

ORDER

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

7350.2C

8/24/81

SUBJ: AIR TRAFFIC OPERATIONAL CODING SYSTEM

1. PURPOSE. To make necessary revisions to the coding and assignment of several types of Air Traffic Operational Codes used in the National Airspace System (NAS) by air traffic control personnel and in related activities. This revision is issued to identify the present and future coding schemes and to minimize the input of encoded and decoded data.
2. DISTRIBUTION. This order is distributed to selected offices in Washington, regional headquarters, Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center and FAA Technical Center; also to all Air Traffic facilities, Flight Inspection District Offices, and interested aviation public.
3. CANCELLATION. Order 7350.2B dated January 30, 1974, is cancelled.
4. BACKGROUND.
 - a. A wide variety of operational codes are used in the NAS. There are, for example, codes for location names (identifiers) which include navigation aids (NAVAID's), airports, intersections, DME fixes, ILS outer markers, area navigation waypoints, route turning points, boundary crossing points, Federal airways, Jet Routes, special use airspace, special procedures (SID's, STAR's), computer only fixes, controlled airspace areas, aircraft types, aircraft operator designators, and others. Many of these codes are required for use by controllers and pilots and must be made available through charts and publications.
 - b. The implementation of automated data processing systems for the Air Route Traffic Control Centers (ARTCC) and the Flight Service Stations (FSS) has required that a great number of additional locations be identified for the internal use of the computer Flight Plan Processing Program, Flight Service Automation System (FSAS), automated charting, and various other automated programs. The ARTCC and FSS automation has required many additional locations be uniquely identified. This requires that identifiers for all locations be assigned on a centralized basis.
 - c. The assignment of a five-letter pronounceable name/code to all intersections, DME fixes, waypoints, route turning points, boundary crossing points, and ATC coordination fixes is nearly complete. This has released the number-letter-letter series of identifiers for use elsewhere.

Distribution: ZAT-735 (minus field facilities);
A-FAT-0 (LTD); A-FFS-4 (LTD)

Initiated By: AAT-430

d. The Operations Division (AAT-400) has developed an overall plan for all Air Traffic Operations Codes which provides a unique format for each type of requirement (see Appendix I). Each series of codes in the plan has the capacity to provide nonduplicating codes for many years. The plan also makes provision for reserving blocks of codes for future but presently unknown requirements.

5. ACTION.

a. All unassigned names retained by the Flight Inspection Field Offices or the ARTCC's shall be returned to AAT-430 upon receipt of this order. New or changes to five letter name/codes may be requested by telephone.

b. When requesting a location identifier (see Section 3, Handbook 7350.4) send AAT-430 a written request including all pertinent data insuring accurate geographic locations. Emergency requests only may be handled by telephone and will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

c. Related forms and publications are to be amended accordingly at the source of responsibility. (For example, 8260.2, etc.)

d. Notify AAT-430 by letter, memo or message when a temporary assignment is no longer needed or its use is to be extended.

e. Location Identifiers shall not be reassigned by AAT-430 for a period of 1 year after cancellation.

6. DEFINITION. An "operational code" is an abbreviation, contraction, or coined combination of letters and/or numbers used for brevity in the NAS. Excluded from this order are teletypewriter and weather symbols, ICAO codes, and codes of the ATC Radar Beacon System (ATCRBS).

7. PROBLEM. Increasing use of codes in the NAS can result in duplication and serious operational problems in our automated environment unless centrally controlled.

8. CHANGES TO THE PLAN. New name or changes of names for an intersection/fix or ILS outer marker must be requested directly from AAT-430. The FSAS requirements are being developed and the unused number-letter-letter codes shall be reserved for that program.


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Director, Air Traffic Service

APPENDIX 1. AIR TRAFFIC CODING SYSTEM

(Operational Codes)

<u>Major Categories</u>	<u>Official Source Publication</u>
I. Location Identifiers (Assigned by AAT-400)	Handbook 7350.4
II. Special Procedures (Assigned by AAT-400) SIDs, STARs	Handbook 7350.4
III. Fix and RNAV Waypoint Name/Codes (Assigned by AAT-400)	Handbook 7350.4 and Federal Register-Compulsory Fixes (Annually)
IV. Airspace Element (Assigned by AAT-200) Airways, Routes, Areas, Control Areas	Federal Register (Annually) Federal Register (56-day cycle)
V. Coded Routes (military) (Assigned by AAT-300) Aerial Refueling, Military Training Routes, etc.	Department of Defense Flight Information Publication, Area Planning. Military Training Routes AP/1B
VI. Aircraft Types (Assigned by AAT-400)	Handbook 7340.1
VII. Aircraft Company Designators (Assigned by AAT-400)	Handbook 7340.1
VIII. Word Contractions (Assigned by AAT-400)	Handbook 7340.1

The detailed coding for each category is shown on succeeding pages.

