



ICAO

International Civil Aviation Organization

**Tenth Meeting of the Asia/Pacific Air Traffic Flow
Management Steering Group (ATFM/SG/10)**

Video Teleconference, 04 – 08 May 2020

Agenda Item 5: Regional ATFM Framework and Guidance Material

PROGRESS OF THE ATFM INFORMATION REQUIREMENT SMALL WORKING GROUP (ATFM/IR/SWG)

(Presented by ATFM/IR/SWG)

SUMMARY

This paper presents the background of the formation of the ATFM Information Requirement Small Working Group (ATFM/IR/SWG), summarizes the progressions having been made since the ATFM/IR/SWG was established, proposes to adopt ATFM Daily Plan (ADP) exchange procedure to the Asia/Pacific Regional Framework for Collaborative ATFM, and to amend AFTN/AMHS based ICD published on the ICAO Regional Office website.

1. INTRODUCTION

Background

1.1 In 2015, the Asia Pacific Regional ATFM Network was starting to take its shape: The Asia/Pacific Air Traffic Flow Management Concept of Operation (CONOPS) had been developed, evolving from a concept in an ATFM operational trial conducted by Hong Kong China, Singapore and Thailand. The Regional Framework for Collaborative ATFM was completed at the ATFM/SG/5, and the Northeast Asia Regional ATFM Harmonization Group (NARAHG) just completed its first meeting in the second half of 2014 and commenced the execution of an ATFM Project between China, Japan and the Republic of Korea.

1.2 The interoperability is the goal of the global ATM development, so as to the regional ATFM initiatives. With a unique characteristic of the ATFM network development in the Asia & Pacific Region where the sub-regional ATFM projects had been being executed in parallel with the development of the regional implementation plan and guidance materials, it was recognized that the divergences in ATFM system specifications, standards, functionalities and operations would easily occur.

1.3 Timely and reliable information exchange among the regional ATFM “Node” is a fundamental component to support the interoperability of the entire regional distributed multi-nodal ATFM network, and to ensure the operational efficiency and effectiveness of the whole ATFM Network. In line with a proposal raised by China at the 5th Meeting of ICAO ATFM/SG held in Bangkok in 2015, a decision was made to establish a small working group with the tasks of drafting two documents, one was the Operational Requirements document for the exchange of, and interaction with, ATFM information, another one was the technical Interface Control Document (ICD). The Terms of Reference (TOR) was developed accordingly (Decision ATFM/SG/5-1). This small working group was then named as the Information Requirement Small Working Group – ATFM/IR/SWG

Regional concept

1.4 The Asia/Pacific Region Framework for Collaborative ATFM (the Framework) was intended to provide a common Regional Framework that addresses ATFM implementation and ATFM operational issues in the Asia/Pacific region. A core concept of the Framework is the Distributed Multi Nodal ATFM Network, envisaged as interconnected States and/or Sub-Regional groups operating in an ATFM network without the need for any central, physical facility providing the network management function.

2. DISCUSSION

ATFM/IR/SWG meetings

2.1 According to the Terms of Reference (TOR) of ATFM/IR/SWG, it is stated that the ATFM/IR/SWG will conduct its activities mainly by electronic means between meetings of the ATFM/SG, with face-to-face meetings conducted only where necessary and in conjunction with other meetings where opportunity presents. The meetings were held as below.

1 st tele-conference	Beijing, China	June 2018	
1 st face-to-face meeting		August 2018	
2 nd tele-conference		November 2018	
2 nd face-to-face meeting	Singapore, Singapore (hosted by CAAS)	November 2018	in conjunction with Multi-Nodal core meeting
3 rd tele-conference		March 2019	
3 rd face-to-face meeting	Tokyo, Japan (hosted by JCAB)	April 2019	in conjunction with NARAHG meeting
4 th tele-conference		August 2019	
4 th face-to-face meeting	Bangkok, Thailand (hosted by Aerothai)	November 2019	in conjunction with A-CDM/ATFM workshop
5 th tele-conference		March 2020	

2.2 At the tele-conferences, radio interference and voice breaking up were sometimes observed due to unstable internet connection. It disturbed the discussion of the meetings. To meet web-based meeting requirement, ICAO APAC RSO increased internet bandwidth.

2.3 Disadvantages of tele-conference such as no body language, no expression, and no mouth movement sometimes made it difficult for active discussion. To devise ways of communicating effectively, the participants should speak clearly in a succinct manner and further ideas such as using chat box would be needed since many of us are not English native speakers.

2.4 The meeting experienced that not all participants actively cooperated and it caused the delay of the activities, especially harmonization/interoperability discussion. The commitment from all the SWG members for more active engagement is definitely needed. It is critical and urgent to find a way of harmonized ATFM operation in the region. Otherwise, States are forced to bear additional effort and additional budget.

Proposal to adopt ADP exchange procedure to Asia/Pacific Regional Framework for Collaborative ATFM

2.5 ATFM/IR/SWG was tasked by ATFM/SG to draft Operational Requirements Document including ATFM Daily Plan (ADP) for regional ATFM, stated on the Terms of Reference (TOR) of ATFM/IR/SWG.

2.6 The ADP exchange procedure was discussed at ATFM/IR/SWG/4. The agreement has been reached as attached. (**Attachment A**, draft ATFM Daily Plan (ADP) exchange procedure) The procedure includes the contents of ADP Content and Format, ADP Exchange Protocols, ADP Exchange Frequency, Dissemination of ADP to Local Stakeholders, and Contact Information for ADP Exchange.

2.7 In the absence of digital information exchange model for ADP, member ATFMUs shall send their active ADP to other network members as a PDF file attached to an E-Mail disseminated to all other ATFMUs in the network. As one of ANSPs currently puts two FIR names onto their ADP, and a technical difficulty to change the function was pointed out, the meeting agreed to use more than one FIRs names for E-mail subject and PDF file name.

- E-Mail Subject:

ADP_[FIR Name 1][FIR Name 2]...[FIR Name n]_[Effective Date, yyyymmdd]_[Version]

- PDF File Name:

ADP_[FIR Name 1][FIR Name 2]...[FIR Name n]_[Effective Date, yyyymmdd]_[Version]

- Example:

ADP_VTBB_20191122_1

ADP_YBBBYMMM_20191122_1

2.8 The meeting also discussed the frequency of ATFM distribution. Since ATFMUs use ordinary E-mail to exchange ADP(s), missing E-mail caused by internet connection problem or E-mail sever problem needed to be considered. To ensure reception of ADP(s), the meeting agreed that ATFMUs with capability to activate ATFM measure shall disseminate ADPs at least once (1x) per day regardless of whether an ATFM measure is required.

2.9 The E-mail contact information needs to be included to exchange ADP(s) daily, at least once, the meeting requests ATFMUs to provide the information.

