



ICAO BANGKOK | UNITING AVIATION

Arranging IWXXM Translation Services

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Pacific Island Aviation Weather Services Panel*

Webinar on the implementation of the ICAO Meteorological
Information Exchange Model (IWXXM), 27 to 29 October 2020





A Journey Towards IWXXM Translation...

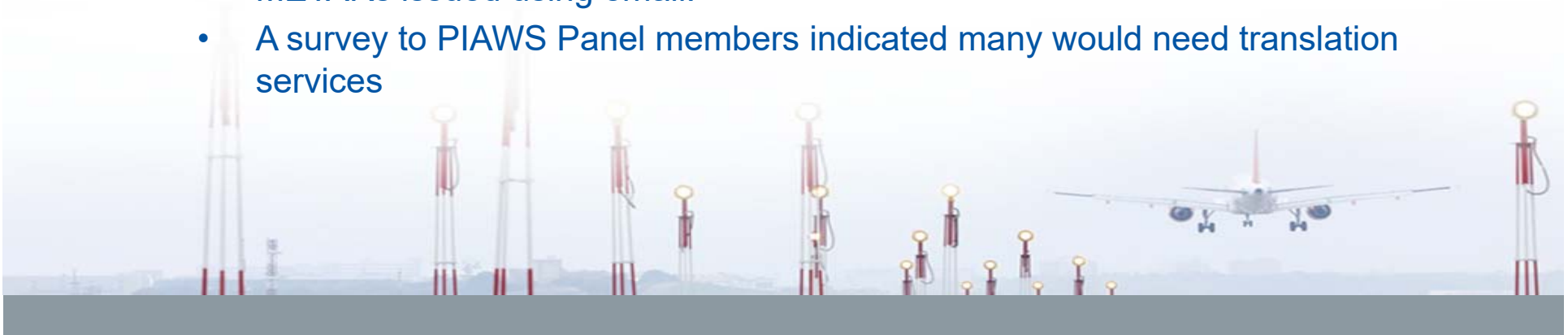
- Why I'm talking to you
- When the best laid plans go awry...
- Things to work through
- The plan from here on





Why I'm talking to you

- The Pacific Island Aviation Weather Services Panel has set up a task team to (among other things) help ICAO contracting Pacific States meet the November requirement for IWXXM format dissemination of OPMET.
- Mostly AFTN connections only from Pacific NOCs to Nadi ROC – some METARs issued using email.
- A survey to PIAWS Panel members indicated many would need translation services





When the best laid plans go awry...

- Late 2019...
 - Initially planned that Fiji Met Service and Nadi RODB/ROC would be able to supply translation & dissemination services for south Pacific States requiring them.
- Then COVID happened!
 - Planned software upgrades for both are now postponed.
- Now looking at Wellington ROC (MetService NZ) translation tool...
 - Can only translate bulletins, not individual messages within.
 - Looking at providing translation services on behalf of Nadi ROC.





Things to work through

- Bulletins or individual MET reports...
 - If translating bulletins – what if one METAR or TAF fails?

SANZ31 (TAC METARs)

NZWN

NZAA

NZCH

TRANSLATION



LANZ31 (IWXXM METARs)

NZWN ✓ (successful translation)

NZAA ✗ (translation fail!)

NZCH ✓ (successful translation)

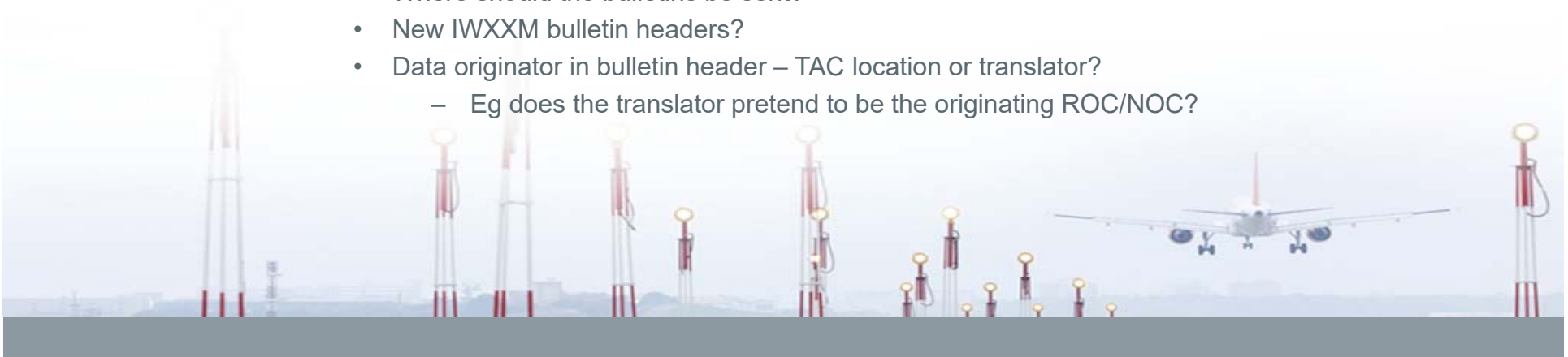
- Is this a failed bulletin translation? Or just partially successful?





