

# Philippines: Down The Permit Rabbit Hole

David Mumford

30 April, 2024



## Key Points

- **Charter/Non-Sched/Pt135 landings in the Philippines need a Foreign Air Operator Certificate (FAOC).**
- **It's a bit of a pain to get one. Takes 2-3 weeks, but local agents can help get a landing permit while the FAOC is in process.**
- **Read below for the latest on all Philippines Permits**

## A Cautionary Tale

An OPSGROUP member recently reported the following:

- *To operate non-scheduled air services into the Philippines we were told that we need a **Foreign Air Operators Certificate**.*
- *We were also asked to supply an **ICAO Airline Three letter code**. This is not something as a non-scheduled operator that we believe we can get!*
- *We used a local agent as our Third Party. They supplied the FAOC application form.*
- *We were successful in getting a **one-off permit**, however we still had to complete everything in the application form.*
- *We haven't determined if what we have submitted now as a one-off will be sufficient for the entire FAOC application - we'll find out soon...*

## The Application Form

You can download it here:

The image displays three pages of the CAAP Application Form for Validation of Air Operator Certificate. The first page (Page 1 of 3) contains sections 1 through 10, including company information, proposed start date, operational management personnel, and proposed types of operations. The second page (Page 2 of 3) contains sections 11 through 14, including the applicant's certification, evaluation by CAAP, and remarks. The third page (Page 3 of 3) contains the requirements for application, including a list of documents to be submitted and the address for the application.

Click for PDF.

## What are the Philippines Permit Requirements?

Here's some **utterly useless official stuff** to "help" start you on your journey.

## The Philippines AIP

The image is a screenshot of the Aeronautical Information Services (AIS) website. The header features the title "AERONAUTICAL INFORMATION SERVICES" and a navigation bar with links: Home, eServices, NOTAM, Advisory, Weather, Database, and Login. Below the navigation bar, there is a banner for "PUBLICATION" with the text: "Publication Section reproduce, assembles and publish aeronautical information necessary for the international and Philippine Flight Information Publications (AIP) and Aeronautical Information Circulars (AIC) of the following". A pop-up window is displayed in the center, showing the URL "ats.caap.gov.ph" and the text: "Please log-in to use this service. This site is a beta version and for testing purposes only." Below the pop-up, there is a list of services: Aeronautical Information Publication (AIP), Amendment Service to the AIP (AIP AMDT), Supplement to the AIP (AIP SUP), Aeronautical Information Circulars (AIC), and Checklists and NOTAM Summaries. At the bottom, there is a footer with contact information: "Any content-related questions? Email us at philaisops@gmail.com. Any technical issue? Contact AeroInfodotCom. Copyright 2008. Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines. All Rights Reserved."

Click for... a dead end.

Requires a log-in. Don't have one, and can't get one. Website doesn't even load most days.

I sent them an email and got a reply saying that even if you have a login, the site *doesn't actually have the eAIP on it*. But if you would like to pay them \$324 USD each year, they can send you a hard copy.

Nope.

## Philippines CAA Website

The screenshot shows the official website of the Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines. The header includes navigation links: GOVPH, Home, About Us, Governance, Downloadables, Career Opportunities, and Contact Us. A search bar contains the text 'eAIP'. The main banner features the CAA logo and the text 'REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines'. The search results section displays 'SEARCH RESULTS FOR: EAIP' and 'NOTHING FOUND'. A message states: 'It seems we can't find what you're looking for. Perhaps searching can help.' Below this is a search bar with the text 'eAIP'.

Click for... nothing.

Searched for "eAIP". Nothing found. Moved on.

## GEN 1.2

Backdoor access achieved via the EAD website! We have found the elusive AIP GEN 1.2!

