

**Twenty Second Meeting of the  
Informal South Pacific ATS Co-ordinating Group (ISPACG/22)**

Papeete, Tahiti, 12-14 March 2008

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**Agenda Item 4: Review Open Action Items  
AI 20-4**

**Identify Methods to Reduce HF congestion**

**Presented by Airways New Zealand**

**SUMMARY**

This paper summarises the work to date and that planned in an attempt to reduce HF congestion on the South Pacific HF network.

**1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The SP6 HF working group was formed to identify methods to reduce congestion on the South Pacific HF network. Discussions at the last meeting in June 2006 have led to a number of initiatives, described below, under action and in conjunction with some operational changes already implemented. This paper should be read in conjunction with IP10- "Update from SP6 working group".

**2. DISCUSSION**

- 2.1 While not directly related to the HF working group a significant contributor to reducing HF congestion particularly in the Auckland – Nadi – Brisbane region has been the introduction of FMC waypoint reporting by A320's. Initial estimates see the reduction in HF position reporting reduced by approximately 25%.
- 2.2 HF frequency notification message between neighboring HF service providers and ACC's has been introduced in an attempt to reduce the number of HF transfers on the wrong frequency.
- 2.3 Brisbane radio actively seeking suitable HF frequencies above / below what Auckland and Nadi are using as their primary frequency in an attempt to alleviate congestion during peak times.

- 2.4 Implementation of procedures documenting the electronic relaying of position reports between the HF service providers when a ground station is unable to receive a position report. This should reduce the need for aircraft to make repeated position reports to a facility that is not responding whether it is due atmospheric, propagation or temporary reception difficulties.
- 2.5 In coordination with ICAO, reviewing ANNEX 10 requirements regarding the pre-flight SELCAL checks and readback requirements for aeronautical stations as current recommended practices are out of date with communication facilities currently available.

### **3. ACTION BY THE MEETING**

- 3.1 The meeting is invited to:
- a) Note the work currently implemented and planned by the group in addressing the issues of congestion on the HF network.
  - b) Comment on the proposal to have the HF working group report annually to ISPACG on future work plans, surveys results and initiatives to effectively manage the SP6 network.
  - c) Note the resources required to undertake such tasks.
  - d) Close this action item with future reports in b) above becoming an ongoing item.