



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
**FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION**  
National Policy

**ORDER**  
**7910.5D**

Effective Date:  
12/06/16

**SUBJ:** Aeronautical Charting Forum

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**1. Purpose of this Order.** This order establishes a forum for interaction between the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the aviation community relating to informational content and design of aeronautical charts and flight information products. The forum also affords the public an avenue to provide comments to the FAA regarding policy, design, criteria, and charting of instrument flight procedures.

**2. Audience.** The audience for this order is individuals or organizations, both governmental and non-governmental, interested in informational content and design of aeronautical charts and flight information products/services.

**3. Where Can I Find This Order.** You can find this order on [https://employees.faa.gov/tools\\_resources/orders\\_notices/](https://employees.faa.gov/tools_resources/orders_notices/) or public Web site; [http://www.faa.gov/regulations\\_policies/orders\\_notices/](http://www.faa.gov/regulations_policies/orders_notices/).

**4. What This Order Cancels.** Order 7910.5C, Aeronautical Charting Forum, dated 09/07/2012 is canceled.

**5. Explanation of Changes.**

**a.** General. Formatting is revised to meet current FAA standards. Paragraphs are realigned for better editorial flow. Office identifications and routing codes are updated to reflect the current FAA organizational structure. All references to other FAA Orders reflect the current edition.

**b.** Paragraph 2. Updated audience.

**c.** Paragraph 8b. Updated office name and routing code.

**d.** Paragraph 8b(5). Increased amount of days from "30" to "45" to allow more time for minutes to be prepared.

**e.** Appendix A.

(1) Paragraph 1. Updated distribution.

(2) Paragraph 2e. Added a new history paragraph to reflect changes from previous edition.

(3) Paragraph 3. Updated related publications.

**6. Scope and Objective.** The Aeronautical Charting Forum (ACF) is established to:

- a. Identify issues concerning safety and usefulness of aeronautical charts and flight information products/services.
- b. Discuss and evaluate proposals concerning aeronautical charts and flight information publications, digital aeronautical products, database coding, instrument flight procedures, and instrument flight procedure development, policy, and design.
- c. Provide a forum for government and interested participants to brief and/or discuss new navigation concepts, terminal instrument procedures (TERPS) policy/criteria changes, and charting specifications and methodologies.
- d. Form additional subgroups to address specific issues as necessary.

**7. Organization.** The ACF has no specifically designated members; however, those government agencies directly involved in the development and production of instrument flight procedures regularly attend meetings. This includes representatives from the FAA Flight Standards Service (AFS), the Air Traffic Organization (ATO), and the Department of Defense (DoD). Meetings are open to the public and anyone who attends may participate in discussions and initiate recommendations.

**8. Responsibilities.**

a. The Director of the Flight Standards Service (AFS-1) and the ATO Vice President, Mission Support Services (AJV-0), sponsor the forum and provide administrative support.

b. The Flight Procedure Standards Branch (AFS-420), and the Aeronautical Information Services (AIS), Governance & Standards Team (AJV-553), will co-chair the forum. The Flight Procedure Standards Branch chairs the Instrument Procedures Group (IPG), and the Governance & Standards Team chairs the Charting Group (CG). Specific responsibilities of each group chair include:

- (1) Determining when meetings will occur. A minimum of two joint meetings per year must be scheduled. Additional, specific group meetings may be called at the discretion of the individual group chair.
- (2) Formulating an agenda for each meeting.
- (3) Notifying the public of the time, place, and agenda for each meeting. This information will be published in the Federal Register at least 30 days in advance of the meeting to ensure public awareness.
- (4) Conducting the meeting, including exercising the authority to adjourn the meeting when considered in the public interest.
- (5) Recording and publishing minutes. Every effort will be made to distribute minutes within 45 calendar days of the meeting.

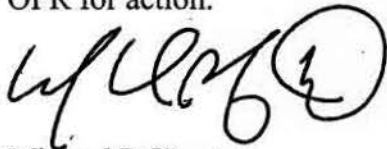
(6) Assigning an Office of Primary Responsibility (OPR) for open issues and ensuring follow-up action is taken to resolve the concerns.

(7) Ensuring that comments concerning changes to TERPS policy/criteria are forwarded to the United States-Instrument Flight Procedures Panel (US-IFPP) for consideration.