AP PHILIPPINES	GEN 1.2-1 25 AUG 11	GEN 1.2-2 25 AUG 11	AP PHILIPPINES	AP PHILIPPINES	GEN 1.2-3 25 AUG 11
GEN 1.2	ENTRY, TRANSIT AND DEPARTURE OF AIRCRAFT	2. Scheduled Rights			
1. General		2.1 General			
1.1 International flights into, from or over Philippine territory shall be subject to the current Philippine regulations relating to civil aviation. These regulations correspond in all essentials to the Standards and Recommended Practices contained in Annex 9 to the Convention on International Civil Aviation.		2.1.1 For regular international scheduled flights operated by foreign airlines into or in transit across the Philippines, the following requirements must be met:			(c) date and time of arrival at, and departure from an aerodrome;
1.2 Aircraft flying into or departing from Philippine territory shall make their first landing at, or final departure from, an international aerodrome/airport (see AIP Philippines, AD 1.3 and AD 2.1).		a) The State of the airline must be a party to the International Air Services Transit Agreement and/or the International Air Transport Agreement wherein the Philippines is a party to both Agreements;			d) place or places of embarkation or disembarkation aimed, as the case may be, of passengers and/or freight;
1.3 For reasons of national security, all aircraft flights originating from foreign countries which will overfly or land on Philippine territory are monitored to ensure that such flight will not be normal or require to national security. Thus, as a standing policy, all aircraft of foreign registry, except scheduled air carriers desiring to overfly Philippine airspace, or to land in Philippine territory are required to secure diplomatic clearance, before operating such flights. For purpose of this procedure, Philippine airspace is not considered according to its legal definition as internationally accepted but is meant to be the airspace covered by the Philippine Air Defense Identification Zone (PADIZ) and, in the case of Mindanao, Palawan and the Sulu archipelago, the airspace within the Philippine treaty boundaries.		b) The airline must be eligible to make the flights under the provision of a bilateral or multilateral agreement to which the State of the airline and the Philippines are contracting parties;			e) purpose of flight and number of passengers and/or nature and amount of freight; and
1.4 All operators of Philippine registered aircraft being used for transport of passengers, especially tourists or cargo shall furnish the Flight Operations Briefing Station or appropriate Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines facilities at their base of operation a copy of their current CAB certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity and CAAP Air Carrier Operating Certificate. In the absence of said certificates, the CAAP office concerned shall require the operator to show proof that his aircraft is not operated for lease, charter or remuneration and that they are transporting only their company personnel or cargo.		c) and the airline must have a permit to operate into or in transit across the Philippines. Applications for such permits shall be submitted to the Civil Aeronautics Board, only furnished the Department of Foreign Affairs with address found on AIP page GEN 1.1.1			f) name, address and business of charterer if any.
1.5 All general aviation shall have a dual ADF and VOR instruments installed in their aircraft as requirement of IFR rating.		2.2 Documentary requirements for clearance of aircraft			3.1.3 Military exit clearance for international non-scheduled commercial air carrier is no longer required.
1.6 Subject to the observance of the applicable rules, conditions and limitations set forth in this document and in legislation described in GEN 1.6, foreign civil aircraft registered in any foreign country which at the time is a member of the ICAC may be navigated in the Philippines.		2.2.1 It is necessary that the undermentioned aircraft documents be submitted by airline operators for clearance on entry and departure of their aircraft to and from the Philippines. All documents listed below must follow the ICAC Standard format as set forth in the relevant appendices to ICAC Annex 9 and are acceptable when furnished in English only and completed in legible handwriting. No visas are required in connection with such documents.			3.2 Documentary requirements for clearance of aircraft
1.7 Aircraft registered under the laws of foreign countries, not members of the ICAC, which grant regional treatment to the Philippine aircraft and airmen may be navigated in the Philippines, subject to the observance of same rules, conditions and limitations applicable in the case of aircraft of ICAC member states.		2.2.2 Aircraft documents required (arrival/departure)			3.2.1 Same requirements as for SCHEDULED FLIGHTS.
1.8 Commercial air transport operators in the Philippines must adhere to Annex 6 (Operation of Aircraft) and/or to corresponding national regulations with the provision that aircraft which have no operator's local representative available to them will be required to carry a fixed fuel reserve of not less than 45 minutes at the approved fuel consumption rate, plus a variable reserve equivalent to 15% of the fuel required from departure to destination and to an alternate. If an alternate is required or when the reserve calculated in accordance with the above exceeds two (2) hours of the approved fuel consumption rate - less (2) hour reserve fuel.		Required by	General Declaration	Passenger Manifest	Cargo Manifest
		a. Immigration	2	2	-
		b. Customs	1	1	1
		c. Health	1	1	-
		NOTE:			
		a) One copy of the General Declaration is endorsed and returned by Customs, signifying clearance.			
		b) If no passengers are embarking (disembarking) and no articles are taken (loaded), no aircraft documents except copies of the General Declaration need be submitted to the above authorities.			
		3. Non-scheduled flights			
		3.1 Procedures			
		3.1.1 If an operator intends to carry out a (series of) non-scheduled flight(s) in transit across, or making non-traffic stops in the territory of the Philippines, it is necessary for the operator to obtain prior permission.			
		3.1.2 If an operator intends to perform a (series of) non-scheduled flight(s) into the Philippines for the purpose of taking on or discharging passengers, cargo or mail, it is necessary for the operator to apply to Civil Aeronautics Board for permission to carry out such operations not less than twenty-four hours in advance of the intended landing. The application must include the following information in the order shown hereunder:			
		a) name of operator;			
		b) type of aircraft and registration marks;			
CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY OF THE PHILIPPINES	AIRAC AIP AMDT 04471	AIRAC AIP AMDT 04471	CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY OF THE PHILIPPINES	CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY OF THE PHILIPPINES	AIRAC AIP AMDT 04471