Proposal to amend AFTN/AMHS based Interface Control Document (ICD)

2.10 ATFM/IR/SWG was tasked by ATFM/SG to draft Operational Requirements Document including Interface Control Document (ICD) for regional ATFM, stated on the Terms of Reference (TOR) of ATFM/IR/SWG.

2.11 The Distributed Multi-Nodal Air Traffic Flow Management group has provided the first version of the AFTN/AMHS Interface Control Document (ICD) for ATFM data exchange in the absence of SWIM environment. The ICD was discussed by ATFM/IR/SWG, with further input provided by non-Multi Nodal ATFM Project States (i.e. NARAHG member States and India) and CANSO. The proposed revised ICD is attached as **Attachment B**.

2.12 Non-Multi Nodal ATFM group States such as the Republic of Korea and Japan will be able to move forward the system upgrade of AFTN/AMHS automation if the revised ICD would be formally adopted to replace the current approved ICD published on the ICAO Regional Office website. It would be also beneficial for States who is going to implement cross-border ATFM hereafter. Thus the meeting proposes ATFM/SG for further considerations.

Approach to interoperability

2.13 As pointed out on 2.4, we are far from the completion of harmonization/interoperability in terms of ATFM operations among the Multi Nodal ATFM group and NARAHG. Although new initiatives were also reported to the meeting.

2.14 Discussions on a major traffic flow such as airway A1 from Northeast Asia and Southeast

Asia have been held among HKCAD and JCAB. They have been studying the interoperability of two different ATFM procedures among them for a few years. CTOT paper trial based on the Multi Nodal ATFM concept has already completed and actual operational trial will be started from this year when the demand of Hong Kong FIR including Hong Kong international airport exceeds its capacity. In that case, CTOT for departures from Fukuoka FIR will be issued by HKCAD, a means of communication will be E-mail exchange. This may be upgraded to AFTN or AMHS based on the abovementioned draft ICD in the future.

2.15 Since the Republic of Korea has many traffic between the ROK and Southeast Asia through Fukuoka FIR, Taipei FIR, and Hong Kong FIR, the ROK seeks to communicate with them to implement cross-border ATFM based on the Multi Nodal ATFM concept.

2.16 The meeting acknowledged that those initiatives could be a tip for further coordination on harmonization/interoperability.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

The meeting is invited to:

- a) note the information contained in this paper;
- b) ask States to provide E-mail information to exchange ADP(s);
- c) discuss and agree to the Draft Conclusion ATFM/SG/10-X (1);
- d) discuss and agree to the Draft Conclusion ATFM/SG/10-X (2); and
- e) discuss any relevant matters as appropriate.

.....

Draft Conclusion ATFM/SG/10-X: Adoption of ADP exchange procedure to the Asia/Pacific Regional Framework for Collaborative ATFM	
What: That, noting the TOR of ATFM/IR/SWG, ATFM Daily Plan (ADP) exchange procedure to be adopted to the Asia/Pacific Regional Framework for Collaborative ATFM.	Expected impact: <input type="checkbox"/> Political / Global <input type="checkbox"/> Inter-regional <input type="checkbox"/> Economic <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ops/Technical
Why: To develop a common operational requirements document of ADP publish and distribution for Asia/Pacific region	Follow-up: <input type="checkbox"/> Required from States
When: 8-May-20	Status: Draft to be adopted by Subgroup
Who: <input type="checkbox"/> Sub groups <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> APAC States <input type="checkbox"/> ICAO APAC RO <input type="checkbox"/> ICAO HQ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: ATFM/SG and ATFM/IR/SWG	

Draft Conclusion ATFM/SG/10-X: Adoption of AFTN/AMHS based Interface Control Document (ICD) to the Asia/Pacific Regional Framework for Collaborative ATFM
--

<p>What: That, the revised AFTN/AMHS-Based Interface Control Document at Attachment B be uploaded to the Asia/Pacific Regional Office website, to replace the existing version, for use by Asia/Pacific Administrations in implementing cross-border ATFM communications in accordance with the provisions of the Regional Framework for Collaborative ATFM.</p>	<p>Expected impact:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Political / Global</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Inter-regional</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Economic</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Environmental</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ops/Technical</p>
<p>Why: To improve regional interoperability by broadening the technical applicability of the ICD to conform with system requirements of all APAC States</p>	<p>Follow-up: <input type="checkbox"/> Required from States</p>
<p>When: 8-May-20</p>	<p>Status: Draft to be adopted by Subgroup</p>
<p>Who: <input type="checkbox"/> Sub groups <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> APAC States <input type="checkbox"/> ICAO APAC RO <input type="checkbox"/> ICAO HQ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: ATFM/SG/10 and ATFM/IR/SWG</p>	

Asia-Pacific ATFM Network ATFM Daily Plan (ADP) Exchange Procedure

To facilitate network-wide situational awareness, member ATFMUs in the Asia-Pacific ATFM Network shall exchange the **ATFM Daily Plans (ADPs)** in accordance to the following specifications:

1. ADP Content and Format

The ADP is a document outlining situations and possible issues affecting ATS capacities at various ATM resources within the ATFMU's area of responsibilities for the upcoming day (24 hours). It should also include planned and/or expected ATFM measures that will be activated to manage excessive traffic demand. The purpose of exchanging ADP is to ensure that all ATFMUs and stakeholders are aware of the situation and can plan their operations accordingly.

For the purpose of ADP exchange within the Asia-Pacific ATFM Network, the ADP should include, at minimum, information contained in **Appendix A** to this procedure.

2. ADP Exchange Protocols

In the absence of digital information exchange model for ADP, member ATFMUs shall send their active ADP to other network members as a **PDF file attached to an E-Mail disseminated to all other ATFMUs in the network with the following specifications:**

- E-Mail Subject:
ADP_[FIR Name 1][FIR Name 2]...[FIR Name n]_[Effective Date, yyyyymmdd]_[Version]
- PDF File Name:
ADP_[FIR Name1][FIR Name 2]...[FIR Name n]_[Effective Date, yyyyymmdd]_[Version]
- Example:
ADP_VTBB_20191122_1
ADP_YBBBYMMM_20191122_1

where *FIR Name* refers to the FIR(s) for which the ATFMU is responsible and *Effective Date* refers to the date on which information in the ADP applies.

The use of common E-Mail subject and file name will enable States/ANSPs/organizations to develop or procure a system to automatically process the ADPs if necessary.

At a future time, when digital information exchange model for ADP is developed and SWIM infrastructure implemented, the exchange of ADPs may be moved to a SWIM-based service accordingly.

3. ADP Exchange Frequency

Member ATFMUs with capability to activate ATFM measure shall **disseminate ADPs at least once (1x) per day** regardless of **whether an ATFM measure is required**.

