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FAA Weather in the Cockpit Guidance and Policy

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VOLUME 3 GENERAL TECHNICAL ADMINISTRATION

CHAPTER 26 AVIATION WEATHER REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS

Section 5 Use of Flight Information Services on the Flight Deck – Parts 91K, 121, and 135

Subject: Use of Cockpit Displays of Digital
Weather and Aeronautical
Information

Date: 4/7/14

AC No: 00-63A

Initiated by: AFS-400 Change:

***AC 00-63A – Use of Cockpit Displays of Digital
Weather and Operational Information***

***FSIMS 8900.1 Volume 3 Chapter 26 Section 5 –
Use of Flight Information Services on the Flight
Deck – Parts 91K, 121, and 135***

AIM 7-1-11 FIS



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Highlights of Guidance

This AC is applicable to all pilot users and describes:

- ***Data Link Service Providers***
- ***Category 1 data link vs. Category 2 data link***
- ***Data link modes***
- ***Data link service classifications***
- ***Strategic vs. Tactical***
- ***Aeronautical Information***
 - ***Baseline Synchronization Service***
 - ***Aeronautical Update Service***
- ***FIS-B (Appendix)***



Highlights of Guidance

Pilot Actions – Pilot must understand the service provided and system particularities and limitations

- ***Latency***
- ***Update cycles***
- ***Indication of system failure***
- ***Coverage areas/service volumes***
- ***Content/format***
- ***Data integrity***
- ***Use of equipment/avionics display***
- ***Overload of information***



Highlights of Guidance

Use of AI and MET by Certificate Holders and Program Managers (91K, 121, 135)

- ***Broadcast FIS***

- ***Most broadcast FIS provided by commercial weather information providers (reformatted NWS information)***
- ***May be displayed on certified avionics or a portable device***
- ***Supports strategic decision making***
- ***Do not use as sole source of weather for making tactical in-flight decisions***



Highlights of Guidance

Use of AI and MET by Certificate Holders and Program Managers (91K, 121, 135)

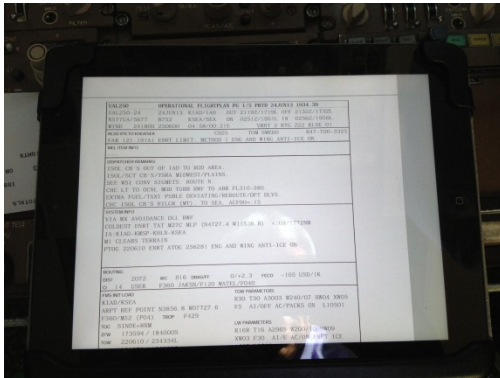
- *Contract/Demand via Internet Based Connectivity*
 - *Records and Reports – applicable to CFR § 121*
 - *Security – Network security plan should exist for ensuring data confidentiality, integrity, and availability for cockpit access to the aircraft system*
 - *Restrictions on Use – Policies and procedures that restrict flight crew use of non-pertinent information accessed via the internet during all aircraft movement operations*



Highlights of Guidance

Use of AI and MET by Certificate Holders and Program Managers (91K, 121, 135)

- An electronic flight bag (EFB) is an acceptable means to view MET and AI information in the cockpit**
 - requires an Authorization for Use via FAA OpSpec A061
- Dispatch/Weather Brief Documents**
- Digital/Electronic Dispatch**



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Highlights of Guidance

Use of AI and MET by Certificate Holders and Program Managers (91K, 121, 135)

- ***SMS – risk severity of no worse than a Minor***
- ***Manuals – describe data link FIS equipment, procedures, and operational policies***
- ***Crew Resource Management – address effective teamwork to using FIS information while in the cockpit***
- ***MMEL/MEL – FIS MET MAY NOT mitigate MMEL/MEL restrictions related to the aircraft's onboard weather radar***
- ***Issues Unique to a Particular Operator***
 - ***Particular regional international operations***
 - ***Oceanic operations***
 - ***Polar/Remote operations***



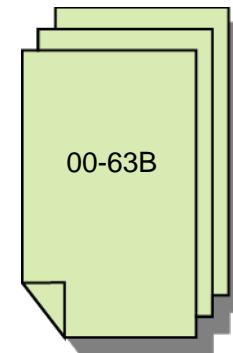
What's Next?

AC 00-63B – AVS NextGen work plan goal: September 2015

- ***AFS-400 management directive – Update to support exclusive use of FAA FIS-B***

What Else? I need your input!

- ***RTCA SC-206 input***
- ***WSI IPAD User Forum input***
- ***FPAW***
- ***OEMS***



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