Click for... words and numbers, passed through the digestive tract of a bird, and then re-arranged into some vague semblance of order.

But wait... it's dated 2011, and is an enraging mix of INCORRECT INFO and NOTHINGY PAP.

The quest continues...

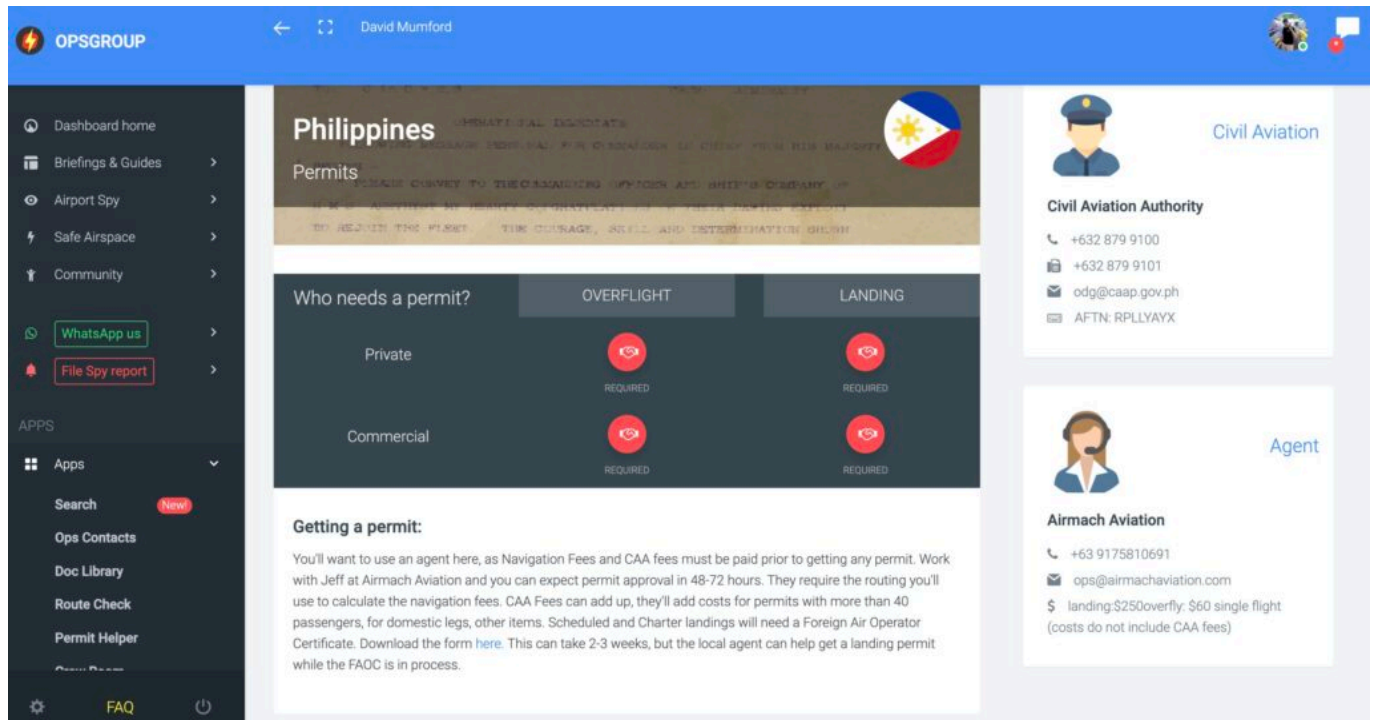
## Ask An Expert

We asked Jeff at Airmach Aviation for help – a local agent in the Philippines who knows **all the answers**:

- **All flights need a permit.** Landings, overflights, private, charter, scheduled, weird non-standard airworthiness... whatever you're doing, if you enter Philippines airspace, you need a permit.
- You'll want to use an agent here, as **Navigation Fees** and **CAA fees** must be paid prior to getting any permit.
- Permit approvals take anywhere between **48-72 hours**.
- They require the routing you'll use to calculate the **navigation fees**.
- **Permit fees** can add up, especially for Charter flights as there are different permits you need to get – one from CAAP (the CAA) and another from CAB ( Civil Aeronautics Board).
- Scheduled and Charter landings will need a **Foreign Air Operator Certificate**.

OPSGROUP members can access all this info via the **Permit Helper** app on the Dashboard. This tool has **permit info for every country in the world** – what's required, and who to contact to get your permit.





Click for... clarity.

## Tell me about the Foreign Air Operator Certificate one more time

- This is required for Non-Scheduled (i.e. Charter/Pt135 landings) as well as Scheduled (i.e. Airline) flights landing in the Philippines.
- The application form is [here](#).
- Download it, fill it in, gather together the required docs listed in the form, and ask a local agent in the Philippines to get it for you. We recommend Airmach Aviation. Other agents are out there.
- Yes, you could try going direct to the authorities instead (CAAP: [odg@caap.gov.ph](mailto:odg@caap.gov.ph)). We once knew some people who tried. Their bodies have never been found.

Have you been through this FAOC process? **Got any extra tips to share?** Or maybe you've operated a flight to the Philippines recently and have some stories to share? Let us know!

# Germany issue new warnings, Manila may not ban GA after all

Cynthia Claros  
30 April, 2024

# INTERNATIONAL BULLETIN

ISSUED BY FLIGHT SERVICE BUREAU

SITA HNLFSXH AKLFSXH AFTN KMCOXAAL

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**Germany issues new warnings** 25JAN **Germany has issued fresh warnings** on the airspace of Egypt, South Sudan, and North Korea, in three separate Notams issued in the last week. We have updated the SafeAirspace.net country information pages with the specifics. [Read the article](#)

**Manila may not ban GA after all** 25JAN RPLL/Manila is not moving as quickly towards a complete ban of non-scheduled and General Aviation traffic as feared. This is good news for International Operators. [Read the article.](#)

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**HEZZ/Egypt, HSZZ/South Sudan, ZKZZ/North Korea** Germany has issued fresh warnings on the airspace of Egypt, South Sudan, and North Korea, in three separate Notams issued in the last week. We have updated the SafeAirspace.net country information pages with the specifics.

**RPLL/Manila** is not moving as quickly towards a complete ban of non-scheduled and General Aviation traffic as feared. This is good news for International Operators. [Read the article.](#)

**NTAA/Tahiti** The airport is open again as of Monday morning local time, after closing due to flooding after torrential rains, but many taxiways remain flooded. Expect delays in handling and tech stops.

**KZZZ/USA** Announced yesterday and expected to come into force this week, is an immediate ban on US visas (and therefore US travel) for citizens from 7 countries: Iraq, Iran, Syria, Yemen, Sudan, Somalia and Libya. This is distinct from the Visa Waiver Program ban in effect since January 2016.

**GBZZ/Gambia** FSB Risk Level changed from Level Three to "No Warnings" on Jan 24. New president has taken power. Parliament revoked State of Emergency. Situation calm.

**SBZZ/Brazil** In the last bulletin we had a headline about a Boeing 767 shot on approach in Brazil. A bullet was found lodged in the wing. Some updates to that story are here, and [safeairspace.net's Brazilpage](#) is updated.

**VZZZ/Southeast Asia** Don't forget it's New Year in Asia this weekend. Travel-related delays and government office and business interruptions will peak 27 Jan to 01 Feb, and could last longer in Taiwan, Vietnam and China, where the holiday will be celebrated through 02 Feb.

