CIRCULAR 17-2015

ICAO STRATEGIC LATERAL OFFSET PROCEDURE (SLOP) CIRCULAR 331

Attached to ARMA Circular 17 – 2015 is ICAO Circular 331 AN/192 Implementation of Strategic Lateral Offset Procedures as approved by the ICAO Secretary General and published under his authority and should be read in conjunction with ICAO Doc 4444 section 16.5 and Annex 2, 3.6.2.1.1.

Please recall:

States were requested via State Letter Ref. ES AN 4/45 - 0945 to respond not later than 28 February 2013 as to the official status of SLOP within FIR's under their management.

Conclusion 17/43:

Implementation of Strategic Lateral Offsets (SLOP) in the AFI Region

That, AFI States implement SLOP within their areas of responsibility, by the AIRAC effective date of 30th November 2010, in line with provisions in PANS-ATM Doc 4444 Chapter 16 and the following guidance:

a) SLOP will be applied in those oceanic FIRs where fixed routes are established;

b) SLOP will be applied in all areas of the continental AFI Region except in those areas where ATC separation is provided by surveillance, unless approved by the State; and

c) SLOP will be applied in oceanic random routing areas (AORRA and IORRA) with effect from the target date of AIRAC date of 2 June 2011

The AFI Regional Monitoring Agency (ARMA) has a requirement to establish the number (quantity)of AFI Flight Information Regions (FIR's) in which SLOP has been implemented, pursuant to the abovementioned APIRG Conclusion. The primary objective of collecting the information on implementation is to use the data in the AFI Reduced Vertical Separation Minimum (RVSM) Collision Risk Assessments.

In addition, the information will be used to assess the AFI States' status of implementation of the APIRG Conclusion.

The released Circular 331 now adds further urgency and guidance to finalize the implementation of SLOP.

Together with this the RVSM risk needs to be mitigated with all available tools.

END