4. Dissemination of ADP to Local Stakeholders

To facilitate common situational awareness among stakeholders (airspace users, airport operators, ground handling agencies, etc.), **it is the responsibility of member ATFMUs to determine whether the ADPs received should be further disseminated to local stakeholders**. As a general rule, whenever an ATFM measure is expected to be active, stakeholders with expected impact should be provided with the information.

5. Contact Information for ADP Exchange

The E-Mail contact information for ADP exchange is included in **Appendix B** to this procedure.

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Asia-Pacific ATFM Network ATFM Daily Plan (ADP) Template

ATFM Daily Plan	[Name of ATFM Unit]	[UTC DATE] [APPLICABLE TIME]
------------------------	---------------------	------------------------------

CAPACITY and CONSTRAINTS			
Location (AD or SECT)	Applicable Period	AAR (landings per hour)	CONSTRAINT/REMARK

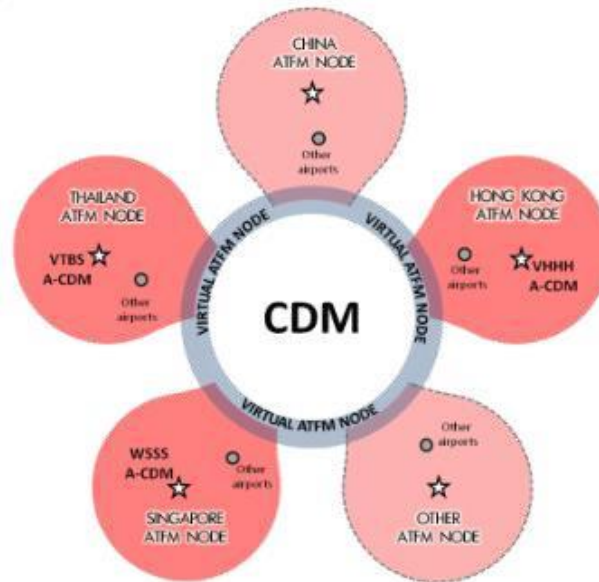
ATFM MEASURES			
Location (AD or SECT)	Applicable Period	AAR (landings per hour)	CONSTRAINT/REMARK

POSSIBLE/DEVELOPING ISSUES		
Location (AD or SECT)	APPLICABLE PERIOD	MEASURE REMARKS

Asia-Pacific ATFM Network
ATFM Daily Plan (ADP) Exchange Contact E-Mails

ATFM Unit	Country	E-Mail Address
Bangkok ATFMU	Thailand	atfmu@bobcat.aero
Singapore ATFMU	Singapore	CAAS ATFMU@caas.gov.sg
Hong Kong ATFMU	Hong Kong China	
Sanya ATFMU	China	chinaatfmu@163.com

DRAFT



Distributed Multi-Nodal Air Traffic Flow Management

AFTN/AMHS Based Interface Control Document

~~08 February~~ 27 November 2019

Version: ~~0.1~~ 1.0

Revision Record

Revision	Description	Date	Authored By	Approved By
Original	Initial version for discussion			

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List of Acronyms

ACID	Aircraft Identifier
ACType	Aircraft Type
ADEP	Departure Airport
ADES	Arrival Airport
ADEXP	ATS Data Exchange Presentation
ADF.....	Application Data Field
ADS.....	Automatic Dependent Surveillance
ADS-C.....	Automatic Dependent Surveillance - Contract
AFIL	Filed in Air
AFIX	Arrival Fix
AFTN	Aeronautical Fixed Telecommunications Network
AIDC	ATS Interfacility Data Communications
aka	Also Known As
ALTN	Alternate Destination
AMHS	ATS Message Handling System
ANSP	Air Navigation Service Provider
ARCID	Aircraft Identification
ARR	Arrival message
ASCII	American Standard Code for Information Interchange
ATC.....	Air Traffic Control
ATFCM	Air Traffic Flow and Capacity Management
ATFM	Air Traffic Flow Management
ATS	Air Traffic Services
ATSU	Air Traffic Services Unit
CCITT	ITU-T Telecommunication Standardization Sector of the International Telecommunications Union (formerly known as Consultative Committee for International Telephony and Telegraphy)"
CDM	Collaborative Decision Making
CFL	Cleared Flight Level
CHG	Change message
CNL.....	Cancellation message
CPDLC	Controller-Pilot Data Link Communications
CSF	Communication Status Field
CTOT	Calculated Take-Off Time

DCT.....	Direct Routing
DEP	Departure message
DEP	Departure Airport
DEST.....	Destination Airport
DFIX	Departure Fix
DLA	Delay message
DOF.....	Date of Flight Departure
EET	Estimated Elapsed Time
EOBD	Estimated Off-Block Date
EOBT	Estimated Off-Block Time
ETFMS	Enhanced Tactical Flow Management System
FAN.....	FANS Application Notification
FANS	Future Air Navigation System
FMH	Facilities Notification Message Header
FMP.....	Flow Management Position
FPL	Flight Plan message
FPO	Facilities Notification Current Position
HDG	Heading
IA5	International Alphabet Number 5
IATA	International Air Transport Association
IBT	In-Block Time
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
ICD	Interface Control Document
IFPLD	Individual Flight Plan
IFPLID	Individual Flight Plan Identifier
IFPS.....	Integrated Initial Flight Plan Processing System
IOBD	Initial Off-Block Date
IOBT	Initial Off-Block Time
IP	Internet Protocol
K	Kilometer
LDT	Landing/Touch Down Time
M	Mach
N	Knot
NM	Network Manager

OACOceanic Area Control Centre
OBT.....Off Block Time
ODF.....Optional heading information Data Field
OTDOff Track Deviation
OTISOperational Terminal Information Service
PRLPilot Request Level
REG.....Aircraft Registration
RFLRequested Flight Level
RIFRoute details to the revised destination airport
RVRRunway Visual Range
SAMSlot Allocation Message
SLCSlot Cancellation Message
SMIStandard Message Identifier

SRMSlot Revision Message
SSRSecondary Surveillance Radar
TDFTrack Data Field
TOTTake Off Time
TRU.....Track Update
TYPAircraft Type
UTC.....Coordinated Universal Time (aka Greenwich Mean Time)

1 ICD Scope

This section identifies the scope, purpose, and organization of this Interface Control Document (ICD) and identifies the subsystem responsibility list.

1.1 Introduction

Distributed Multi-Nodal Air Traffic Flow Management (ATFM) Network concept is based on a network of Air Navigation Service Providers (ANSPs) leading independent ATFM operation within their area of responsibility and connecting to each other through information sharing framework.