(8) Ensuring that comments concerning changes to charting specifications and flight information publications are forwarded to the Interagency Air Cartographic Committee (IACC) for consideration.

(9) Ensuring that comments concerning changes to instrument approach/arrival/departure procedure policy are forwarded to Flight Technologies and Procedures Division (AFS-400) for consideration.

(10) Ensuring that recommended changes to instrument flight and air traffic control procedures, as well as aeronautical information publications are forwarded to the appropriate OPR for action.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Huerta', with a circled number '1' to the right.

Michael P. Huerta  
Administrator

## Appendix A. Administration Information

**1. Distribution.** This order is distributed electronically only.

**2. Background.**

**a.** In December 1988, the Air Line Pilots Association (ALPA), Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA), Air Transport Association (ATA), Helicopter Association International (HAI), and the National Business Aviation Association, Inc. (NBAA) urged the Administrator to establish a Federal Advisory Committee that would review/recommend actions dealing with aeronautical charting and the U.S. Standard for Terminal Instrument Procedures (TERPs). At that time, the Administrator determined that additional Advisory Committees were not desired and that a different medium should be used. The Flight Standards Service (AFS-1) and the Air Traffic Rules and Procedures Service (ATP-1), jointly established the Aeronautical Charting Forum (ACF). The ACF provided the mechanism for discussing aeronautical charting and TERPs issues.

**b.** In 1994, it was noted that the ACF's initial scope of aeronautical information publications and charting products had expanded to include pilot procedures for instrument flight, as well as criteria, design, and development policy regarding instrument flight procedures for approach, arrival, and departure. This explanation led to the separation of the ACF bi-annual meetings into two separate portions; a Procedures portion to address TERPS-related issues and the Charting portion to address aeronautical charting issues.

**c.** In 2002, the order was updated to reflect the transfer of the Office of Aeronautical Charting and Cartography from the National Ocean Service of the Department of Commerce to the FAA, Aviation System Standards (AVN), and its subsequent designation as the National Aeronautical Charting Office (NACO). NACO was the FAA element responsible for the production and distribution of United States Government civil aeronautical charts and related publications and products. The 2002 revision of the order also formally divided the ACF into two separate, yet equal groups. The Instrument Procedures Group (IPG) was formed to address issues relating to instrument flight procedure criteria, design, policy, and development, as well as pilot procedures for instrument flight. The Charting Group was formed to address issues relating to aeronautical charting specifications, database coding, and flight information products.

**d.** In 2006, the order was administratively updated to reflect the Director, FAA Flight Standards Service, AFS-1 and the Air Traffic Organization, Vice President, Technical Operations Service, AJW-0, as co-sponsors of the Forum. The Flight Procedure Standards Branch, AFS-420, and the National Aeronautical Charting Group (NACG), AJW-35, were designated as co-chairs of the forum.

**e.** In 2012, the order was administratively updated to reflect the ATO Vice President, Mission Support Services (AJV-0), as co-sponsors of the Forum. The National Aeronautical Navigation Products Office (AeroNav Products), Quality Assurance and Regulatory Support Group (AJV-3B), were designated as co-chairs of the forum. Since that time, due to consolidations within Mission Support Services, AeroNav Products has now become

Aeronautical Information Services (AIS). AIS, Governance and Standards Team (AJV-553), has been designated as co-chair of the forum with AFS-420.

### **3. Related Publications.**

- a. Aeronautical Information Manual (AIM).
- b. FAA-H-8083-15, Instrument Flying Handbook.
- c. FAA-H-8083-16, Instrument Procedures Handbook.
- d. Interagency Air Cartographic Committee (IACC) Specifications.
- e. Order 8260.3, United States Standard for Terminal Instrument Procedures (TERPS).
- f. Order 8260.19, Flight Procedures and Airspace.
- g. Order 8260.42, United States Standard for Helicopter Area Navigation (RNAV).
- h. Order 8260.46, Departure Procedure (DP) Program.
- i. Order 8260.58, United States Standard for Performance Based Navigation (PBN) Instrument Procedure Design.

**4. Information Update.** For your convenience, FAA Form 1320-19, Directive Feedback Information, is included at the end of this order to note any deficiencies found, clarifications needed, or suggested improvements regarding the contents of this order. When forwarding your comments to the originating office for consideration, please provide a complete explanation of why the suggested change is necessary.