



International Civil Aviation Organization

**AMHS/SWIM SEMINAR AND THE SEVENTH MEETING OF  
AERONAUTICAL TELECOMMUNICATION NETWORK  
(ATN) IMPLEMENTATION CO-ORDINATION GROUP OF  
APANPIRG (ATNICG/7)**



Chiang Mai, Thailand, 5 – 9 March 2012

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**Agenda Item 3: Review States' ATN/AMHS Implementation Status, Transition and Operational Issues**

**THE USAGE OF WILDCARD (\*\*) IN AMHS CAAS ADDRESS**

(Presented by Thailand)

**SUMMARY**

The AMC has just announced the use of wild card (\*) characters for AMHS Addresses on the "Organization-unit-name-1" (OU1) attribute. This recommendation affects the current AMHS addresses of many states in ASIA/PAC region and may create confusion with recommendation in the ASIA/PACIFIC AMHS Naming Plan adopted in 2005. This working paper summarizes the current situation, proposes to review the ASIA/PACIFIC AMHS Naming Plan and proposes to modify current CAAS addresses of states within the region.

**1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 At the present, many States within ASIA/PAC region have completed their AMHS implementations or are in their AMHS systems implementation process. Some States have now coordinated and prepared to switch from AFTN to AMHS connections. During the AMHS implementation, States in ASIA/PAC have used AMHS address registry of ATS Messaging Management Center (AMC) from Eurocontrol as reference. To ensure AMHS addresses information integrity of the AMC, AEROTHAI has been designated as contact point of the ASIA/PAC Region to coordinate with AMC with regards to the addition/modification of AMHS addresses.

1.2 However, the AMC has just announced the use of wild card (\*) characters for AMHS Addresses on the "Organization-unit-name-1" (OU1) attribute and proposed all AMC users to consider changing their AMHS registry entries to include wild card (\*) character. This AMC recommendation may create confusion with recommendation in the ASIA/PACIFIC AMHS Naming Plan adopted in 2005. It should be taken into account that the AMHS Naming Plan was adopted at the earlier time than the actual implementation by many countries. Therefore, the ATNICG should consider the proposed use of wild card (\*) character by AMC and evaluate the updates of AMHS Naming Plan accordingly.

**2. DISCUSSION**

2.1 In preparation for the AMHS implementation, ASIA/PAC region has adopted the ASIA/PACIFIC AMHS Naming Plan in 2005 to ensure the uniformity of AMHS addresses within the region. The AMHS Naming Plan document recommends naming topology and examples for both XF and CAAS addresses and for all scenarios such as organization with single MTA, or organization with multiple MTAs. In the current situation, all states in ASIA/PAC deploy only one MTA and do not have any plan to deploy multiple MTA. Consequently, in their AMHS name entries, the “Oraganisation-unit-name” (OU1) attribute contain all the “...location indicators of the State contained in Doc7910...” as suggested in the AMHS Naming Plan document. For example, Thailand and Fiji have submitted the following AMHS addresses information to AMC: For Thailand, we proposed to use “VT\*\*”. However, for Fiji, the address structures are very complicated and should require confirmation from the Fiji representative with regards to the use of wildcard (\*) character.

<u>Country</u>	<u>Organization-name for the group of locations</u>	<u>location indicators</u>
Thailand	VTBB	VT**
Fiji	NFFN	NFFFFDPA NFFFFJJJ NFFFYMYX NFFFZOZX NFFFZPZX NFFFZQZF NFFFZQZX NFFFZRZX NFFNZMHS NFFNBCST NFFNDOMF NFFNFJIX NFFNNOTM NFFNTECH NFFNTEST NFFNYTYX NFFNXHAX NFFNYAYX NFFNYCYX NFFNYDYX NFFNYFYX NFFNYFYY NFFNYHYX NFFNYMYX NFFNYNYX NFFNYPYM NFFNYPYO NFFNYHYX NFFNYMYX NFFNYNYX NFFNYPYM NFFNYPYO NFFNYPYX NFFNYSYA NFFNYSYX NFFNYZYX NFFNZAZX NFFNZGZX NFFNZOZX NFFNZPZX NFFNZQZR NFFNZQZX NFFNZRZX NFFNZRZZ NFFNZTZX NFFNZZZX NFFNZZZX NFHOYAYX NFHOYFYX NFHOYOYX NFKWYMYX NFNATECH NFNAAYMYX NFNAZTZX NFNAZTZX NFNAZRZX NFNAZTZX NFNLYSYX NFNMYSYX NFNRYSYX NFNSYSYX NFOFYNYX NFOFYOYX NGTAZTZX NGTAYSYX NGFUZTZX NGFUYSYX
Fiji	NWWW	NWWWZTZX NWWWYFYX NLWWZTZX NLWWYSYX NLWFZTZX NLWFYSYX

2.2 In the AFSG/14 meeting in June 2010, the AFSG Operations Group proposed in WP/02 the use of wild card (\*) characters to reduce the number of entry in the CAAS table. The working paper recommended that wild card (\*) characters can be used in the “Organization-unit-name” (OU1) attribute, be restricted to the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th position, and be used as trailing characters only. On 24 January 2012, AMC operator contacted AEROTHAI and requested the change of AMHS address entries for Singapore and Malaysia, citing the aforementioned proposal. AEROTHAI further contacted both Singapore and Malaysia, and requested the change of their AMC address entries. After coordination, Singapore confirmed that their AMHS system is capable of using wild card (\*) character and has changed their AMHS address entry accordingly.

2.3 AEROTHAI has since analyzed the wild card (\*) character proposal by AFSG. The analysis result shows that the proposal may affect the current AMHS address entries of all states in ASIA/PAC region. Therefore, AEROTHAI would request States to consider the wild card (\*) character proposal and make appropriate change as States see fit. Furthermore, AEROTHAI found that the adopted ASIA/PACIFIC AMHS Naming Plan contains information that may cause confusion about the usage of wild card (\*) character especially in the suggested CAAS addressing scheme tables. Therefore, the ASIA/PACIFIC AMHS Naming Plan document should be updated in order to clarify any ambiguity with regards to the use of wild card (\*) character.

### **3. ACTION REQUIRED BY THE MEETING**

3.1 The meeting is invited to consider the following recommendations:

- a) all States within the ASIA/PAC region should consult with their AMHS address entries and consider the usage of wild card (\*) character as they see fit. If there is any required change to their AMHS address entries, States should contact and inform AEROTHAI about the modification; and
- b) the ASIA/PACIFIC AMHS Naming Plan should be reviewed and updated to clarify any ambiguity with regards to the use of wild card (\*) character.

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