Unlike regional-centralized ATFM where there is an overarching authority responsible for ATFM operation for the entire region, each ANSP together with associated Airspace Users (AUs) and Airport Operators (AOs) within their area of jurisdiction comprising one or more FIRs ~~respective FIR~~ (Flight Information Region), ~~participating~~ participates in cross-border ATFM following this Distributed Multi-Nodal ATFM Network concept, and ~~form~~ forms an ATFM Node where the ANSP as a Node Leader is responsible for ~~engagement~~ engaging with various Node stakeholders and ensuring that the Node as a whole is ready and able to participate in the regional cross-border ATFM process.

By establishing common ATFM operating procedures and utilizing fully-interconnected information sharing mechanism among ATFM Nodes, ATFM programs based on Collaborative Decision Making (CDM) process, involving both domestic and intra-regional international flights can be effectively implemented in the region.

To achieve the efficient information dissemination required for such ATFM operation, the baseline standard for information exchange among related stakeholders is needed. This Interface Control Document (ICD) specifies the interface requirements which ATFM support system of each Node Leader must meet in order to be able to communicate with systems of other ATFM Nodes participating in the cross-border ATFM and to ensure the compatibility between them.

1.2 Scope

This ICD details the interface between nodes of the distributed Multi-Nodal ATFM.

This ICD:

- Establishes data exchange, functional, and performance requirements
- Assigns responsibilities for interface implementation and maintenance

1.3 Subsystem Responsibility List

The ~~leader of each node~~ ~~node leader of each FIR~~ develops and maintains ~~their~~ its own ATFM software in accordance to this ICD.

1.4 Operational Requirement

Distributed Multi-Nodal ATFM Network comprises ATFM Nodes, each of which is led by an ANSP responsible for ATFM operation within their area of jurisdiction ~~respective FIR~~. With various ATFM support systems ~~which have been developed or procured independently~~ developed ~~independently or procured~~ by different ANSPs and lack of information linkage ~~between~~ among

them, a major an airline operating flights across such areas falling under jurisdiction of different ANSPs with a number of flights originating from many places is required to access different systems to obtain ATFM information on all their flights, consequently creating a possible roadblock to scaling the ATFM Network due to the high workload in accessing their related information. The requirement of accessing multiple and varying ATFM support systems increases workload on part of an airliner and so creates a possible roadblock to expanding ATFM Network to areas falling under jurisdiction of different ANSPs. This calls for the need of a so-called single-point information access able to be achieved by establishing the interconnection between ATFM support systems aiming at enabling the seamless information sharing among stakeholders. However, to maintain the flexibility to accommodate new users and additional customized functions of ATFM support systems developed or procured separately as previously mentioned and to minimize the impact of changes between among them, loose system coupling is still required. Furthermore, to attain cost-effective communication among stakeholders and to gain the network-wide scalability, common standards for information exchange are needed to be considered. On the other hand, with the nature of decentralized ATFM operational approach where ATFM support system of each ATFM Node locating geographically dispersed, security across systems is of paramount importance. Technical requirements to address the operational need for information sharing between ATFM support systems stated above can be summarized as follows.

- 1) Loose system coupling
- 2) Common standards for information exchange
- 3) System-wide security

To facilitate the aforementioned requirements, this document describes an interface connection that is designed using the currently deployed AFTN networking (or AMHS).

In particular, considering variation in interactions between among stakeholders required at different phases of ATFM operation and keeping in mind the objective of having systems loosely coupled, a data exchange architecture based on existing messaging is chosen to exchange ATFM information. This solution is intended to eventually be deprecated and replaced by a SWIM based solution that uses FIXM data models. However, considering the timeline for deployment of all nodes of the multi-nodal network, it is considered a necessary first step to initially deploy ATFM using data exchange with AFTN/AMHS.

2 Applicable Documents

List of all applicable documents:

ICAO DOC 4444

ICAO DOC 9971

FIXM 4.1.0 core

FIXM XXX APAC extension for MN

SWIM Version of the Multi-Nodal ICD

MN COP

3 Interface Characteristics

This section provides the general, functional, and physical characteristics for each AFTN node and the AFTN/AMHS interface.

3.1 General Characteristics

This section identifies the interfacing subsystem(s); the point(s) of interface including associated cable terminations, functions, and services provided by the interface; and each layer implemented within the interfacing subsystem(s) necessary to achieve connectivity.

Figure 1 identifies the interface described within this ICD and depicts how the systems fit into the logical architecture context of the implementation.

