



Agenda Item 8: Other business

**STRATEGIC LATERAL OFFSET
PROCEDURES (SLOP)**

(Presented by IATA)

SUMMARY	
This working paper presents the industry perspective on the use of the Strategic Lateral Offset Procedures (SLOP) according to the approval of Amendment 6 to the fifteenth edition of the <i>Procedures for Air Navigation Services - Air Traffic Management</i> (PANS-ATM, Doc 4444)	
REFERENCES:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Amendment 6 to the fifteenth edition of the <i>Procedures for Air Navigation Services - Air Traffic Management</i> (PANS ATM, Doc 4444)• State Letter AN 13/2.1-14/48, 30 June 2014	
ICAO strategic objectives:	<i>A - Safety</i> <i>B - Air navigation capacity and efficiency</i>

1. Introduction

1.1 The latest amendment to PANS-ATM, Doc 4444, which takes effect on 13 November 2014, introduces a major extension to the Strategic Lateral Offset Procedure (SLOP).

1.2 SLOP is designed to mitigate the effects of wake vortex in cruise as well as reduce the risks of mid-air collision. Previously such offsets were limited to 1 and 2 miles to the right of track in airspace containing parallel route systems with a minimum spacing of 30 NM. Typically this meant the organized track system over the North Atlantic.

2. Discussion

2.1 Taking advantage of the capability of some present and most future FMS equipment to apply offsets measured in tenths of a NM, where authorized, the new offset values are:

- Where the procedural lateral separation minima are not less than 6 NM but less than 30 NM, up to 0.5 NM in steps of 0.1 NM, and

- Where the procedural lateral separation minima are greater than 30 NM, up to 2 NM in steps of 0.1NM or more
- All offsets are flown to the right of centerline.

2.2 With this procedural changes, offsets will be available in significantly more airspace than before, specifically over land, hence the term sometimes used in ICAO, 'Continental SLOP'

2.3 According to amendment 6 to the PANS ATM, paragraph 16.5.1, the authorization of offsets in any particular airspace has to be coordinated among the States involved. In this sense and in order to apply harmonized procedures in the region, it is recommended to include the application of these procedures in the regional agreement.

3. **Suggested action:**

3.1 The Meeting is invited to:

- a) take note of the information contained in this working paper;
- b) Consider the implementation of the SLOP in the regional agreement.

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