



International Civil Aviation Organization

The Fifth Meeting of the Asia/Pacific ICAO Flight Plan and ATS Messages Implementation Task Force (FPL&AM/TF/5)

Manila, Philippines 7th -9th November 2011

Agenda Item 6: Any other business

FPL Item 10a Character Order

(Presented by Australia)

SUMMARY

This is an information paper to provide advice to other States of the allowable order of designators in Item 10a accepted by Australia, for implementation of the 2012 flight plan, as promulgated Amendment 1 of the 15th Edition ICAO Doc. 4444.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 It is often the case that flight data processing systems are coded to accept either 'N', or 'S' and/or one or more of the other allowable characters in Item 10a of the flight plan, in only that order. This is more than likely a result of the wording in Appendix 2 of Doc. 4444 which states:

INSERT one letter as follows:

N if no COM/NAV/approach aid equipment for the route to be flown is carried or the equipment is unserviceable,

OR

S if standard COM/NAV/approach aid equipment for the route to be flown is carried and serviceable (see Note 1),

AND/OR

INSERT one or more of the following letters

- 1.2 Whilst Doc 4444 does not definitively mandate the order of designators, it is apparent that States and Vendors have interpreted this to define the order in cases where standard equipment and other equipment are carried. That is;

- 'S' first; followed by
- One or more of other allowable equipment designator letters.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 Australia’s 2012 ATM software system specification for Item 10a states:

Item 10a

1 letter or more of the following descriptors with a maximum of 47characters:

a) 'N' or,

b) 'S' or,

c) 'S' and one or more of the following

{A, B, C, D, E1, E2,
E3, F, G, H, I, J1, J2, J3, J4,
J5, J6, J7, K, L, M1, M2, M3,
O, P1, P2, P3, P4, P5, P6, P7,
P8, P9, R, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z}

Or

d) One or more of the following

{A, B, C, D, E1, E2, E3, F, G,
H, I, J1, J2, J3, J4, J5, J6, J7,
K, L, M1, M2, M3, O, P1, P2,
P3, P4, P5, P6, P7, P8, P9, R,
T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z}

2.2 Australia would like to determine whether other states intend sending ‘S’ in any other position than the first character in Item 10a when case c) above (2.1) is applicable.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to

a. Take note of the information provided

b. Advise State intention in relation to Item 10a character order.

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