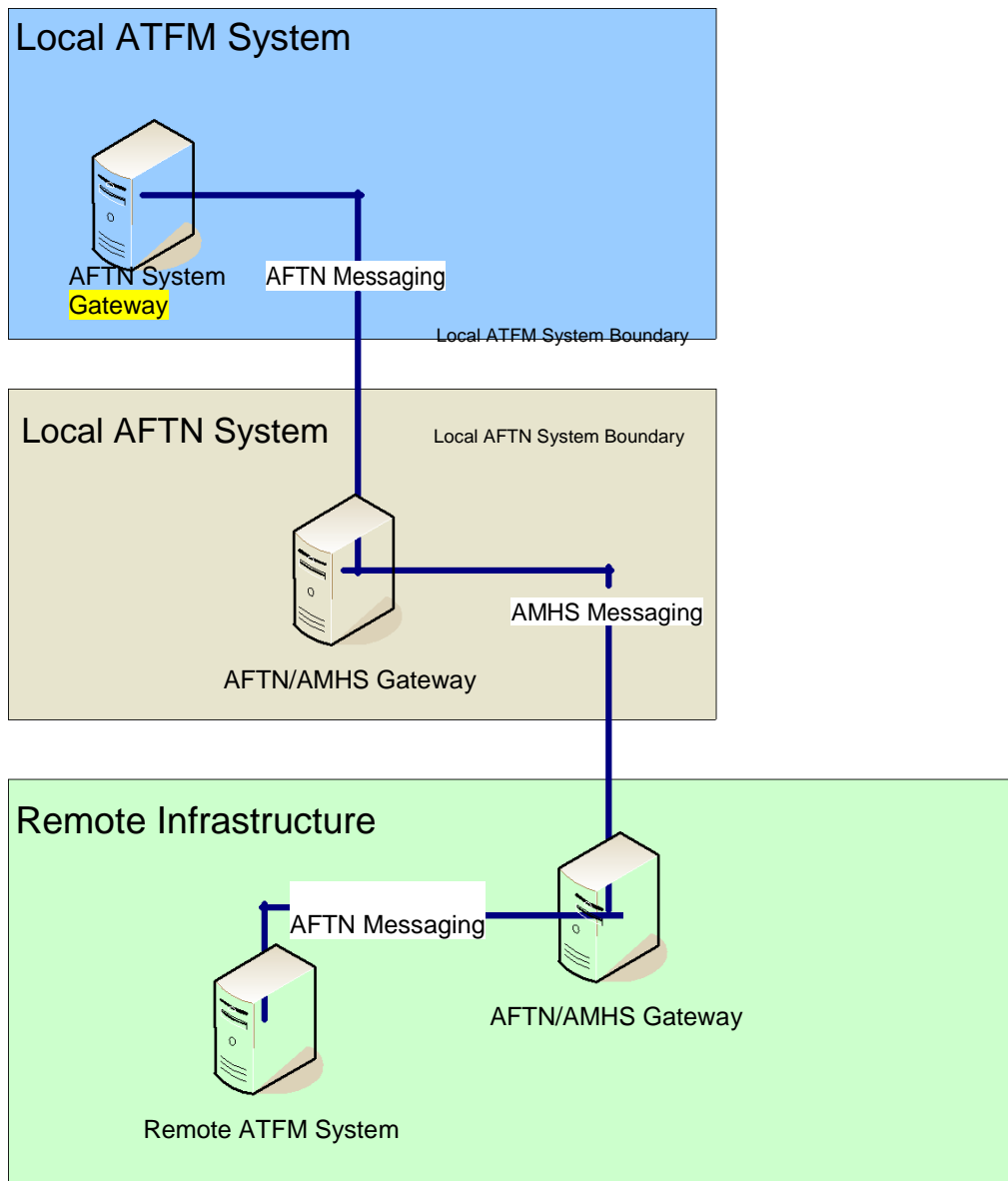


Figure 1. Logical Architecture Showing Interface Demarcation between the Local ATFM system and AFTN/AMHS

3.1.1 Data Format

In general, data that is sent to the local ATFM System across the interface will use text-based messages, as defined by the *ICAO Doc 4444* standard for exchange of flight information messages. Specifically, the communication described in this ICD is based on the message transfer requirements necessary to exchange character-based International Alphabet Number 5 (IA-5) AFTN message data¹ between two ATM systems. IA-5 is a modified subset of American

¹ This ICD includes a collection of information from several standards that are applicable to the interface. This is because the Multi-Nodal concept only needs a subset of all of the messages available from the relevant standards. Universally, when discussing the general characteristics of the data format of the messages: the message

Standard Code for Information Interchange (ASCII) characters that can only be supported by AFTN and AFTN/AMHS Gateway. The information in this document pertaining to the message transmission is based on the CCITT 1984 X.25 standard².

There are messages not defined by *ICAO Doc 4444*. These are defined by AIDC and ADEXP. For simplicity, aside from some helpful contrasting information between ICAO Doc 4444 and AIDC messaging, only messages related to multi-nodal operations are included in this ICD.

3.1.2 Messages defined by ADEXP

For the Slot Allocation Message (SAM) and the Slot Revision Message (SRM), the Slot Cancellation Message (SLC), the standard that is applied is referenced using the EUROCONTROL document: *ATFCM User's Manual Edition 21*, dated 03 May 2018. The SAM, SRM, and SLC follow the same form as required by *ICAO Doc 4444* and as reiterated in this ICD (see section 3.1.4).

3.1.3 Message Construction

Each AFTN message, regardless of the data format, contains a specific structure that is compliant with IA-5 and defined in *ICAO Annex 10*. This structure is summarized in Table 1.

Table 1. Summary of IA-5 Fields used in messages sent via AFTN/AMHS

Field #	Description	Format	Example
1	Start of Message/ Start of heading	4 letters	ZCZC
2	Transmission Identification	3 letters + 3 numbers	HAR001
3	Additional Service Indication	Optional <11 characters	123456
4	Priority Indicator	2 letters	FF
5	Addressee of the message	8 letters	EGLLRZX
6	Day / time of the message	DDHHMM (UTC)	041345
7	Originator of the message	8 letters	OPSTZQZX
8	Optional Heading Information	ODF – See AIDC	See AIDC
9	ATS Message Payload
10	End of Message	4 letters	NNNN

composition is defined as IA-5 as described in *ICAO Annex 10, Volume I*, paragraph 4.11.1; message format is as specified in *Volume II*, section 4.4.16; and message text shall be as specified in *Volume II*, section 4.4.16.3.

Generally, ICAO, ADEXP, and AIDC use the IA-5 format to send messages over AFTN/AMHS. However, there are key differences in how ICAO and ADEXP use the fields. These differences are explained in the following sections and follow the format illustrated in Figure 2 and Figure 3.

```
FAB3887 251146
FF WSJCZQZX
251146 WMFDYFYX
(DEP-MAS2530/A2165-WMKK1146-WBGG-
DOF/150125)
```

Figure 2. IA-5 Illustration of ICAO Message

```
WSB0903 250145
FF YMMLJSTX
250145 VTBBFDMC
—TITLE SAM
—ARCID SAA123
—ADEP FAJS
—ADES FADN
—EOBD 100303
—EOBT 1020
—CTOT 1035
```

Figure 3. IA-5 Illustration of ADEXP Message

3.1.3.1 IA-5 Message Field 1: Start of Message

The Start of Message / Start of heading is handled outside the scope of this ICD, but it is included for completeness.

3.1.3.2 IA-5 Message Field 2: Transmission Identification

The transmission identification field includes a prescribed sequence of characters intended to convey a specific keyboard (terminal) and a channel on which the terminal will communicate:

- a) Transmitting-terminal letter
- b) Receiving-terminal letter
- c) Channel-identification letter
- d) Channel-sequence number

For the purposes of this ICD, the transmission Identification for the local ATFM system will be **XXXXXX**

3.1.3.3 IA-5 Message Field 3: Additional Service Indication

For the purposes of this ICD, the additional service indication field is the time of the transmission.

3.1.3.4 IA-5 Message Field 4: Priority Indicator

The priority indicator is a two (2)-letter identifier that provides context for the associated message. The following priority indicators are possible:

- FF – Standard Air Traffic Service (ATS) Message
- SS – Distress message

- DD – Urgent message
- GG – One of the following:
 - Meteorological message
 - Flight Regularity Message
 - Aeronautical Information Services message
- KK – Aeronautical Administrative message.

For the purposes of this ICD, the ATFM messaging will only send FF messages.

3.1.3.5 IA-5 Message Field 5: Addressee of the Message

The addressee of the message is an eight-character code that is interpreted by the network to determine the routing location that the message will be sent.

When the number of addressees required is more than the operational system parameters allow, two or more transmissions of the message must be made. The eight (8)-letter combination addressee indicators are composed as follows:

- The four (4)-letter ICAO location indicator, as defined by *ICAO DOC 7910 (Location Indicators)*.
- A three (3)-letter designator for the facility type/office, or if no designator has been assigned, *ZZZX* for aircraft in flight, or *YYYYX* for all other cases. The source of the facility designator is *ICAO DOC 8585, Designators for Aircraft Operating Agencies, Aeronautical Authorities and Services*.
- The eighth character of the address indicates the end system application and is determined by the Air Traffic Services Unit (ATSU).

