



Sixth Meeting of CNS/MET Sub-Group of APANPIRG

Bangkok, Thailand, 15 – 19 July 2002

Agenda Item 11: Exchange of OPMET Information

BANGKOK OPMET DATA BANK ACCESS PROCEDURES UPDATED

(Presented by AEROTHAI, Thailand)

SUMMARY

The purpose of this paper is to announce additional request message formats defined for accessing Bangkok OPMET Data Bank.

1. Introduction

1.1 In the Asia and Pacific Regions, AEROTHAI, representing Thailand, was assigned to be Bangkok OPMET Data Bank and has then continually implemented a Bangkok OPMET Data Bank system.

1.2 In 1998 AEROTHAI introduced a new aeronautical network, namely the ATN. The purpose of this implementation is to set up the ATN infrastructure network in Thailand and to replace the existing network in order to accommodate the air traffic congestion in the future. ROBEX and OPMET Data Bank systems via ATN, thus, have been implemented since 2001.

2. New Request Message Formats

2.1. In addition to four existing data types: SA (METAR), FT (TAF--Validity 18/24 hrs), FC (TAF-- Validity 9 hrs) and UA (AIREP), Bangkok OPMET Data Bank provides five extra data types. These are SP (SPECI), WS (SIGMET), WC (Tropical Cyclone), WT (Volcanic Ash) and WV (for tropic revolving storm).

2.2. After getting a training course in how to access Bangkok OPMET Data Bank, airlines as users suggested that the bank should have more options in request message formats so that the movement of weather forecasts and the last updated unexpected bulletins (such as SIGMET, SPECI and etc.) are informed.

2.3. Due to the above suggestions, the bank provides more facilities by introducing two more request message formats as given below:

- a) Request Line Format: RQM/SAVTBD+=
Meaning: Request METAR (SA) data with indicating a station for the last six periods of time (available for all the data types)
- b) Request Line Format: RQM/SPXXXX=
Meaning: Request SPECI (SP) data for the last six bulletins without indicating stations (only types: UA, SP, WS, WC, WT and WV).

3. Action

3.1 The meeting is invited to consider additional request AFTN message formats and please give recommendations in order to improve Bangkok OPMET Data Bank Access Procedures.