**EDDB/Berlin Brandenburg** will now not open until 2018, as they found more problems with the fire system this week. This is a recurring story, which dates back to 2012. So, for the foreseeable, you're stuck with Tegel and Schoenefeld.

**LTFJ/Sabiha Gökçen (Istanbul)** Due to insufficient capacity at LTFJ, applications for individual non-scheduled flights will be refused, and private/charter flights can only be operated at "non-busy hours".

**KBPI/Palm Beach** is going to see some new TFR restrictions due to the proximity of Donald Trump's Mar-a-Lago estate. If operating when he's down here, you'll have to depart from a gateway airport to PBI – those are TEB, HPN, IAD, MCO and FLL. NBAA has the details.

**LSGG/Geneva** EBACE is on from Monday, 22 May through Wednesday, 24 May 2017. Now would be a good time to get those slots booked if you're planning to head over.

**LFMN/Nice** has a new procedure where ATC will alert crews to windshear.

**MSLP/San Salvador**'s only runway 07/25 will be closed from 1600-1700 each day until Feb 3rd.

**VGHS/Dhaka** The UK Department for Transport (DfT) announced today that it recently carried out assessments of security at Dhaka International Airport. Following this, the DfT has assessed that security at Dhaka airport does not meet some international security requirements (they haven't said which).

**OMAD/Abu Dhabi (Al Bateen)** is hosting the International Defence Exhibition in February, so will not be available to IFR traffic daily between 0600-0800Z until Feb 23rd. There are also restrictions on using it as an alternate.

**DNAA/Abuja** The latest on the Abuja closure is that it will be completely closed to all traffic from March 8th – April 19th.

**SKCG/Cartagena**'s only runway 01/19 is closed daily 0530-1100Z until Feb 6th.

**NVZZ/Vanuatu** Health authorities have declared a dengue outbreak following a large increase in suspected cases in December 2016 and January 2017. Protect yourself against mosquito bites

**WSZZ/Singapore** is implementing the new ICAO SID/STAR phraseologies from March 2nd. Read AIP SUP 29/17.

**LIRF/Rome Fiumicino** is working on 16R until March, so 25 will be used for depts and 16L for arrivals. This means delays, especially if you want 16L/34R for departure – they say up to a 60 minute taxi time.

**UKZZ/Ukraine** amended the military boundaries of its airspace on Monday Jan 23rd, identifying the Donbas conflict zone region as a separate area. More details [here](#).

View the full International bulletin 25JAN2017

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# Manila's GA ban-plan may be softening - RPLL

Declan Selleck  
30 April, 2024



**RPLL/Manila** is not moving as quickly towards a complete ban of non-scheduled and General Aviation traffic as feared. This is good news for International Operators.

Background: The airport is heavily congested, it's a big deal in the Philippines, and the President himself started the action to fix things.

The original plan was that February 2017 would see all GA traffic moved to other airports (aka RPLC/Clark or RPLB/Subic Bay). For international operators, neither of these are great alternatives. Clark can be a 3 hour drive to Manila, and Subic Bay is further again, with about a 4 hour drive.

However, the original threat of moving everything that isn't line traffic out of RPLL might have dissipated. The NAIA Airport Company has now introduced some hefty slot restrictions for GA:

- 2 GA movements from **0600-1200** local time
- No GA movements between **1200-1900**
- Slots will be assigned only 24 hours in advance for domestic flights
- Slots will be assigned maximum **15 days in advance for international flights**

The word on the ground (as of January 25th) from the local handling agents, is that the Airport Authority is evaluating whether this might be a sufficient restriction for GA. It seems that they don't want to exclude GA or non-scheduled flights entirely. We'll keep you posted.