These codes, when assigned, are authorized for use on charts, Flight Information publications, written records, NAS computers, and other communications media.

CATEGORY I

LOCATION IDENTIFIERS (AAT-430)

CODE STRUCTURE

A. Major Airports

LLL

B. Minor Airports (U.S.)

LNN, NLN,>NNL,
LLNN, NLLN,>NNLL

C. NAVAIDS (U.S.)

LLL

D. Intersection/DME Fixes (U.S.)

Pronounceable name

LLLLL

E. RNAV Waypoints

Pronounceable name

LLLLL

F. FSAS Requirements

NLL

G. Computer-only Fixes

NNNNN**

**10,000 - 15,000 High Altitude
Controller Chart Supplements

15,001 - 29,999 Low Altitude
Controller Chart Supplements

30,000 - 64,999 Unused

65,000 - 69,999 Special Local
ARTCC Use

70,000 - 79,999 NWS Blocks Allocated
to NWS

80,000 - 90,999 Unused

91,000 - 91,999 Block Allocated to NWS

92,000 - 99,499 Unused

99,500 - 99,999 All Facilities
Temporary Local Block

H. V/STOL - ILS

NNN

NOTE. There are times when these fixes are common to several strata (RNAV, High and Low Altitude, etc.) They will have a unique code within the block of numbers appropriate to the Altitude.

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Appendix 1

I. ICAO Indicators -

LLLL

J. Canadian Airports/NAVAIDs

LL, LLL
NL, LNL, LLN

CATEGORY II

SPECIAL PROCEDURES (AAT-430)

A. SID's

AAAAAN·AAAAA

B. STAR's

AAAAA·AAAAAN

2 to 5 letters or letter/
number combination

CATEGORY III

FIX AND RNAV WAYPOINT NAME (AAT-430)

A. Five-Letter Pronounceable Names.

CATEGORY IV

AIRSPACE ELEMENTS (AAT-200)

CODE STRUCTURE

A. Airways/Routes

(1) Colored

A/R/GB-NN

(2) Victor

V-NNN(L)

(3) Jet

J-NNN(L)

(4) RNAV

J/V-NNNN R

B. Areas

(1) Restricted

R-NNNN(L)

(2) Prohibited

P-NNN

(3) Warning

W-NNN(L)

(4) Alert

A-NNN(L)

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C. Control Areas

C-NNNN

(Dashes, parentheses and
spaces are not actually used
in computer input data.)

CATEGORY V

CODES ROUTES (Military) (AAT-300)

A. Aerial Refueling

B. Military Training Route

CODE STRUCTURE

AR-NNN(L)

IR-NNN

VR-NNN

VR-NNNN

(Dashes, parentheses and
spaces are not actually used
in computer input data.)

CATEGORY VI

AIRCRAFT TYPES (AAT-430)

CODE STRUCTURE

AAAA
→

NOTE - By international agreement, these codes may not exceed 4 characters.

CATEGORY VII

CIVIL AIRCRAFT COMPANY DESIGNATORS (AAT-430)
(Aircraft Identification Code)

LLL/NNNN
→

OPERATOR CODE	FLIGHT NO.
(2-3 letters)	(1-4 Nos.)

CATEGORY VIII

WORD CONTRACTIONS (AAT-430)

L →

A →

LEGEND: L - Letter
A - Letter/number combinations
→ Variable length data field
N - Number

LETTER-NUMBER (L/N) COMBINATIONS

	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
	LL*	LLL* NNN*	LLLL* NNNN	LLLLL* NNNNN*
<u>1 Letter-1 Number</u>	<u>1 Letter-2 Numbers</u>	<u>1 Letter-3 Numbers</u>	<u>1 Letter-4 Numbers</u>	
NL*	LNN*	LNNN*	LNNNN*	
LN*	NLN*	NLNN	NLNNN	
	NNL*	NNLN	NNLNN	
		NNNL	NNNLN	
			NNNNL	
	<u>2 Letters-1 Number</u>	<u>2 Letters-2 Numbers</u>	<u>2 Letters-3 Numbers</u>	
	LLN*	LLNN*	LLNNN*	
	NLL*	NLLN*	NLLNN	
	LNL*	NNLL*	NNLLN	
		LNNL	NNNLL	
		LNLN	LNNNL*	
		NLNL	NLNLN	
			LNLNN	
			LNNLN	
			NNLNL	
			NLNNL	
		<u>3 Letters-1 Number</u>	<u>3 Letters-2 Numbers</u>	
		LLLN*	LLLNN*	
		NLLL	NLLLN	
		LNLL	NNLLL	
		LLNL	LLNNL*	
			LNNLL	
			LNLLN	
			LNLNL	
			NLNLL	
			NLLNL	
			LLNLN	
		<u>4 Letters-1 Number</u>		
		NLLLL*		
		LNLLL*		
		LLNLL*		
		LLLNL*		
		LLLLN*		

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