



NAT OPS BULLETIN

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Subject: **Performance Based Communications & Surveillance Tracks (PBCS Tracks)**

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The purpose of this North Atlantic Operations Bulletin (NAT OPS) is to provide guidance to North Atlantic (NAT) operators on material to be included in pilot and dispatcher training programs and operations relation to the publication of 'PBCS Tracks'.

Any queries about the content of the attached document should be addressed to:

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NAT OPERATIONS BULLETIN – PERFORMANCE BASED COMMUNICATIONS & SURVEILLANCE TRACKS (PBCS TRACKS)

1.1 Purpose of Bulletin –The purpose of this bulletin is to provide guidance to North Atlantic (NAT) operators on material to be included in pilot and dispatcher training programs and operations manuals in relation to the publication of ‘*PBCS Tracks*’.

1.2 Any necessary updates will be distributed through industry organizations and posted on the ICAO EUR/NAT Website.

1.3 The following is an explanation of the terms “should”, “must” and “shall” as used in this bulletin.

- a) “Should” is used to indicate a recommended practice or policy that is considered as desirable for the safety of operations.
- b) “Shall” and “must” are used to indicate a practice or policy that is considered necessary for the safety of operations.

2. Overview - Performance Based Communications & Surveillance Tracks (‘PBCS Tracks’). Organised Track System (OTS) tracks are designed with a minimum of 42.6km (23 NM) lateral spacing through whole and half degrees of latitude between NAT OTS tracks, between flight level (FL) 340 – 400 (inclusive), except when the OTS occurs in the New York OCA.

2.1 OTS tracks spaced using 42.6km (23 NM) lateral separation minima (spacing of half degree of latitude) at any point will be designated as ‘*PBCS tracks*’ and will be uniquely identified in Remark 3 of the Track Message. See Section 4 (Flight Planning Provisions).

2.2 A ‘*PBCS Track*’ can either be:

- a) A whole degree of latitude ‘PBCS track’ (e.g., all waypoints are anchored on whole degrees of latitude; 55 degrees NORTH latitude 20 degrees WEST longitude), or
- b) A half degree latitude ‘PBCS track’ (e.g., all waypoints are anchored on half degrees of latitude; 54 degrees-30 minutes NORTH latitude 20 degrees WEST longitude), or
- c) A combination of whole and half degrees of latitude ‘PBCS track’ (e.g., waypoints can be anchored on either whole or half degrees of latitude.).

3. Operator/Aircraft Eligibility. Operators should consult with the State authority responsible for their operation to obtain appropriate PBCS and PBN authorisations in order to be eligible for the performance-based separation minima and access to ‘*PBCS Tracks*’.

3.1 Eligibility for the provision of performance-based minima and access to ‘*PBCS Tracks*’ is based on the following:

3.2 Operators are eligible to flight plan to operate on published ‘*PBCS Tracks*’ provided the flights are:

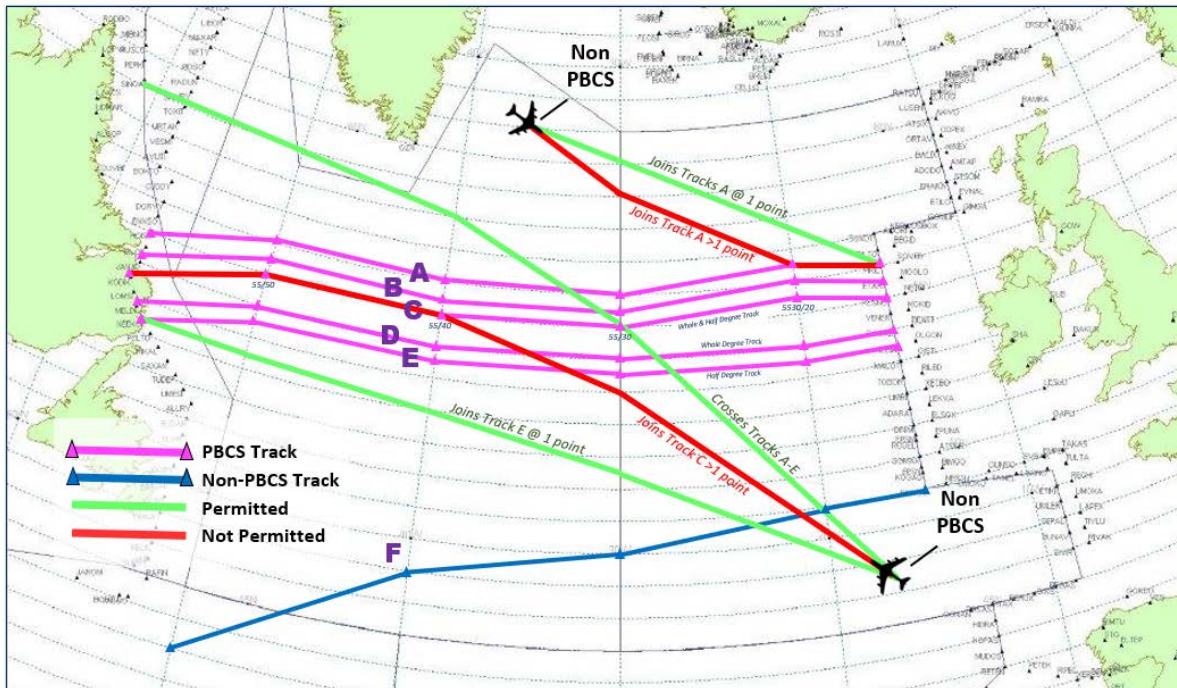
- a) Authorised for Required Navigation Performance 4 (RNP 4);
- b) Fitted with and operating FANS 1/A CPDLC and ADS-C; and
- c) Authorized for RCP 240 and RSP 180.