Things to work through

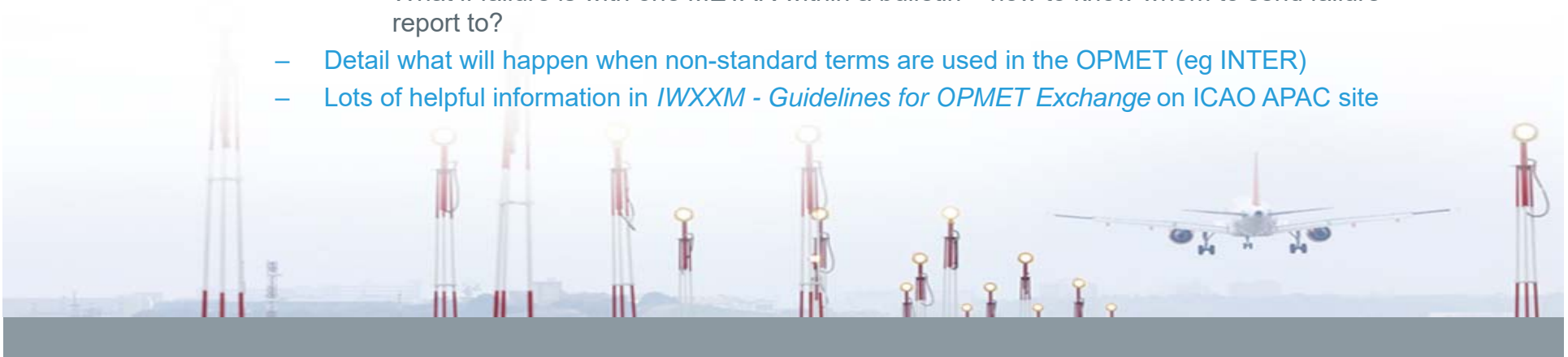
- IWXXM translation agreement is a great idea, considering:
 - What exactly should be translated...
 - What bulletins? What frequency?
 - Notice period for changes?
 - Where should the bulletins be sent?
 - New IWXXM bulletin headers?
 - Data originator in bulletin header – TAC location or translator?
 - Eg does the translator pretend to be the originating ROC/NOC?





Things to work through

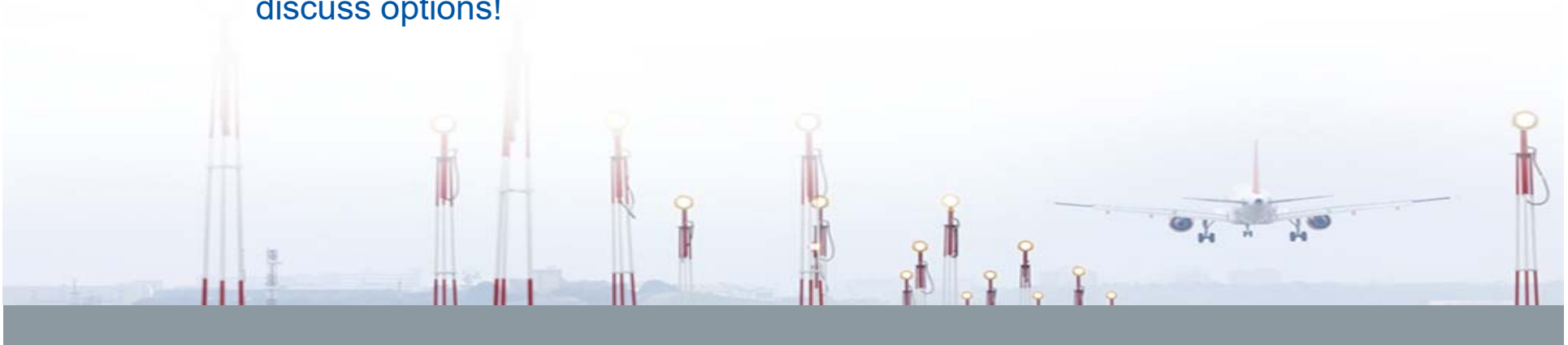
- IWXXM translation agreement is a great idea, including:
 - What happens if translation fails...
 - Create an IWXXM message anyway, containing original TAC?
 - Report failure to data originator?
 - What if failure is with one METAR within a bulletin – how to know whom to send failure report to?
 - Detail what will happen when non-standard terms are used in the OPMET (eg INTER)
 - Lots of helpful information in *IWXXM - Guidelines for OPMET Exchange* on ICAO APAC site





The plan from here on...

- PIAWS Panel task team will keep working with Wellington and Nadi ROCs to ensure south Pacific IWXXM format OPMET is available.
- If other States require translation services – contact your ROC or RODB to discuss options!





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THANK YOU