



Aerosonde Lost Link/Mission Procedure Summary:

During the pre-flight process, the operator sets up a lost link waypoint and a communications timeout. This lost link waypoint may be set up as any standard flight plan available to the operator (standard flight plan, orbit, video flight plan, or landing plan). The communications timeout specifies how much time for the autopilot to wait before turning to the lost link waypoint. Current manufacturer recommendation for timeout is set at 60 seconds.

For the hurricane mission, NASA has determined risk of flying lost link is more risk than terminating flight in the immediate area of lost link.

Additional detail for re-establishing Link with the aircraft is as follows:

LOST (Link) COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Radio Settings - Verify
 - B. Antenna - Verify/Switch
 - C. RF Attenuation/Line Of Sight - Verify
 - D. Back-up Station - Switch
- IF (Link) COMMUNICATIONS NOT RE-ESTABLISHED
- 1. Stage Box / Iridium Link - OFF
 - 2. Last Known Position - Record
 - 3. ATC - Notify
 - 4. Time to Base - Estimate
- REPEAT AS NECESSARY
- E. Land - As Required