3.1.3.6 IA-5 Message Field 6: Day / Time of the Message

The day/time field is the time the message is sent by a local ATFM System or filed for sending (for incoming messages). The field is a six (6)-digit date/time group that follows the format, DDHHMM in Coordinated Universal Time (UTC).

3.1.3.7 IA-5 Message Field 7: Originator of the Message

The originator of the message is an eight-character code of the ANSP, organization, and application which is sending the message. Similar to IA-5 Message Field 5, the originator address is constructed in three parts:

- The four (4)-letter ICAO location indicator, as defined by *ICAO DOC 7910 (Location Indicators)*.
- A three (3)-letter designator for the facility type/office, as defined by *ICAO DOC 8585, Designators for Aircraft Operating Agencies, Aeronautical Authorities and Services*.
- The eighth character of the address indicates the end system application and is determined by the ATSU.

3.1.3.8 IA-5 Message Field 8: Optional Heading Information

The optional heading information field is used for AIDC messages. It is rarely used for ICAO or ADEXP messages; therefore, it is not included in this ICD.

3.1.3.9 IA-5 Message Field 9: ATS Message Payload

See section 3.1.4 and section 3.2.

3.1.3.10 IA-5 Message Field 10: End of Message

The end of message field is a specific character sequence that is indicative of the end of the AFTN message. Similar to IA-5 message field 1, this is handled by the AFTN/AMHS gateway; therefore, it is not within the scope of this ICD.

3.1.4 Message Body (ATS Message Payload)

The message body—message type and data—follows the message header. The message body contains the message type and information used to identify the flight attributes as well as maintain an updated flight state. The message body may be different depending on whether it is defined by ICAO or ADEXP. The context of this ICD Is focused on multi-nodal operations, and therefore only ADEXP related messaging is included.

3.1.4.1 Messages defined by ADEXP

In contrast with messages defined by AIDC and ICAO, the message body for ADEXP messages does not begin with an open parenthesis. Instead, they begin with the hyphen “—“, followed by a keyword (TITLE), and then the three (3)-letter indicator of the message type. Although there are several complexities related to simple and compound fields in ADEXP messages, for this ICD, the focus is limited to only simple fields.

Each field is delimited a by hyphen “—“, and the data elements within each field are separated by ‘/’ or spaces. The example shown in Figure 4 has been presented in a manner which makes it easy to read. This has been achieved through the use of carriage returns, line feeds, indents, etc. Such a layout does not form part of the ADEXP format rules; therefore, presentation of a message is at the discretion of the receiving system.

```
— { 3 }
— { 3 }
— { 3 }
```

...

Figure 4. Overall structure of AFTN (ADEXP) message

Figure 5 is an example of a SAM message that follows the ADEXP structure:

```
—TITLE SAM
—ARCID SAA123
—ADEP FAJS
—ADES FADN
—EOBD 100303
—EOBT 1020
—CTOT 1035
—REGUL FAJS
—TAXITIME 0015
—REGCAUSE WA 84
```

Figure 5. SAM message using ADEXP structure

Table 3. Fields and corresponding flight information contained in each ADEXP message type

PRIMARY FIELD COMPOSITION OF TACTICAL ATFCM MESSAGES EXCHANGE (1)														
Message Field	SAM	SRM	SLC	SIP	FLS	DES	RRP	RRN	ERR	SMM	SPA	SRJ	FCM	RJT
-TITLE	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
-IFPLID	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
-ADDR	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)								
-ARCID	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	(1)	1	1	1	1	1
-ADEP	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	(1)	1	1	1	1	1
-EOBD	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
-EOBT	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	(1)	1	1	1	1	1
-JOB	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
-CTOT	1			1			(1)	(1)		1				
-NEWCTOT		1		1			(1)	(1)			1			
-NEWPTOT							(1)	(1)						
-REJCTOT												1		
-REASON	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)					
-ADES	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	(1)	1	1	1	1	1
-REGUL	1<	1<		1<	0<								0<	
-ORGRTE							1	1						
-PTOT					(1)		(1)	(1)						
-NEWRTE							1	1						
-RRTEREF							(1)	1						(1)
-RVR	(1)	(1)			(1)								(1)	(1)
-RESPBY				1	(1)		1	1						
-ORGMMSG									(1)					
-FILTIM									1					
-ERRFIELD										1				
-MINLINEUP														
-COMMENT	0<	0<	0<	0<	0<	0<	0<	0<	0<					
-TAXITIME	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	(1)					
-REGCAUSE	1	1			(1)									
-OBTLIMIT - VALPERIOD							1	1						
-TTO	1	1												

'1' means: exactly one field of the specified type is required
'(1)' means: a single optional field of the specified type is allowed
a 'blank cell' means: this field is not in a message
'n<' means: n or more occurrences of this field can appear in a message

The messages needed to perform the slot management functionality are the SAM, SRM and SLC. Each message sent by the Local ATFM system to AFTN/AMHS or received by the local ATFM System from AFTN/AMHS is compliant with ADEXP. The table 3 above is for reference only, please refer to the table 4 below for the exact ADEXP fields to be sent in the respective SAM, SRM and SLC messages.

3.2.1 ADEXP ATS Message Payload –Message Fields

Table 4 provides an overview of the data that is contained in each field for the ADEXP messages defined in this document. The complete structure and the format of the information in each field can be found in the *EUROCONTROL Specification for ATS Data Exchange Presentation (ADEXP), version 3.2*.

Each ATFM message comprises a number of fields, some of which are mandatory and some of which are optional. This may vary from message to message. Specific requirements are given in this document according to the principles of the ADEXP Standard document already mentioned. All ATFM messages shall begin with the TITLE field. The order of other fields is optional.

The field IFPLID, the unique identifier assigned to a flight by EUROCONTROL’s Integrated Initial Flight Plan Processing System (IFPS) (two (2) alphabetic characters followed by eight (8) digits, e.g. —IFPLID AA12345678), will be in all ADEXP messages issued by the Network Manager (NM). EUROCONTROL’s Enhanced Tactical Flow Management System (ETFMS) will accept the IFPLID when provided in an incoming message in ADEXP format. Therefore, messages sent to NM may include the Individual Flight Plan (IFPLD). The field is optional and it is not used in any other system worldwide so the value can be anything such as AA00000000.

The M and O designation in Table 4 indicates mandatory or optional fields for the specific message; if the field is blank it is not used for the specific message.

