



ICAO

Twenty Sixth Meeting of the Communications/
Navigation and Surveillance Sub-group (CNS SG/26) of APANPIRG

WP/28 - Update of Flight Inspection Guidance Material (FIGM) for APAC Region

Presented by Hong Kong, China

Introduction

1. The second Edition of the Flight Inspection Guidance Material (FIGM) was adopted by the 25th Meeting of ICAO APAC CNS Sub-Group on 22 October 2021.
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, with contributions from Australia and Singapore, in this paper.

Introduction

3. In view of the continuous impact by COVID-19, it is proposed to provide additional guidance in the FIGM on arrangement for flight inspections under pandemic situation.
4. With inputs received from Australia, China, Hong Kong China and Singapore, the proposed new version of FIGM to include the following:
 - i. Guidelines in adopting surveillance flight inspection for newly commissioned navigation systems
 - ii. Updates on experience of using drone for flight inspections
 - iii. Other minor editorial updates

Discussion

1. To cope with the dynamic pandemic situation, the paragraph 2.5.3 (as detailed in Appendix 1 to the WP) is proposed to be added in the FIGM to provide additional guidance on the advance planning for arranging flight inspections with the following considerations:
 - a) Taking alternative base at low risk area to perform flight inspection
 - b) Seeking support from local government for alternative base arrangement and relevant exemption permits
 - c) Special management plan by FISP for operation under pandemic and include:
 - i. Hazard and risk management
 - ii. Requirements on fitness evaluation, self-isolation, mask wearing and social distancing for FISP crew
 - iii. Incident reporting
 - iv. Contact tracing

Discussion

- d) Special arrangement during flight inspection period:
- i. Support for essential ground equipment (e.g. DGPS equipment) set up by local staff
 - ii. Point to point transportation between airport and accommodation for flight inspection crew
 - iii. Close-loop arrangement and controlled itinerary for flight inspection crew
 - iv. Virtual meeting with flight inspection crew instead of face to face meeting
 - v. Keep the flight inspection crew up to date with latest requirements and COVID test arrangement

States should consider the extra costs for the special/additional arrangements that may incur when planning flight inspection during pandemic situation.

Discussion

2. With reference to the practice in some APAC States/Administrations, the new paragraph 3.2.2 (as detailed in Appendix 2 to the WP) is proposed to be added on surveillance flight inspection for important navigation systems with following considerations:
 - a) to provide supplementary check and verification on the performance of newly commissioned radio navigation aids before next periodic flight inspection
 - b) to early detect any potential issues on system performance after commissioning and before the next routine check
 - c) to allow maintenance staff take prompt and appropriate actions to rectify the issues spotted to avoid safety hazards

Discussion

3. New paragraph 3.4 (as detailed in Appendix 3 to the WP) is proposed to be added in FIGM on the application of UAS for flight inspection, which was shared by China during the CNS SG/25.

3.4 *China*

a) *In CNS/SG/25 meeting, China has shared their trials and application of UAS as well as the progress of standards development. Some reference materials contributed by China are summarized below for reference:*

- (i) *UAS-Based PAPI Inspection Technology in China*
https://www.icao.int/APAC/Meetings/2021%20CNS%20SG%2025/WP24_CHN%20AI.12%20-%20UAS-based%20PAPI%20Inspection%20Technology%20in%20China.pdf
- (ii) *Standard Establishment of UAS-Based Flight Inspection System in China*
https://www.icao.int/APAC/Meetings/2021%20CNS%20SG%2025/Flimsy%2003_CHN%20AI.12%20-%20Standard%20establishment%20of%20UAS-based%20flight%20inspection%20system%20in%20China.pdf
- (iii) *Standard Establishment of Data Link for UAS-Based Flight Inspection in China*
https://www.icao.int/APAC/Meetings/2021%20CNS%20SG%2025/IP15_CHN%20AI.12%20-%20Standard%20Establishment%20of%20Data%20Link%20for%20UAS-based%20Flight%20Inspection.pdf

Discussion

Draft Conclusion CNS/SG/26/XX - Update of Flight Inspection Guidance Material (FIGM)

<p>What: That, the Edition 3.0 of the Flight Inspection Guidance Material (FIGM) provided in Appendix 4 to this paper be adopted.</p>	<p>Expected impact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Political / Global <input type="checkbox"/> Inter-regional <input type="checkbox"/> Economic <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ops/Technical
<p>Why: The FIGM is subject to regular review and update, in the light of on-going development of flight inspection standards and recommended practices.</p>	<p>Follow-up:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Required from States
<p>When: 9-Sep-22</p>	<p>Status: Draft to be adopted by Subgroup</p>
<p>Who: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sub groups <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> APAC States <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ICAO APAC RO <input type="checkbox"/> ICAO HQ <input type="checkbox"/> Other:</p>	

Action by the Meeting

The meeting is invited to :

- a) note the information contained in this paper;
- b) recognize the contributions from Australia, China, Hong Kong China and Singapore on the updated contents;
- c) review and provide comment, if any, on the proposed updates to the FIGM;
- d) endorse the Draft Conclusion in paragraph 2.5;
- e) encourage States/Administrations to incorporate the updates into their respective flight inspection manuals, as well as contribute to the regular review and updates of the FIGM, in the light of ongoing development of flight inspection standards and recommended practice; and
- f) discuss any relevant matter as appropriate.

Thank you



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