Performance Based Communications & Surveillance Tracks (PBCS Tracks)

3.3 Operators / aircraft not eligible to operate on published ‘PBCS Tracks’ may be permitted to:

- Infringe ‘PBCS Tracks’ at FL340 – FL400 (inclusive) at only one point (including Oceanic Entry / Exit Point) i.e., cross but not join an OTS PBCS track, and;
- Climb or descend through levels FL340 – FL400 on a ‘PBCS Track’ provided the climb or descent is continuous.

Note: such clearances will only be permitted on a tactical basis.



4. Flight Planning Provisions

4.1 Operators must file the correct ICAO Flight Plan annotations in Items 10 and 18 to indicate that required equipment and authorizations are available for the flight.

- Item 10a (Radio communication, navigation and approach aid equipment and capabilities)
 - Insert “J5” to indicate FANS 1/A Inmarsat CPDLC SATCOM and/or “J7” to indicate FANS 1/A CPDLC Iridium SATCOM data link equipment and operation;
 - Insert “P2” to indicate RCP 240 authorisation;
 - Insert “R” to indicate that aircraft navigation system equipment and operation meet Performance Based Navigation (PBN) levels specified in Item 18. See 4.1 c) below on the related Item 18 entry for RNP 4.
- Item 10b (Surveillance equipment and capabilities)
 - Insert “D1” to indicate FANS 1/A ADS-C equipment and operation.
- Item 18 (Other information)
 - Insert the characters “PBN/” followed by “L1” to indicate RNP 4 authorization.
 - Insert the characters “SUR/” followed by “RSP180” with no spaces to indicate RSP 180 authorisation.

4.2 Only those operators/aircraft eligible to flight plan to operate on ‘PBCS Tracks’ as described in 2.2 above, are allowed to operate on ‘PBCS Tracks’ between FL340 – FL400 (inclusive). All ‘PBCS tracks’ and flight levels are uniquely identified in “Remark 3” of the OTS Track Message as shown below:

Westbound NAT Track Message Example: PBCS Tracks

Note: See “Remark 3”. Tracks A, B, C, D and E are designated as PBCS tracks between FL340-FL400.

ZCZC OLG068 2020190FF EGZZOWXX EGZZOXXX
 082009 202019 EGGXZOZX (NAT-1/3 TRACKS FLS
 340/390 INCLUSIVE
 APR 09/1130Z TO APR09 1900Z
 PART ONE OF THREE PARTS-
 A PIKIL 5630/20 56/30 56/40 56/50 JANJO
 EAST LVLS NIL
 WEST LVLS 340 350 360 370 380 390
 EUR RTS WEST NIL
 NAR NIL-
 B ETARI 56/20 5530/30 5530/40 5530/50 KOKID
 EAST LVLS NIL
 WEST LVLS 340 350 360 370 380 390
 EUR RTS WEST NIL
 NAR NIL-
 C RESNO 5530/20 55/30 55/40 55/50 LOMSI
 EAST LVLS NIL
 WEST LVLS 340 350 360 370 380 390
 EUR RTS WEST NIL
 NAR NIL-
 END OF PART ONE OF THREE PARTS)
 FF CYZZWNAT
 ZCZC OLG068 2020190FF EGZZOWXX EGZZOXXX
 082009 202019 EGGXZOZX
 (NAT-2/3 TRACKS FLS 340/390 INCLUSIVE
 APR 09/1130Z TO APR 09/1900Z
 PART TWO OF THREE PARTS-
 D DOGAL 5430/20 5430/30 5430/40 5430/50 MELDI
 EAST LVLS NIL
 WEST LVLS 340 350 360 370 380 390
 EUR RTS WEST NIL
 NAR NIL-
 E NEBIN 54/20 54/30 54/40 54/50 NEEKO

EAST LVLS NIL
 WEST LVLS 340 350 360 370 380 390
 EUR RTS WEST NIL
 NAR NIL
 F BEDRA 49/20 48/30 47/40 43/50 SOORY
 EAST LVLS NIL
 WEST LVLS 340 350 360 370 380 390
 EUR RTS WEST NIL
 NAR NIL
 END OF PART TWO OF THREE PARTS)
 FF CYZZWNAT
 ZCZC OLG068 2020190FF EGZZOWXX EGZZOXXX
 082009 202019 EGGXZOZX
 (NAT-3/3 TRACKS FLS 340/390 INCLUSIVE
 APR 09/1130Z TO APR 09/1900Z
 PART THREE OF THREE PARTS-
 REMARKS:
 1. TMI IS 100 AND OPERATORS ARE REMINDED TO
 INCLUDE THE
 TMI NUMBER AS PART OF THE OCEANIC CLEARANCE
 READ BACK.
 2. OPERATORS ARE REMINDED THAT ADS-C AND CPDLC
 IS MANDATED IN NAT AIRSPACE FL290 TO FL410.
 3. PBCS OTS LEVELS 340-400. PBCS TRACKS AS
 FOLLOWS
 TRACK A
 TRACK B
 TRACK C
 TRACK D
 TRACK E
 END OF PBCS OTS...

5. Websites

5.1 The ICAO EUR/NAT Office Website is at: www.icao.int/eurnat. Click on **EUR & NAT Documents** >> **NAT Documents** to obtain NAT Operations and NAT Region Update Bulletins and related project planning documents.

6. Contacts

6.1 Any queries about the content of this bulletin should be addressed to ICAO EUR/NAT Office:

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