



International Civil Aviation Organization

**THE SEVENTH MEETING OF AERONAUTICAL
TELECOMMUNICATION NETWORK (ATN)
TRANSITION TASK FORCE OF APANPIRG**

Shanghai, China, 18-22 April 2005.



Agenda Item 8: Review status of implementation of AFTN Circuits

AFTN CIRCUIT LOADING STATISTICS

(Presented by New Zealand)

SUMMARY

New Zealand proposes that the Task Force recommend that the CNS/MET Sub-Group and APANPIRG review the ongoing need for the gathering of AFTN circuit loading statistics.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Third Asia/Pacific Regional Air Navigation Meeting, 19 April to 17 May 1993 recognised that there was a significant benefit in carrying out performance evaluation of AFTN circuits on the basis of statistics collected for a period of a minimum of three days at the interval of sixth months from 23 to 25 April and October.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 The Meeting concluded that States operating AFTN circuits: Record AFTN statistics, in the prescribed form, from 23 to 25 April and October each year; Exchange the circuit loading data for each circuit with each correspondent station, provide a copy to ICAO Regional Office; and Evaluate circuit loading and take appropriate remedial action when occupancy level exceeds permissible levels specified in the Manual on the Planning and Engineering of the Aeronautical Fixed Telecommunications Network (Doc 8259). Subsequently the requirement was included in the Regional Air Navigation Plan.

2.2 Given that the data capacity of common modern communications circuits exceeds the actual data traffic level to the extent that the circuit loading statistics are effectively meaningless, the relevance of collecting biannual AFTN circuit loading statistics is questionable.

2.3 Many States have stopped the practice of exchanging AFTN performance reports where reliability requirements are consistently met. New Zealand has not forwarded AFTN circuit loading statistics to the ICAO Regional Office since October 2002.

2.4 Whereas APANPIRG has put forward a methodology for calculation of AFTN circuit loading statistics for circuits operating at 9600 bps and 64 Kbps using the X.25 protocol, and amendment proposal APAC 05/12-CNS would include that methodology in the ASIA/PAC Facilities and Services Implementation Document, New Zealand believes that a fundamental review of the need for the gathering of AFTN circuit loading statistics is timely.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

New Zealand proposes that the Task Force recommend that the CNS/MET Sub-Group and APANPIRG review the ongoing need for the gathering of AFTN circuit loading statistics.
