

DOCUMENT CHANGE PROPOSAL/BRIEFING SHEET

FINAL DISPOSITION (INITIAL Not Required)

ORDER/PUBLICATION: PCG

CHANGE: 2

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 10, 2011 **TRACKING #:** G2- A- -

SPECIALIST/ROUTING: Robert Law AJR-53 (202) 267-9326

1. PARAGRAPH NUMBER AND TITLE:

A - AIRCRAFT CLASSES

2. BACKGROUND: The FAA conducted a review of the performance characteristics, separation standards and weight classes specifically for B757 aircraft following the Safety Risk Management (SRM) process to determine if changes were warranted. The Safety Risk Management Document was approved by the Office of Safety on January 9, 2009, and the separation criteria change was accepted by the Air Traffic Safety Oversight Service on July 22, 2009. As a result, all B757 aircraft will now be classified as "Large;" however, the provisions of paragraph 5-5-4 must still be applied by ATC.

Following the B757 weight classification change, the Office of Safety and the Air Traffic Safety Oversight Service considered further modifying the "Large" and "Heavy" aircraft weight classification to harmonize with that of ICAO standards.

3. EXPLANATION OF CHANGE: The Pilot controller Glossary requires updating to harmonize FAA weight category standards with those of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). All aircraft with a maximum certificated takeoff weight of more than 41,000 pounds but less than 300,000 pounds maximum certificated takeoff weight will now be classified as a "Large" aircraft according to FAA standards. Aircraft with a maximum certificated takeoff weight of 300,000 pounds or more will now be classified as a "Heavy" aircraft according to FAA and ICAO weight classification standards.

This change cancels and incorporates N JO 7110.525, Appendix A, Aircraft Information Fixed-Wing Aircraft, effective April 8, 2010.

4. CHANGE:

OLD

AIRCRAFT CLASSES - For the purposes of Wake Turbulence Separation Minima, ATC classifies aircraft as Heavy, Large, and Small as follows:

a. Heavy- Aircraft capable of takeoff weights of more than 255,000 pounds whether or not they are operating at this weight during a particular phase of flight.

b. Large- Aircraft of more than 41,000 pounds, maximum certificated takeoff weight, up to 255,000 pounds.

NEW

AIRCRAFT CLASSES - For the purposes of Wake Turbulence Separation Minima, ATC classifies aircraft as Heavy, Large, and Small as follows:

a. Heavy- Aircraft capable of takeoff weights of **300,000 pounds or more** whether or not they are operating at this weight during a particular phase of flight.

b. Large- Aircraft of more than 41,000 pounds, maximum certificated takeoff weight, up to **but not including 300,000 pounds**.

No further changes to paragraph.

5. INDEX CHANGES: None

6. GRAPHICS: None

7. GENOT/NOTICE: N JO 7110.525, Appendix A, Aircraft Information Fixed-Wing Aircraft, effective April 8, 2010

8. FORMATTING & PLAIN LANGUAGE REVIEW: ☒ HM 3/24/2010

9. **SAFETY RISK MANAGEMENT:** (Check appropriate box).

☒ **SRMD.** Proposed change meets full SMS requirements for safety risk assessment.

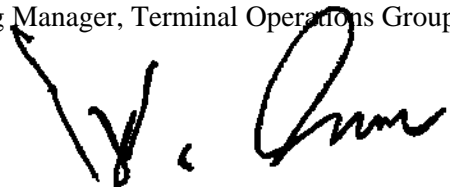
☐ **SRMDM.** Proposed change is not safety related.

10. **ICAO DIFFERENCES:** YES ☐ NO ☒

for

David J. Dodd

Acting Manager, Terminal Operations Group



Date:

3/24/2010