



International Civil Aviation Organization

Fourth ATN Transition Task Force Meeting

Mumbai, India, 8-12 April 2002

Agenda Item 5: Review status of implementation of AFTN plan and evaluate circuit capacity

Agenda Item 7: Review Table and Chart for the ground-to-ground part of the CNS FASID ATN Routers.

**NECESSITY OF ESTABLISHING A NEW ATN CIRCUIT
BETWEEN NEW ZEALAND AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

(Presented by New Zealand)

SUMMARY

This paper presents the necessity of establishing a new ATN circuit between New Zealand and the United States of America in respect of the draft Ground-Ground ATN Transition Plan for the Asia Pacific Region.

1. Introduction

1.1 The ICAO Council on 27 November 2001 approved the proposal for amendment of the ICAO ASIA/PAC Air Navigation Plan (Serial No. APAC 98/8 – ATS/COM/MET/SAR/AIS) to move the common Auckland / Nadi FIR boundary to the west.

1.2 As a result of this change, the common Auckland / Oakland FIR interface has increased and more traffic will be crossing this extended common boundary.

1.3 New Zealand wishes to optimise service delivery across its FIR boundaries. This can be better achieved by having direct data connections with its major adjacent FIRs.

2. Discussions

2.1 New Zealand requires a robust connection to Oakland in order to more effectively carry out its airspace management obligations. New Zealand's view is that this robustness can be better achieved via a direct connection to the USA instead of the planned USA connection routed via Fiji.

2.2 As a result of the FIR boundary change New Zealand plans to implement AIDC and a direct voice circuit with Oakland later in 2002.

2.3 On implementation of APAC 98/8 the AFTN connection for Tonga is to be off the New Zealand AFTN system instead of Fiji. Tonga and New Zealand will be applying to have the Asia/Pac AFTN Plan changed to reflect this.

2.4 Given its additional airspace management responsibility and to lessen the potential for service disruption to its customers New Zealand must have a direct connection for data to the USA. This will ensure AFTN/ATN network diversity is in place at all times. This is particularly important with the new satellite based ATC systems that are totally dependent on accurate and timely transmission of data.

2.5 New Zealand therefore proposes that the new connection soon to be established between Auckland and Oakland for voice, be added to for AFTN connectivity initially, and ultimately ATN ground-to-ground connectivity.

2.6 New Zealand intends that in order to achieve optimal operational robustness for ATN, that its direct ATN router connections, for diversity, be to Australia and USA and its overall international connections be to Australia, USA, Fiji, Cook Islands, French Polynesia, Tonga and Niue.

2.7 As a result of its increased airspace management responsibilities and its requirement to establish a direct connection to the USA, New Zealand offers itself as an ATN Backbone site to allow Inter-Regional Router connection to NAM (to be the formally established third connection from Asia/Pac) and Intra-Regional Router connection to Australia.

3. Action by the meeting

3.1 The meeting is invited to support New Zealand's intentions.