**TO : ALL CONCERNED**  
**FROM : Acting Chief, ATS**  
**Subject : GenAv Operations Runway Capacity**

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1. General Aviation operations and Aerial works shall be prohibited to use NAIA from 1200H to 1900H Local Time daily, except helicopter operations, medical evacuations and aircraft on emergency.
2. Moreover, General Aviation operations and Aerial works shall be limited to only two (2) cycles per hour from 0600H to 1200H Local Time daily.
3. Nevertheless, aircraft movements at NAIA shall not exceed the declared runway capacity.
4. To ensure compliance with the above the parameters, the following rules on General Aviation operations are laid down:
  - a. Flight Plans for Domestic operations may be filed in advance with the Manila FSS but the assignment of slot(s) shall only take place 24 hours before its PTD.
  - b. Flight Plans for International operations may be filed in advance with the Manila FSS but the assignment of slot(s) shall only take place 15 days before its PTD.
  - c. All Domestic and International General Aviation flights are covered under the slot allocation system of Manila FSS all the time of the day.

All Domestic and International General Aviation flights departing and arriving Manila shall, as a condition for the provision of ATC clearance, secure a slot from Manila FSS.

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## **Midweek Briefing: Tokyo Typhoon, New NAT Procedure**

Cynthia Claros  
30 April, 2024



# INTERNATIONAL BULLETIN

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**Typhoon for Tokyo** 07SEP Tropical Storm Malou is tracking towards Tokyo and expected to intensify. Multiple Japanese airports are likely to be affected ... [Read the article](#)

**New Shanwick / NAT procedure** 07SEP Shortly all FANS 1/A flights will get a "CONFIRM ASSIGNED ROUTE" message from Oceanic ATC (Shanwick, Reykjavik, Gander) shortly after entering their OACC, to mitigate against Gross Nav Errors. [Read the article](#)

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**HHZZ/Eritrea** The US State Dept has issued a Travel Warning for Eritrea which warns of the risks of travel to Eritrea due to the unpredictable security situation along Eritrea's borders and restrictions imposed by local authorities on travel within the country. All foreign nationals, including U.S. government employees, must obtain permits to travel outside of the capital Asmara. This restriction limits the ability of the U.S. Embassy to provide consular/emergency services anywhere outside of Asmara. This replaces the Travel Warning dated May 6, 2015. Avoid travel along all border regions. In June 2016, fighting in the Ethiopia-Eritrea border region reportedly caused several deaths. Continued political and military tensions between Eritrea and the neighboring countries of Djibouti and Ethiopia pose the threat of possible renewed conflict. Due to regional sensitivities, the State Department also recommends against travel to the border region with Sudan.

**WSSS/Singapore** will be super busy during the Grand Prix weekend 14-18SEP. Ask for a slot before operating, if you don't get one, use Seletar instead.

**RPLL/Manila** has a couple of new procedures for non-scheduled flights. First, traffic arriving between 2200-0400Z daily - the peak period - should look for a slot from Manila FSS - who are at [mfss.staff@gmail.com](mailto:mfss.staff@gmail.com), or call 2 944 2098/99. Once you have the slot, get your EDCT from Manila ATC. If operating domestically, file the flight plan between 2 and 24 hrs prior departure.

**DNBC/Bauchi** is a new airport designator in Nigeria for the Tafawa Balewa International Airport.

**VLVT/Vientiane, Laos** The 28th and 29th ASEAN Annual Heads of State Summit is being held in Vientiane from 5 to 9 September; there will be road closures and delays in arrivals and departures of both international and domestic flights at Wattay International Airport.

**FOZZ/Gabon** has seen multiple security warnings in the last few days, following a disputed election result.

Widespread, violent demonstrations, rioting, looting, and road blocks continue, both in Libreville and other cities throughout Gabon. At this time the airport in Libreville is open and operational and commercial flights are available. The US Embassy recommends U.S. citizens remain in a safe location and avoid non-essential movement.

**MMSD/Los Cabos, Mexico** Hurricane Newton has passed and Los Cabos airport has officially re-opened its commercial operations, no major damage reported.

**EBOS/Ostende Air BP** is no longer providing Jet A1 fuel here.

**EKOD/Odense** will be closed on 22SEP due to an event. Jet fuel not available. You can email [twr@hca-airport.dka](mailto:twr@hca-airport.dka) for further.

**HELX/Luxor Radio**, which previously operated on HF5859 and 2562, is now off the air.

**LZIB/Bratislava** will require slots for all operations 15-17SEP, small GA aircraft not welcome on these days. Email [slots@bts.aero](mailto:slots@bts.aero).

