 7110.65

- 1. Purpose of This Notice.** International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Document 4444, Air Traffic Management, states that certain items may be included in an ICAO flight plan to denote reasons for special handling. This notice provides guidance to facilities regarding the handling of those who file special handling remarks in their ICAO flight plan.
- 2. Audience.** This notice applies to the following Air Traffic Organization (ATO) service units: En Route and Oceanic, Terminal, Mission Support, and System Operations; and all air traffic control field facilities.
- 3. Where Can I Find This Notice?** This notice is available on the MyFAA employee Web site at https://employees.faa.gov/tools_resources/orders_notices/ and on the air traffic publications Web site at http://www.faa.gov/air_traffic/publications/.
- 4. Procedures.** Amend FAA Order JO 7110.65 to read as follows:

2-1-4. OPERATIONAL PRIORITY

Title through a, no change.

b. Provide priority to civilian air ambulance flights (call sign MEDEVAC). Use of the MEDEVAC call sign indicates that operational priority is requested. When verbally requested, provide priority to AIR EVAC, HOSP, and scheduled air carrier/air taxi flights. Assist the pilots of MEDEVAC, AIR EVAC and HOSP aircraft to avoid areas of significant weather and turbulent conditions. When requested by a pilot, provide notifications to expedite ground handling of patients, vital organs, or urgently needed medical materials.

NOTE-

It is recognized that heavy traffic flow may affect the controller's ability to provide priority handling. However, without compromising safety, good judgment must be used in each situation to facilitate the most expeditious movement of a MEDEVAC aircraft.

Subparagraphs c through m, no change.

n. Providing priority and special handling to expedite the movement of OPEN SKIES observation and demonstration flights.

NOTE-

An OPEN SKIES aircraft has priority over all "regular" air traffic. "Regular" is defined as all aircraft traffic other than:

- 1. Emergencies.*
- 2. Aircraft directly involved in presidential movement.*
- 3. Forces or activities in actual combat.*
- 4. MEDEVAC and active SAR missions.*
- 5. AIR EVAC and HOSP aircraft that have requested priority handling.*

No further changes to paragraph.

2-1-28. RVSM OPERATIONS

Controller responsibilities must include but not be limited to the following:

a. Non-RVSM aircraft operating in RVSM airspace.

1. Ensure non-RVSM aircraft are not permitted in RVSM airspace unless they meet the criteria of excepted aircraft and are previously approved by the operations supervisor/CIC. The following aircraft are excepted: DOD, DOD-certified aircraft operated by NASA (T38, F15, F18, WB57, S3, and U2 aircraft only), MEDEVAC, manufacturer aircraft being flown for development/certification, and Foreign State aircraft. These exceptions are accommodated on a workload or traffic-permitting basis.

No further changes to paragraph.

2-3-5. AIRCRAFT IDENTITY

Indicate aircraft identity by one of the following using combinations not to exceed seven alphanumeric characters:

a. Civil aircraft, including the air-carrier letter-digit registration number which can include the letter "T" for air taxi, the letter "L" for MEDEVAC, or the 3-letter company designator specified in FAA Order JO 7340.2, Contractions, followed by the trip or flight number. Use the operating air carrier's company name in identifying equipment interchange flights.

EXAMPLE-

"N12345."
 "TN5552Q."
 "AA1192."
 "LN751B."

NOTE-

The letter "L" is not to be used for air carrier/air taxi MEDEVAC aircraft.

No further changes to paragraph.

2-4-20. AIRCRAFT IDENTIFICATION

Title through a3, no change.

4. Air carrier/taxi ambulance. State the prefix "MEDEVAC" if used by the pilot, followed by the call sign and flight number in group form.

EXAMPLE-

"MEDEVAC Delta Fifty-One."

5. Civilian air ambulance. State the word "MEDEVAC," followed by the numbers/letters of the registration number.

EXAMPLE-

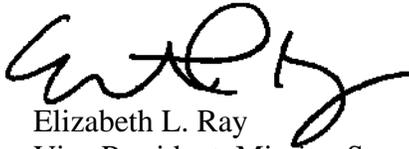
"MEDEVAC Two Six Four Six."

No further changes to paragraph.

5. Distribution. This notice is distributed to the following ATO service units: Terminal, En Route and Oceanic, System Operations, and Mission Support; the Office of ATO Safety and Technical Training; the Air Traffic Safety Oversight Service; the William J. Hughes Technical Center; and the Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center.

6. Background. This notice addresses ICAO Document 4444, Air Traffic Management. This document mandates that certain items may be included in an ICAO flight plan to denote reasons for special handling. This includes replacing the term “LIFEGUARD” with the term “MEDEVAC.” The document also defines the ICAO special handling remarks of HOSP and AIR EVAC aircraft.

7. Safety Management System. The information contained in this notice is in the DCPs attached to the Safety Risk Management Document (SRMD) titled ICAO 2012 Flight Plan Changes – Amendment dated June 6, 2012.



Elizabeth L. Ray
Vice President, Mission Support Services
Air Traffic Organization

October 24, 2012
Date Signed