

NOTICE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

Air Traffic Organization Policy

N JO 7210.733

Effective Date:
March 4, 2010

Cancellation Date:
August 26, 2010

SUBJ: Receipt and Dissemination of Weather Observations

- 1. Purpose of This Notice.** This notice is prepared to increase awareness within the Air Traffic Organization (ATO) of changes the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is making to Automated Weather Observing System (AWOS) configurations to enhance reporting capabilities.
- 2. Audience.** This notice applies to the Terminal Services organization and all associated air traffic control 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.** Change FAA Order JO 7210.3, Facility Operation and Administration, Paragraph 2-9-2, Receipt and Dissemination of Weather Observations, to read as follows:

2-9-2. RECEIPT AND DISSEMINATION OF WEATHER OBSERVATIONS

Title through subparagraph c, no change.

d. AWOS towers with LAWRS-certified controllers must only use the AWOS operator interface device (OID) information to generate a manual hourly METAR/SPECI observation.

e. AWOS towers with LAWRS-certified controllers must use the AWOS OID to generate a manual hourly METAR/SPECI observation. If the AWOS is able to provide METAR/SPECI observations (for example, FAA AWOS-C) and allows augmentation and backup entries, the AWOS may be used the same as ASOS/Automated Weather Sensor System (AWSS).

- 5. Distribution.** This notice is distributed to the following ATO service units: Terminal, En Route and Oceanic, and System Operations Services, the ATO Office of Safety; service center offices; the Air Traffic Safety Oversight Service; the William J. Hughes Technical Center; and the Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center.
- 6. Background.** An FAA memorandum, dated November 9, 2005, changed the FAA-owned AWOS interpretation of FAA Order JO 7210.3, subparagraph 2-9-2d. In addition, FAA Order JO 7210.3 is incomplete/inaccurate without this clarification. The FAA is changing the AWOS configuration to include additional capabilities. It will, from a LAWRS perspective, perform the same as an Automated Surface Observing System or AWSS. FAA Order JO 7210.3 requires a change to take advantage of these capabilities, thus allowing the system to transmit observations.



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2-5-10

Date Signed