Canada ADS-B Mandate

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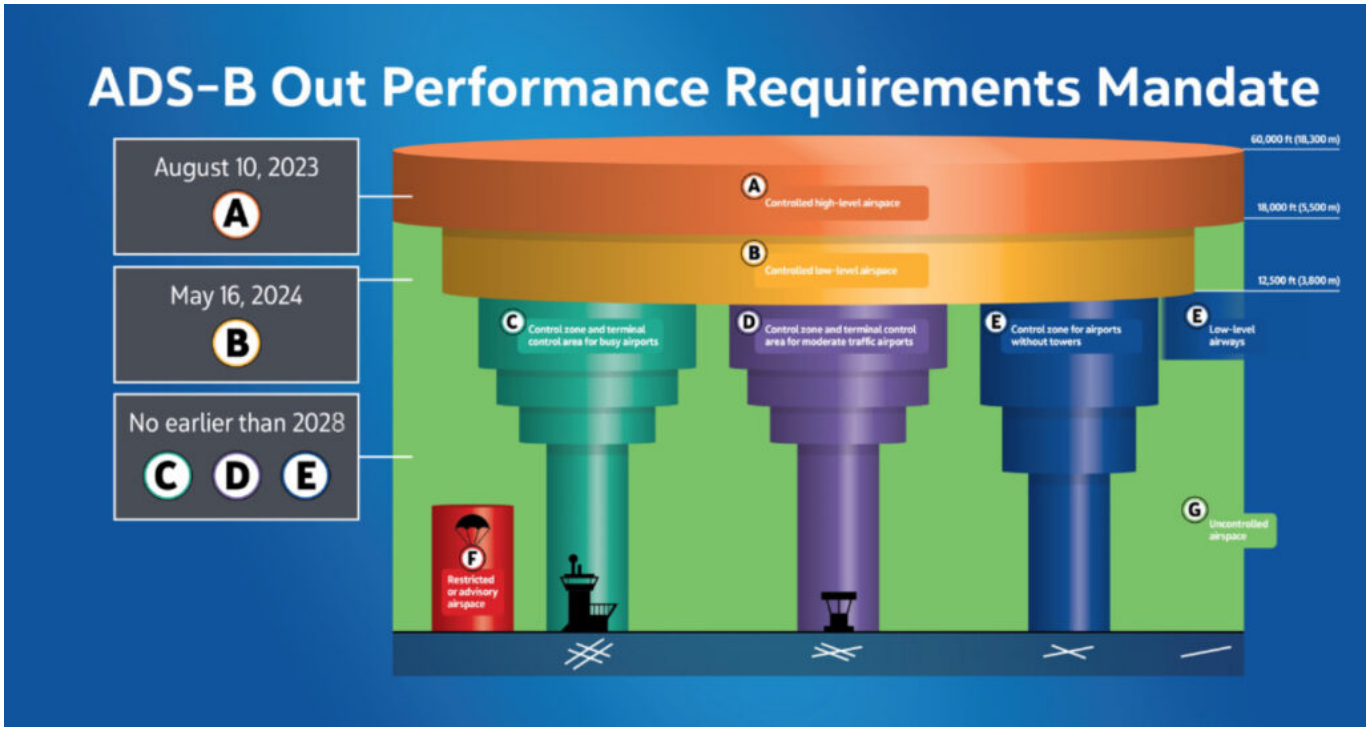
Key Points

- **ADS-B became mandatory in Canadian Class A airspace in Aug 2023 (above FL180). It then became mandatory in Class B airspace (above FL125) in May 2024. Mandates in any Class C, D and E airspace will be determined no sooner than 2028.**
- **You need an antenna able to broadcast to ADS-B receivers both on the ground and in space, and you need to include some extra stuff on your flight plan.**
- **If you don’t have ADS-B, you have to apply for an exemption online from NavCanada.**



What equipment do I need?

- A transponder with **ADS-B out capability** that meet the minimum performance standards (or better) found in this fancy document. This needs to be attached to an antenna that can broadcast to ADS-B receivers both on the ground, and in space.
- You can also find more on this in section 551.103 of the **Canadian Aviation Regulations.**

Extra Flight Planning Requirements

- If you plan on entering airspace where the ADS-B mandate applies, there is some extra stuff you need to include in item 10b of your **ICAO flight plan** (assuming you have all the right gear on board).
- Use the code **B1** if you have ADS-B Out only, or **B2** if you have ADS-B In *and* Out.
- You'll also need to include **SUR/CANMANDATE** in item 18.
- **One other gotcha** – make sure the flight identification (flight number or aircraft reg) broadcast by your ADS-B equipment exactly matches the one used in item 7 of your flight plan. Lest there be trouble down the track!

My ride doesn't have this fanciness. What are my options?

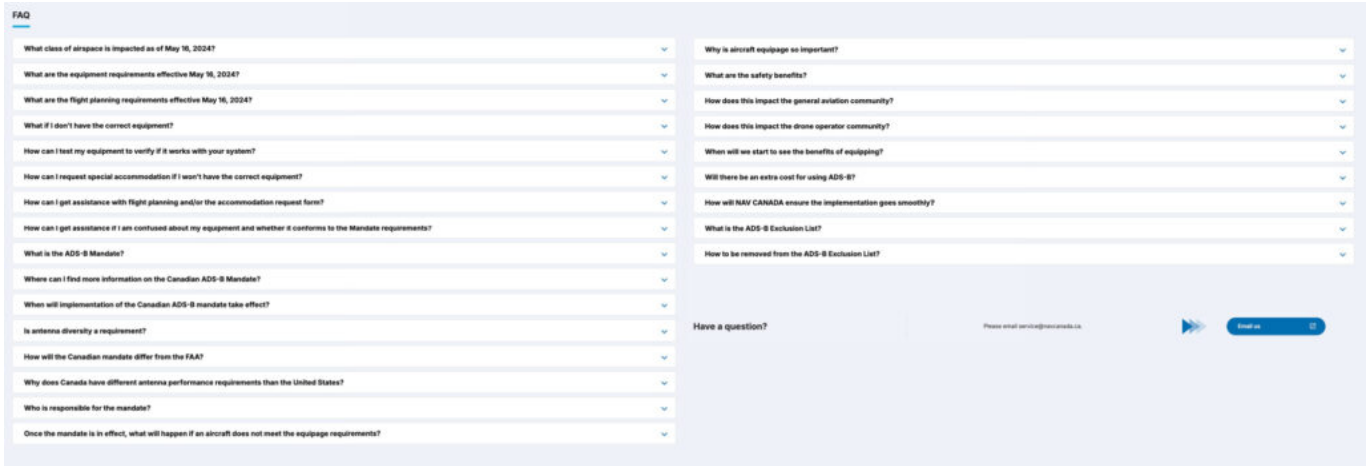
- NavCanada will do their best to accommodate aircraft who don't have the right gear on board, in the same way they'll work to fit non-transponder equipped aircraft into transponder mandatory airspace.
- They'll assess each application on a **first-come, first-served basis.** It takes time to figure out behind the scenes, and so you'll need to ask **at least three business days** before your flight.
- There may also be suggested re-routes to make your request possible, along with special comments to include in Item 18 of your flight plan.

- **You can apply for an exemption online, here.** If you have a number of flights to operate, you can also submit a blanket request via service@navcanada.ca.

To enter mandated airspace without ADS-B, you'll need prior approval. Click the image above for that.

More Info

You can find that in the Canadian AIP (ENR 1.6.3), or even better – this page from NavCanada dedicated to the ADS-B Mandate. This includes a fairly extensive FAQ section at the bottom.



All your Canada ADS-B questions answered!