

NTSB: Current NOTAM system is “just a bunch of garbage”

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27 September, 2018



You were all very supportive when we wrote the initial article on the BS Notam problem last year, and have followed our journey in fixing the problem since then.

Big news!

The NTSB called the Notam System a bunch of garbage on Tuesday this week, and assigned probable cause of the AC759 incident in SFO to the Notams that were missed.

What this means to OpsGroup is massive fuel to our fire: we are working hard to fix this problem, and having a public facing government organisation like the NTSB come down like a ton of bricks on the Notam System drives us forward in leaps and bounds.

The group members have been decisive in helping us to identify the problem and taking action to fix this. So, we want to acknowledge all of you! Great work!

THE FIVE NOTAM PROBLEMS

CHARACTER SET all caps, 1924 ITA2

CODING TOO MANY CNFSNG ABBREVS

CRAP foxes, flocks of birds and fireworks

COUNT 1.5 million a year, growing

CONTROL by the state – no trust

In solving two of the above five problems, we have been working with ICAO for several months now. You all got involved in **Norm**, and 17,000 Notams later, we happy to report that version 0.1 of Norm is now live on the ICAO website. Norm is a bot - an AI, that has learned what Notams look like, and thanks to OpsGroup rating these 17,000 Notams, is also learning which ones are critical and which ones are not.

He's still young. He doesn't get everything, but if you feed him a Notam you'll see him assign it a criticality of 1-5.

This will in turn allow us to sort Notams, putting the most important stuff first.



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- Approach Paths
- Map Builder

Chat with NORM



Norm in action

There are over 30,000 NOTAMS out there at any moment in time. Some are **critical**, most are not. ICAO and Flight Service Bureau have presented experts from all around the world with a random selection of NOTAMS and asked them to rate them. We have collected over 16000 responses!

We then trained an artificial intelligence algorithm named "**Norm**" (NOTAM Organizational and Recognition Model) on those human classified NOTAMS. Norm had to identify critical NOTAMS and highlight them.

So Norm is here! He kind of gets the criticality. You can see his evaluations of some NOTAMS. You can also provide him with a NOTAM to get his evaluation.