



International Civil Aviation Organization

**FIFTEENTH MEETING OF THE ASIA/PACIFIC METEOROLOGICAL
INFORMATION EXCHANGE WORKING GROUP
(MET/IE WG/15)**

Bangkok, Thailand, 20 – 22 March 2017

Agenda Item 6: Guidance material related to meteorological information exchange.

AMENDMENT TO ROBEX HANDBOOK

(Presented by New Zealand)

SUMMARY

This paper presents a proposed amendment to the ROBEX Handbook for listing the dissemination of OPMET for a non-AOP aerodrome in New Zealand.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scheduled international flights to and from Queenstown airport (NZQN)(S45 01 16 E168 44 21) have increased to the extent that it is now the fourth busiest airport in New Zealand handling international flights. While the airport is not listed in Table AOP 1 of the Basic ANP, in order to meet the requirements of international operators, it has been decided to disseminate OPMET (TAF and METAR AUTO) for NZQN internationally. In this regard it is proposed that NZQN should be listed as a non-AOP aerodrome in Appendices A & B of the ROBEX Handbook.

1.2 New Zealand has reviewed the status of Queenstown aerodrome and decided that because of the large number of domestic flights to and from Queenstown and the level of GA flights operating from the aerodrome, it should remain as a non-AOP aerodrome.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 OPMET for the three New Zealand aerodromes listed in Table AOP 1 of the Basic ANP (NZAA, NZWN, NZCH) is disseminated in OPMET bulletins SANZ31 NZKL and FTNZ31 NZKL. However, OPMET for NZQN is being disseminated in separate bulletins SANZ32 NZKL, and FTNZ32 NZKL, because the issue and validity times differ from the standard ICAO times. This is due to the requirements of domestic operators in New Zealand. In addition, the coding of TAF and METAR AUTO differs slightly from that prescribed by WMO. For example, visibilities greater than 10 km (9999) are reported and forecast in kilometers, e.g., 10KM, 20KM. The term CAVOK is not used and SKC (Sky Clear) is used in TAF. Some additional information is also included in the TAF for the benefit of domestic operators and includes a forecast 2,000 ft wind and a forecast minimum (MNM) and maximum (MAX) QNH.

2.2 OPMET for Queenstown aerodrome (NZQN) is being disseminated as shown in the following table (all times are UTC).

Queenstown Aerodrome (NZQN) – OPMET (All times UTC)

Product	Bulletin No	CCCC	Aerodrome	Filing Time	TAF Validity (Hrs)	AFTN Dissemination
TAF	FTNZ32	NZQN	Queenstown	1430	1400/0700 (17)	VTBBYPYX
	FTNZ32	NZQN	Queenstown	2130	2100/1200 (15)	YBBBYPYX
						NFZZRFXX WSZZYPYX RJTDYPYX ZBBBYPYX AYPMYMYX VHZZYPYX
METAR AUTO	SANZ32	NZQN	Queenstown	HH + 00 HH + 30		VTBBYPYX YBBBYPYX WSZZYPYM RJTDYPYX NFFNYPYX ZBBBYPYX VHZZYPYX RKSIIYPYX WIZZYPYX AYPYMYX

3. ACTION REQUIRED BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) note the information contained in this paper; and
- b) request the Secretariat to update Appendices A and B of the ROBEX Handbook in accordance with the information provided in Attachments 1 and 2.

Attachment 1

Table A : ROBEX Collection and Dissemination of METAR (SA) Bulletins							
1		2			3	4	
ROBEX Centre		METAR Bulletin			Bul. Time	DISSEMINATION TO	
Name	CCCC	BUL No.	CCCC	Aerodrome		RODB/ROBEX C.	AFTN Address
ASIA/PAC REGION							
Wellington	NZKL	SANZ31	NZWN NZAA NZCH	WELLINGTON Intl AUCKLAND Intl CHRISTCHURCH Intl	HH + 00 HH + 30	BANGKOK BRISBANE SINGAPORE TOKYO NADI	VTBBYPYX YBBBYPYX WSZZPYM RJTDYPYX NFFNYPYX
						Beijing Hong Kong Incheon Jakarta Port Moresby	ZBBBYPYX VHZZYPYX RKSIYPYX WIZZYPYX AYPYMYX
		SANZ32	NZQN	QUEENSTOWN	HH + 00 HH + 30	BANGKOK BRISBANE SINGAPORE TOKYO NADI	VTBBYPYX YBBBYPYX WSZZPYM RJTDYPYX NFFNYPYX
						Beijing Hong Kong Incheon Jakarta Port Moresby	ZBBBYPYX VHZZYPYX RKSIYPYX WIZZYPYX AYPYMYX

Attachment 2

Table B : ROBEX Collection and Dissemination of Long TAF (FT) Bulletins									
1 ROBEX Centre		2 TAF Bulletin						3 Dissemination	
Name	CCCC	Bulletin No	CCCC	Aerodrome	Filing time	Start of validity	TAF validity	RODB/ROBE X Centre	AFTN address
ASIA/PAC REGION									
Wellington	NZKL	FTNZ31	NZWN	WELLINGTON Intl	0535	0600	24	BANGKOK	VTBBYPYX
			NZAA	AUCKLAND Intl	1135	1200	24	BRISBANE	YBBBYPYX
			NZCH	CHRISTCHURCH Intl	1735	1800	24	NADI	NFZZRFXX
					2335	0000	24	SINGAPORE	WSZZYPYX
								TOKYO	RJTDYPYX
								Beijing	ZBBBYPYX
								Port Moresby	AYPMYMYX
								Hong Kong	VHZZYPYX
	NZKL	FTNZ32	NZQN	QUEENSTOWN	1430	1400	17	BANGKOK	VTBBYPYX
					2130	2100	15	BRISBANE	YBBBYPYX
								NADI	NFZZRFXX
								SINGAPORE	WSZZYPYX
								TOKYO	RJTDYPYX
								Beijing	ZBBBYPYX
								Port Moresby	AYPMYMYX
								Hong Kong	VHZZYPYX