



DIRECTORS GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION CONFERENCE ON A GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR AVIATION SAFETY

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Theme 1: The status of aviation safety today

Topic 1.3: Initiatives by States and industry

FLIGHT CREW AND AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLER LANGUAGE TEST FORMAT AND SERVICE TELLCAP

(Presented by the Interstate Aviation Committee)

SUMMARY

The current document aims to inform ICAO about the testing format and services — Test of the English Language Level for Controllers and Pilots (TELLCAP) evaluating the aviation personnel in line with Amendment 164 of Annex 1 — *Personnel Licensing* of the Chicago Convention.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Proceeding from the necessity of new International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) language proficiency requirements to be implemented on 5 March 2008, and taking into account that in compliance with ICAO language proficiency requirements operational Level 4, developed as the safest minimum proficiency skill level determined necessary for aeronautical communication, a testing procedure for licensing aviation personnel — Test of the English Language Level for Controllers and Pilots (TELLCAP) is proposed for implementation.

2. PURPOSE

2.1 The main purpose of the current test TELLCAP is to ensure valid, reliable, effective and appropriate evaluation of aviation personnel (flight crews and air traffic controllers (ATC)) carrying out international flight operations in compliance with the ICAO rating scale and language testing

¹ English and Russian versions provided by IAC.

requirements determined in the ICAO *Manual on the Implementation of ICAO Language Proficiency Requirements* (Doc 9835).

3. **THE USE OF TELLCAP**

3.1 TELLCAP is used for licensing testing of aviation personnel for the evaluation of candidates compliance with ICAO. English language proficiency requirements, determined in ICAO Doc 9835 as well as for benchmarking of aviation personnel (flight crews and ATC) to provide the most sufficient and reliable training course for them to be able to reach operational Level 4.

4. **TELLCAP-BASE FEATURES**

4.1 TELLCAP is a test which is integral for flight crew as well as air-traffic controller evaluation. It is based on aviation related topics and is a face-to-face and back-to-back communication between a tester and a candidate, i.e. evaluates listening and speaking skills. It assesses the current English language proficiency level of a candidate in compliance with six possible ones according to the ICAO rating scale. It is provided in sessions and ensures a specially developed information safety system.

5. **SERVICES PROVIDED**

5.1 The TELLCAP testing service includes the following:

- a) a testing procedure provided by a specially trained examiner;
- b) digital recording of a test; and
- c) evaluation of the recorded candidate's sample by a rater, certified for evaluation in line with the ICAO scale.

6. **TELLCAP COMPONENTS**

6.1 The TELLCAP testing procedure includes the following:

- **Section 1.** A proficiency test of listening aiming to check the candidate's comprehension skills. It has two parts of ten minutes length each. Speech samples are based on recorded real flight crew — ATC communication in a context appropriate to aviation in routine and non-routine situations. Thus, it makes it possible for the rater to assess the candidate's basic comprehension skills.
- **Section 2.** A proficiency test of speaking consists of three sections of twenty minutes total time. The conversation is based on visual samples which thus enable the candidate to demonstrate speaking skills on work-related, and general topics in a context appropriate to the aviation environment including emergency situations and unexpected turn of events.

7. **CONCLUSION**

The Conference is invited to take into consideration that TELLCAP has been effectively sampled at air companies and ATC centres.

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