

GOVERNMENT/INDUSTRY AERONAUTICAL CHARTING FORUM
Instrument Procedures Group
(Transcribed/Re-Formatted)
HISTORY RECORD

FAA Control # 92-02-111

SUBJECT: TERPS NDB System Accuracy Assumptions

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION: Both the along and cross course system accuracy assumptions for low frequency NDB terminal instrument navigation were changed from +/- 6 dg to +/- 5 dg within the past 10, or so, years. It appears that this assumption of increased system accuracy for an archaic system of navigation was not the result of any objective analysis.

RECOMMENDATION: The FAA's Flight Procedures Development Branch should be charged with conducting an objective, scientific analysis of terminal low frequency NDB operations, to determine whether a system accuracy assumption of +/- 5 dg is justified, with a confidence level of 2 Sigma for primary lateral obstacle penetration and 3 Sigma for secondary lateral obstacle protection.

COMMENT: This recommendation affects the United States Standards for Terminal Instrument Procedures (TERPS), FAA Handbook 8260.3B.

Submitted by: Charles K. Guy
May 13, 1992
AIR LINE PILOTS ASSOCIATION

INITIAL DISCUSSION (MEETING 92-02): ALPA inquired if the along and cross course accuracy assumptions for low frequency NDB terminal navigation had been changed from +/- 6 dg to +/- 5 dg over the last several years. If the accuracy had been changed, ALPA suggested that the issue should be further analyzed to determine if a +/- 5dg system accuracy was justified. Chuck Everest, AVN-540 stated he believed the NDB system accuracy had always been +/- 5dg. Chuck Everest will check to see if the NDB System accuracy has been changed and report back at the next forum. **Action:** Item Open (AVN-540)

MEETING 93-01: Unavailable

MEETING 94-01: (From Frank Parr AVN-210 notes) ALPA contends that the NDB accuracy was changed to 5 degrees from 6 without specific testing to determine to 2 and 3 sigma what the accuracy is. Discussion also included NDB ROC being 50 feet higher than VOR. Subject was closed and tabled. **Status:** Item Closed.