



Federal Aviation Administration

Policy Guidance

Date: September 22, 2022

To: Regional Airports Division Managers
610 Branch Managers
620 Branch Managers
Airports District Office Managers

JOHN DERMODY Digitally signed by
JOHN DERMODY
Date: 2022.09.22
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From: John R. Dermody, Director, Office of Airport Safety and Standards (AAS-1)

CC: APP-400, APP-500

Subject: **Updated Guidance for Airports Geographic Information Systems (AGIS) Survey Program**

PURPOSE:

This policy guidance memorandum cancels the 2012 Memorandum - *Airports Geographic Information System (Airports GIS) Transition Policy for Non-Safety-Critical Projects* and addresses data collection guidance supporting the AGIS Survey Program.

In compliance with Grant Assurance 34 and Passenger Facility Charge (PFC) Assurance 9, Advisory Circulars (ACs) 150/5300-16 (AC-16), AC 150/5300-17 (AC-17), and AC 150/5300-18B (AC-18B) have been required for use in Airport Improvement Program (AIP) funded and PFC approved projects, respectively since 2007.

AIRPORT DATA COLLECTION AND EXISTING SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

1. AC-18B Safety-Critical Data

All Safety-Critical data features and attributes identified within AC-18B, Chapter 4.1.3. are required to be collected and delivered to the FAA.

2. Safety-Critical Data Clarifications

- A. An AGIS Safety-Critical Data Collection, including Design survey is required for all runways with established or planned instrument flight procedures where a runway

threshold, or displaced threshold, location and/or elevation changes by more than: ± 1 -foot longitudinally (along the runway centerline), ± 1 -foot transversely (left or right of runway centerline), or ± 6 -inches vertically from its existing/published position.

- B. An AGIS Safety-Critical Data Collection, including Design survey is also required if the position of any existing Safety-Critical airport control point (i.e., as referenced in AC-18B, Chapter 5, Paragraph 5.8) changes beyond the accuracy requirements of that feature due to a runway rehabilitation or reconstruction project.
- C. Surveyors have the ability within an AGIS survey to upload existing Safety-Critical, Non-Safety-Critical, and proposed Safety-Critical data features as separate project submissions. **Table 2** below lists and describes all available Safety-Critical AGIS Survey Project Types and their uses.

Table 2 - Safety-Critical Data Survey Project Types

Safety-Critical Data Survey Project Types	Description
Safety-Critical Data Collection, Including Design Data.	<p>Involves collecting Safety-Critical data that affects instrument flight procedures. Action from the Flight procedures Team is required to ensure published airport data matches as-built conditions. It requires separate design and as-built survey submissions as part of the workflow process. Future Safety-Critical data can be loaded to this project type containing the appropriate status attribute.</p> <p>Examples: New runway, runway extension, NAVAID installation/update, transitioning runway from visual flight rules (VFR) to instrument flight rules (IFR), going from Non-Precision to Precision Approaches.</p>
Safety-Critical Data Collection, Not Including Design Data.	<p>Involves the collection and verification of Safety-Critical data where data was collected that doesn't involve construction or the need for advanced Safety-Critical data required by the Instrument Flight Procedures Design Team, prior to As-Built conditions being established. Future Safety-Critical data must not be loaded to this project type.</p> <p>Examples: Periodic Obstruction Survey, Airport Layout Plan (ALP) Update, Master Plan Update</p>

3. Non-Safety-Critical Data

- A. Non-Primary airports that are not certificated under Part 139, and that do not have an Air Traffic Control Tower, continue to be exempted from incorporating AC 150/5300-18 standards for projects involving only non-safety critical data. To determine if an airport is classified as non-primary, consult the latest version of the FAA's National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems (NPIAS) report. In addition, to identify if an airport is Part 139 certificated and if it has an ATCT consult the facility data in ADIP.

NPIAS Report: https://www.faa.gov/airports/planning_capacity/npias/

ADIP Search: <https://adip.faa.gov/agis/public/#/airportSearch/advanced>

- B. Non-Safety-Critical projects may or may not require a survey; however, these projects must go through the AGIS Survey process as design or as-built data projects. These types of AGIS Survey projects do not involve National Geodetic Survey (NGS) data verification; rather, verification is complete with sponsor submission of the design or as-built data into AGIS Survey indicating the sponsor accepts the data as a true and accurate representation. The Airport Data and Information Portal (ADIP) will electronically notify the Aeronautical Data Team (ADT) of any data changes requiring their attention.

4. Use of AGIS Completed AGIS Project Data and Legacy Aeronautical Data

- A. The FAA considers “Completed” AGIS survey project data as data that meets all levels of confidence, accuracy, resolution, and integrity required by current FAA Advisory Circulars (ACs). This data can be extracted and integrated into new FAA ADIP/AGIS survey projects without the need to complete the AC-18B, Chapter 4 data validation processes. when the following conditions are met:
 1. The AGIS survey project that provided the extracted feature data was completed using AC-18B guidelines, and
 2. The features were extracted from the most recent AGIS “Completed” airport survey that included the submittal of those feature(s), and
 3. Details on all extracted features are thoroughly documented within the project Final Report to include the AGIS project numbers that the feature data was extracted from.

NOTE: Existing AC-18B “Completed” surveys are accessible to registered ADIP users by selecting the “[Additional Data → View/Download Completed Surveys](#)” link on the FAA ADIP Portal Home page.

- B. Download and incorporate Obstacle Authoritative Source (OAS) obstacle data into all new Safety-Critical Data Collection projects that include the collection/evaluation of obstacle data. The OAS obstacle data is also available by selecting the “[Additional Data → View/Download Obstacle Data](#)” link on the FAA ADIP system Portal Home page.
- C. Aeronautical survey data that has **NOT** been submitted to, or verified through, an FAA ADIP/AGIS project must be validated as AC-18B compliant, and thoroughly documented, using the AC-18B, Chapter 4 criteria.

OUTREACH

In support of this memorandum and the survey program, the Office of Airport Safety and Standards (AAS-1) will provide upcoming training opportunities. Please notify our AGIS Survey Program Manager, **Drew Goldsmith** (Andrew.E.Goldsmith@FAA.gov) for additional questions or to inquire about upcoming training webinars.