



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

Air Traffic Organization Policy

**ORDER
JO 7110.127A**

Effective Date:
May 4, 2020

SUBJ: National Airspace System (NAS) Processing of Foreign Aircraft Identifications with a Numeric Nationality Mark

1. Purpose of This Order: This order provides procedures for the processing of foreign aircraft identifications containing a numeric nationality mark. Additionally, it standardizes the use of the letter “Q” as the leading character in lieu of the letter “X” as specified in Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Order JO 7110.10, Flight Services, Paragraph 6-3-4, IFR Flight Plan Control Message Format.

2. Audience: This directive applies to the following Air Traffic Organization (ATO) service units: Air Traffic Services (AJT), including all Air Traffic Control (ATC) facilities, FAA Contract Towers and Non-Federal Control Towers, Mission Support Services (AJV), System Operations Services (AJR), including the David J. Hurley Air Traffic Control System Command Center (ATCSCC), the Directors of Tactical Operations, System Operations Security, Flight Services Program Operations, the Alaska Flight Services Information Area Group, select offices and services within Washington Headquarters, the William J. Hughes Technical Center, the Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center, and the Department of Defense.

3. Where Can I Find This Order? This order is available on the MYFAA employee website at https://employees.faa.gov/tools_resources/orders_notices/ and on the FAA website at: http://www.faa.gov/regulations_policies/orders_notices/.

4. Cancellation: FAA Order JO 7110.127 is canceled concurrently with the publication of this order.

5. Background: Currently, NAS automation platforms used to provide air traffic services to aircraft within domestic US airspace will not accept aircraft identifications (ACIDs) beginning with a number. These domestic automation platforms include, but are not limited to, En Route Automation Modernization System (ERAM), and Standard Terminal Automation Replacement System (STARS). The Advanced Technologies and Oceanic Procedures (ATOP) Oceanic control platform used at New York ARTCC, Oakland ARTCC, and Anchorage ARTCC, *will* process ACIDs beginning with a number.

Currently, 47 nations use nationality marks that begin with a number. Facilities providing services to aircraft with ACIDs beginning with numbers have developed local procedures to enable NAS processing of these flight plans.

Because of these locally developed procedures, a number of different characters, (“Z”, “X”, “N”, etc.) are being added as the first character of the ACID. Some of these characters conflict with standard aircraft nationality marks as specified in FAA Order JO 7340.2, Contractions, Chapter 4, Aircraft Nationality Marks, National Emblems, and Common Marks. The use of nonstandard characters at the beginning of these modified ACIDs has created identification problems when foreign aircraft attempt to land at airports outside of the NAS. This order will create a uniform call sign modification process allowing aircraft registered in the nations listed in Appendix A to safely conduct flights within domestic US airspace.

6. Procedures: Apply the following procedures for ACIDs that begin with a numeric nationality mark:

a. ATC personnel providing control services using any automation platforms except ATOP must:

1. Amend ACIDs containing six or fewer characters and beginning with a number by inserting the letter “Q” into Field 02 of the IFR flight plan as the first character.

Example: The ACID of 9HRA is amended to Q9HRA.

2. Amend ACIDs beginning with a number containing seven characters by replacing the first character with the letter “Q” in Field 02 of the IFR flight plan.

Example: The flight plan for an aircraft flight identification of 2TRAVSA should be amended to QTRAVSA.

3. Enter the original ACID into the remarks section of the flight plan.

NOTE: ATC personnel providing control services using ATOP automation systems are NOT required to amend ACIDs beginning with a number.

NOTE: If operational considerations warrant them, facilities may develop local directives or orders requiring ATC personnel using ATOP to modify an ACID beginning with a number.

b. Do not use the “Q” prefix, (phonetic “QUEBEC”) when communicating with the aircraft.

c. Unless otherwise specified in a Standard Operating Procedure, verbally coordinate the aircraft’s actual ACID when conducting intrafacility transfers of control.

d. Verbally coordinate the aircraft’s actual ACID when conducting interfacility transfers of control.

7. Distribution: This order is distributed to ATO service units: Air Traffic Services (AJT), Mission Support Services (AJV), System Operations Services (AJR), including the David J. Hurley Air Traffic Control System Command Center (ATCSCC), the Directors of Tactical Operations, System Operations Security, Flight Services Program Operations, the Alaska Flight Services Information Area Group, FAA contract ATC service providers and all ATC facilities, select offices and services within Washington Headquarters, the William J. Hughes Technical Center, the Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center, and the Department of Defense.

8. Safety Risk Management: Appropriate safety management documentation, in accordance with FAA Order 1100.161, Air Traffic Safety Oversight, ATO Order JO 1000.37, Air Traffic Organization Safety Management System, and the ATO Safety Management System Manual, has been completed in support of this order.

KAREN L
CHIODINI



Digitally signed by
KAREN L CHIODINI
Date: 2020.04.01
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Karen Chiodin
Director (A), Policy, AJV-P

APPENDIX A. Nationality Marks for the 47 Countries Using a Numeric Prefix

Registration	Country
2	Bailiwick of Guernsey (United Kingdom)
3A	Monaco
3B	Mauritius
3C	Equatorial Guinea
3D	Swaziland
3X	Guinea
4K	Azerbaijan
4L	Georgia
4O	Montenegro
4R	Sri Lanka
4X	Israel
4YB	Jordan (Arab Air Cargo)
5A	Libya
5B	Cyprus
5H	United Republic of Tanzania
5N	Nigeria
5R	Madagascar
5T	Mauritania
5U	Niger
5V	Togo
5W	Samoa
5X	Uganda
5Y	Kenya
6O	Somalia
6V or 6W	Senegal
6Y	Jamaica
7O	Yemen
7P	Lesotho
7Q	Malawi
7T	Algeria
8P	Barbados
8Q	Maldives
8R	Guyana
9A	Croatia
9G	Ghana
9H	Malta
9J	Zambia

Registration	Country
9K	Kuwait
9L	Sierra Leone
9M	Malaysia
9N	Nepal
9Q	Democratic Republic of the Congo
9U	Burundi
9V	Singapore
9XR	Rwanda
9Y	Trinidad and Tobago