



25th Meeting of the Communications/Navigation and Surveillance Sub-group (CNS SG/25) of APANPIRG

18 – 22 OCTOBER 2021, VIDEO TELE-CONFERENCE

WP26 - Update of Flight Inspection Guidance Material (FIGM) for APAC Region

Presented by China and Hong Kong, China

Introduction

1. First Edition of the Flight Inspection Guidance Material (FIGM) was adopted by the 24th Meeting of ICAO APAC CNS Sub-Group on 4 December 2020 aims at providing additional guidance on :-

- i. planning;
- ii. execution; and
- iii. delivery

of flight inspection services for States/Administrations in the APAC Region.

Introduction

2. The FIGM is subject to regular review and update, in the light of on-going development of flight inspection standards and recommended practices. The Civil Aviation Administration of China (CAAC) Flight Inspection Center (FIC) and Hong Kong, China have volunteered to jointly conduct a review on the contents of the FIGM and propose updates in this paper.



Introduction

3. In the 6th Meeting of the Surveillance Implementation Coordination Group (SURICG/6), Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore presented an Information Paper (IP/12) on “Resolution of Conflicting Text in Doc8071 Vol III Regarding Flight Inspections”, highlighting the conflicting provisions on the frequency of flight inspections stated in the “Manual on Testing of Radio Navigation Aids” (Doc 8071) Vol. III - Testing of Surveillance Radar Systems (Second Edition, 2020).



Introduction

4. The conflicting contents are :-

- i. Appendix A of Doc 8071 Vol. III stated that flight inspection is required only during commissioning, unless there is specific problem investigation, or deemed necessary by the maintenance personnel.
- ii. Appendix B of Doc 8071 Vol. III implied that there must be routine flight inspections every 120 days.



Introduction

5. The SURICG/6 was informed that process had been underway for changes to be made to Appendix B of Doc 8071 Vol. III to remove reference to routine flight inspections, with the proposal to be accepted by the ICAO Surveillance Panel - Aeronautical Surveillance Working Group (SP-ASWG).



Introduction

6. As it is anticipated to take time for the proposed changes to take effect in Doc 8071, it is proposed to provide additional guidance in FIGM on the frequency for flight inspections of surveillance radar systems :-
 - i. Supplement the frequency for flight inspections of Primary Surveillance Radar and Secondary Surveillance Radar (PSR/SSR) in the document.
 - ii. Other minor amendments and updates
 - a) latest guidelines on Flight Inspection periodicity considerations for radio navigation aids; and
 - b) glossary of FIGM.

Discussion

1. To align with the amendments to be made to Doc 8071, the following two new paragraphs are proposed to be added in the FIGM to provide additional guidance on the frequency for flight inspections of surveillance radar systems.

3.1.5.3 According to Doc 8071, Civil ATC PSR and SSR facilities, after being commissioned and set into operational service, do not require a periodic flight inspection.

3.1.5.4 Special flight inspections may be conducted as part of a measurement campaign after major equipment modifications, or for specific problem investigation.



Discussion

2. Some other abbreviations in the glossary of FIGM are proposed to be added/amended as follow :-

FAA Federal Aviation Administration of the United States of America

FL Flight Level

MRVA Minimum Radar Vectoring Altitude

PANS-Ops Procedures for Air Navigation Services – Aircraft Operations

3. Attachment C under Section 2 of the FIGM is removed to incorporate the latest guidelines on Flight Inspection periodicity considerations for radio navigation aids using web-link.

Discussion

Draft Conclusion CNS/SG/25/XX - Update of Flight Inspection Guidance Material (FIGM) for APAC Region

What: That, the Edition 2.0 of the Flight Inspection Guidance Material (FIGM) provided in Appendix 3 to this paper be adopted.

Expected impact:

- Political / Global
- Inter-regional
- Economic
- Environmental
- Ops/Technical

Why: The FIGM is subject to regular review and update, in the light of on-going development of flight inspection standards and recommended practices.

Follow-up:

- Required from States

When: 22-Oct-21

Status: Draft to be adopted by Subgroup

Who: Sub groups APAC States ICAO APAC RO ICAO HQ Other:

Action by the Meeting

The meeting is invited to :-

- a) note the information contained in this paper;
- b) review and comment the proposed updates to the first edition of FIGM in Appendix 2 of the paper;
- c) endorse the Draft Conclusion in paragraph 2.4 of the paper;
- d) encourage States/Administrations to join the regular review and update of FIGM, in the light of ongoing development of flight inspection standards and recommended practice; and
- e) discuss any relevant matter as appropriate.

Thank you



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