Table 4. Flight data attributes associated with ADEXP message fields

ADEXP Field Name	Message & Example	SAM	SRM	SLC
TITLE	-TITLE SAM	M	M	M
ADDR	-BEGIN ADDR -FAC LLEVZPZX -FAC LFFFZQZX -END ADDR	O	O	O
ARCID	-ARCID AMC101	M	M	M
IFPLID	-IFPLID AA12345678	O	O	O
ADEP	-ADEP EGLL	M	M	M
ADES	-ADES LMML	M	M	M
EOBD	-EOBD 160224	M	M	M
EOBT	-EOBT 0950	M	M	M
IOBD	-IOBD 160224	O	O	O
IOBT	-IOBT 0950	O	O	O
CTOT	-CTOT 1030	M		
NEWCTOT	-NEWCTOT		M	
REGUL	-REGUL RMZ24M	O	O	O
TAXITIME	-TAXITIME 0020	M	M	M
REGCAUSE	-REGCAUSE CE 81	M	M	
REASON	-REASON	O	O	O
RVR	-RVR	O	O	O
COMMENT	-COMMENT	O	O	O

3.2.1.1 TITLE Field

The TITLE field is a three (3)-letter identifier of the message. The TITLE field always is first in the payload. The syntax required for this field is:

'-' "TITLE" titleid

3.2.1.2 ADDR Field

List field that requires BEGIN and END (i.e., -BEGIN ADDR and -END ADDR) as brackets around a listing of eight character addresses with subfields (e.g., -FAC CFMUTACT). The eight-character identifiers are the same as that which is identified for location identifiers in section 3.1.3.5. The syntax required for this field is:

'-' "BEGIN" "ADDR" 1 { fac } '-' "END" "ADDR"

3.2.1.3 ARCID Field

The ARCID field is the registration marking of the aircraft, or the ICAO designator of the aircraft operator followed by the flight identifier. The syntax required for this field is:

'-' "ARCID" aircraftid

3.2.1.4 IFPLID Field

IFPS Identification. This is the unique flight plan identification which is issued by EUROCONTROL's Flight Planning System (IFPS). It is only available in flight plans that have been distributed in ADEXP format. The IFPLID is two (2) alphabetic characters followed eight (8) digits, e.g. —IFPLID AA12345678), and will be in all ADEXP messages issued by the NM. EUROCONTROL's ETFMS will accept the IFPLID when provided in an incoming message in ADEXP format. Therefore, messages sent to NM may include the IFPLD. The field is optional and it is not used in any other system worldwide, so for sending the message to any other ATFM system, the value can be anything such as AA00000000.

The Syntax required is:

'-' "IFPLID" 2{ALPHA}2 ! 8{ DIGIT }8

3.2.1.5 ADEP Field

ICAO indicator for Aerodrome of Departure. The syntax required is:

'-' "ADEP" (icaoerodrome | 'AFIL' | 'ZZZZ')

3.2.1.6 ADES Field

ICAO indicator for Aerodrome of Destination. The syntax required is:

'-' "ADES" (icaoerodrome | 'ZZZZ')

3.2.1.7 EOBD Field

Estimated Date of Flight. The format is YYMMDD (i.e., no century). The syntax required is:

'-' "EOBD" YYMMDD

3.2.1.8 EOBT Field

Estimated Off-Block Time. The syntax required is:

'-' "EOBT" hhmm

3.2.1.9 IOBD Field

Initial Off-Block Date. The format is YYMMDD (i.e., no century). The syntax required is:

'-' "IOBD" YYMMDD

3.2.1.10 IOBT Field

Initial Off-Block Time. The syntax required is:

'-' "IOBT" hhmm

3.2.1.11 CTOT Field

Calculated Take-Off Time. Importantly, the send or receipt of an SAM message (with a CTOT) is only done at approximately two hours before EOBT. This relative delivery time will allow the ATFM systems to determine whether the CTOT is intended for the current day or next day. Specifically, if the CTOT will be late enough in the day relative to current time that it actually is for the next day, the ATFM systems can assume it is the next day and use the EOBD to determine the correct day of flight. The syntax required is:

'-' "CTOT" hhmm

3.2.1.12 NEWCTOT Field

A new Calculated Take-Off Time, as updated by an ATFM system. Importantly, the send or receipt of an SRM message (with a NEWCTOT) is only done at approximately two hours before EOBT. This relative delivery time will allow the ATFM systems to determine whether the NEWCTOT is intended for the current day or the next day. Specifically, if the NEWCTOT will be late enough in the day relative to current time that it actually is for the next day, the ATFM systems can assume it is the next day and use the EOBD to determine the correct day of flight. The syntax required is:

'-' "NEWCTOT" hhmm

3.2.1.13 REGUL Field

The —REGUL field indicates the name of the ATFM Measure affecting the flight. Several —REGUL fields may be present, the first one being the ATFM Measures field that controls the flight. The syntax required is:

'-' "REGUL" regulid

3.2.1.14 TAXITIME Field

The difference in time between the ‘off blocks time’ and the ‘take-off time’. The times referred to could be actual or estimated depending upon the context. The syntax required is:

'-' "TAXITIME" hhmm

3.2.1.15 REGCAUSE Field

In order to provide more specific nomenclature for delay causes and, at the same time, to assist the post-flight analysis, the ADEXP field —REGCAUSE comprises:

- a) ATFM Measure cause code (one (1)-letter code corresponding to the cause assigned by the Flow Management Position [FMP] upon the implementation of the ATFM measure).
- b) ATFM Measure Location code—one (1)-letter code: D, E or A, describing the phase of the flight (Departure, Enroute, and Arrival) of the constraint that triggered the ATFM Measure.
- c) A space.
- d) The IATA Delay Code in numeric (e.g., 81, 82, 83, 89) or 00 when no IATA Code available.
 - The following codes comprise the list of Air Traffic Control (ATC) delay codes. There are other codes related to airline operations that are not applicable to this ICD and are therefore omitted. The codes are as follows:
 - i. 81 (AT) ATFM due to ATC EN-ROUTE DEMAND/CAPACITY, standard demand/capacity problems
 - ii. 82 (AX) ATFM due to ATC STAFF/EQUIPMENT EN-ROUTE, reduced capacity caused by industrial action or staff shortage, equipment failure, military exercise, or extraordinary demand due to capacity reduction in neighboring area
 - iii. 83 (AE) ATFM due to RESTRICTION AT DESTINATION AIRPORT, airport and/or runway closed due to obstruction, industrial action, staff shortage, political unrest, noise abatement, night curfew, special flights
 - iv. 84 (AW) ATFM due to WEATHER AT DESTINATION
 - v. 85 (AS): Mandatory security
 - vi. 86 (AG): Immigration, Customs, Health
 - vii. 87 (AF): Airport Facilities, parking stands, ramp congestion, buildings, gate limitations
 - viii. 88 (AD): Restrictions at airport of destination, airport/runway closed due obstruction, industrial action, staff shortage, political unrest, noise abatement, night curfew, special flights
 - ix. 89 (AM): Restrictions at airport of departure, airport/runway closed due obstruction, industrial action, staff shortage, political unrest, noise abatement, night curfew, special flights, start-up and pushback, ...

The —REGCAUSE appears in the SAM and SRM messages, and is associated only with the controlling ATFM Measure. The code appearing in the message is the code valid at the time the delay was given to the flight.

The syntax required is:

```
' "REGCAUSE" regulationreasoncode locationccode " " IATAdelaycode
```

3.2.1.16 REASON Field

Reason to explain an action by the FMP (e.g. rejection, cancellation, etc.). The syntax required is:

```
' "REASON" 4{ALPHA}12
```

3.2.1.17 RVR Field

Runway Visual Range. The syntax required is:

```
' "RVR" 1{ DIGIT }3
```

3.2.1.18 COMMENT Field

This field provides additional information. The syntax required is:

```
' "COMMENT" 1 { LIM_CHAR }
```

3.2.1.19 REFDATA field

This is reference data for the message being transmitted that collectively defines the unique message number. This field has three subfields, namely the sender subfield, the receiver (recvr) subfield, and the sequence number (seqnum) subfield. The sender subfield indicates the eight (8)-letter facility address of the sending facility; the receiver subfield indicates the eight (8)-letter facility address to which the message is being sent; and the sequence number subfield indicates the three (3)-digit serial number of the message being sent.

The message sequence number progresses sequentially from 001 to 000 (representing 1000), thence repeats from 001, for all messages sent to the same addressee, regardless of the type of message.

The three (3)-digit sequence number, the sender and receiver address, creates a unique combination used as the reference data. This is the equivalent of Field type 3, element (b) called ‘message number’ in *ICAO Doc 4444*.

The syntax required is:

```
' "REFDATA"
```

```
' "SENDER" ' "FAC" 1{ LIM_CHAR }30
```

```
' "RECVR" ' "FAC" 1{ LIM_CHAR }30
```

```
' "SEQNUM" 3{DIGIT}3
```

3.2.1.20 MSGREF field

Reference data for associated, previously transmitted messages. This field has three subfields, namely the sender subfield, the receiver (recvr) subfield and the sequence number (seqnum) subfield. Together the MSGREF field is intended to provide the necessary reference context

for a message being sent. The sender subfield indicates the eight (8)-letter facility address that sent the original message; the receiver subfield indicates the eight (8)-letter facility address to which the original message was sent; and the sequence number subfield indicates the three (3)-digit serial number of the original message sent.

This is the equivalent of Field type 3, element (c) called 'reference data' in *ICAO Doc 4444*.

The values of Sub-fields "sender", "recvr", and "seqnum", within Primary field "msgref", shall be those of the same Sub-fields within Primary field "refdata" of the OLDI message referred to

'-' "MSGREF"

'-' "SENDER" '-' "FAC" 1{ LIM_CHAR }30

'-' "RECVR" '-' "FAC" 1{ LIM_CHAR }30

'-' "SEQNUM" 3{DIGIT}3

3.2.2 ADEXP ATS Message Payload Types

3.2.2.1 SAM Message Composition

An SAM is sent by the local ATFM System any time a flight is assigned a CTOT. The SAM is used to inform of the Calculated Take-Off Time (CTOT) for each individual flight. The SAM is to be sent approximately 2 hours before EOBT. The construct shown is inclusive of only the mandatory messages.

TITLE	SAM
ARCID	Aircraft ID
IFPLID	TBD value
ADEP	Departure Airport
ADES	Arrival Airport
EOBD	Estimated Off Block Day
EOBT	Estimated Off Block Time
CTOT	Calculated Take-Off Time
TAXITIME	Estimated Taxi Time
REGCAUSE	ATFM Measure Cause Code

3.2.2.2 SRM Message Composition

An SRM is sent by an ATFM system any time a flight that has already received an SAM message, is assigned a revised CTOT. The SRM is used to inform of the new Calculated Take-Off Time (CTOT) for each individual flight. Since the goal is to send the original CTOT (via SAM) approximately 2 hours before EOBT, the SRM should not be sent until after the SAM has been acknowledged, + a short interval of time (e.g., 5 minutes). That way, the SAM will always be the first message sent with a CTOT, and SRM messages are suppressed until the CTOT is sent. All revisions to the CTOT should be sent via SRM. The construct shown is inclusive of only the mandatory messages.

TITLE	SRM
ARCID	Aircraft ID
IFPLID	TBD value
ADEP	Departure Airport
ADES	Arrival Airport
EOBD	Estimated Off Block Day
EOBT	Estimated Off Block Time
NEWCTOT	New Calc Take-Off Time
TAXITIME	Estimated Taxi Time
REGCAUSE	ATFM Measure Cause Code

3.2.2.3 SLC Message Composition

An SLC is sent by an ATFM system any time a flight is no longer assigned a CTOT. The SLC is used to inform that the previously assigned Calculated Take-Off Time (CTOT) no longer applies for an individual flight. The construct shown is inclusive of only the mandatory messages.

TITLE	SLC
ARCID	Aircraft ID
IFPLID	TBD value
ADEP	Departure Airport
ADES	Arrival Airport
EOBD	Estimated Off Block Day
EOBT	Estimated Off Block Time
TAXITIME	Estimated Taxi Time

3.2.3 Message Summary Table

Table 5 provides a summary of the message including the ID, message title, whether it is required, and the message flow direction.

Table 5. Message Summary

ID	Message Title	Message Direction
SAM	Slot Allocation Message	Local AFTN System ↔ AFTN
SRM	Slot Revision Message	Local AFTN System ↔ AFTN
SLC	Slot Cancellation Message	Local AFTN System ↔ AFTN

3.2.4 Protocol Implementation

TBD – dependent on specific site implementation

3.2.5 Security

This is a direct connection between AFTN / AMHS and the local ATFM system through a cable connection and after the data is ingested into local ATFM System, the interface is controlled explicitly via firewall rules and precise protocols.

3.3 Physical Design Characteristics

TBD – dependent on specific site implementation

3.3.1 Electrical Power and Electronic Characteristics

3.3.1.1 Connectors

TBD – dependent on specific site implementation

3.3.1.2 Wire/Cable

TBD – dependent on specific site implementation

3.3.1.3 Electrical Power/Grounding TBD – dependent on specific site implementation

3.3.1.4 Fasteners

TBD – dependent on specific site implementation

3.3.1.5 Electromagnetic Compatibility

Not applicable.