**FNZZ/Angola** The WHO has provided an update on the yellow fever outbreak in Angola and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). The WHO estimates that there have been 6,000 suspected and 1,000 laboratory confirmed cases of yellow fever since the outbreak began in Angola in December 2015. More than 400 people have died from the mosquito-borne disease since that time. However, the last confirmed case in Angola was on 23 June and in the DRC was on 12 July, which the WHO believes is an encouraging sign. Nevertheless, the organization still characterizes the outbreak as “serious” and as requiring “sustained, controlled measures.” Thus far, 22 million people in Angola and 14 million people in the DRC have received vaccinations against yellow fever as part of a large-scale initiative that was prompted by this outbreak.

**SARI/Cataratas** is permanently downgraded to RFF Category 6.

**URRR/Rostov** wins the prize this week for clogging up the Notam system; the runway there is closed 29 times between now and October 21st, and they have therefore issued 29 Notams. Perfect.

**SPQU/Arequipa, Peru** is not allowing overnights until 11SEP due capacity. Non-scheduled flights limited to 3 hours parking.

[View full International Bulletin 07SEP2016](#)

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## Runway Damage at Manila

Declan Selleck  
30 April, 2024



The main runway at RPLL/Manila, RWY 06/24, was closed on Monday 18JUL after heavy rain caused large chunks of asphalt to disintegrate. One of the last aircraft to land, shown below, suffered damage to an inboard flap section.

At least 10 flights diverted to Clark International Airport (RPLC/CRK), 50nm northwest of the city.

The runway was tentatively reopened on Tuesday, but consideration to future similar issues should be given, if further rain occurs.





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## **Pavlof Eruption wreaking havoc, Brussels Airport remains closed: Midweek Briefing 30MAR**

Cynthia Claros  
30 April, 2024



# INTERNATIONAL BULLETIN

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**Pavlof Eruption wreaking havoc** 30MAR16 Volcano Pavlof erupted on Sunday and is currently on aviation colour code 'RED'. It has caused havoc for North Pacific, Alaskan and Northern Canadian operations. The latest predictions have the ash upwards of FL400 and extending over Northern Alaska and Canada. You can find the latest information through the Alaskan VAAC.

**Brussels Airport remains closed** 30MAR16 EBBR is still closed with the possibility of opening later this week. Currently all commercial flights are still prohibited from operating into EBBR. Only ferry, emergency, SAR, State, general aviation and cargo flights are authorized with a slot that can be coordinated through the Belgium Slot Coordination website.

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**EZZZ/Europe** The U.S. State Department along with numerous other countries have issued a Europe wide travel warning in response to the attack in Brussels. While extra vigilance should be exercised it is also a very generic response to a threat that has yet to fully understood from a commercial aviation perspective. If you would like to be kept up to date on specific travel alerts from the U.S. State Department you can sign up through their STEP program.

**FAA/United States** there have been 583 reported hazards from Aug 22/2015-Jan 31/2015 between aircraft and Drones. None of these incidents have caused any collisions or damage but extra vigilance must be exercised until the FAA can regulate the use of these drones in the terminal areas.

**RPHI/Manila** has issued an advisory for aircraft operating in the vicinity of the Bulusan Volcano and the Kanlaon Volcano due to an alert level 1 of activity. Flights operating in the vicinity are advised to avoid flying close to the summit.

**LFXX/France** a general strike has been declared for March 31st. Possible impact to airline operations. Please make sure you check with Eurocontrol or FIR NOTAMs for further restrictions.

**FXXX/Nigeria** The NNPC or Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation has stated that steps are currently being taken to end the countries fuel shortage but may take upwards up 2 months. Please check with local handlers for the availability aviation fuel supply until the issue is resolved.

**LXXX/Turkey** has issued a nationwide terror alert and the Israeli Counter-Terrorism Bureau has advised



for all of it's citizens to leave the country. Extra vigilance should be exercised if operating to and from Turkey for the foreseeable future.

**UXXX/Russia** has stated that aviation authorities are intensifying it's inspections of aircraft from Russian and International budget carriers in wake of the Rostov-on-Don accident.

**DGAC/Ghana FIR** issued NOTAM A0128/16 due to VHF freq 130.9 being not reliable for all Oceanic traffic entering ACCRA FIR from the South East due to maintenance. All traffic must contact ACCRA on HF 8903KHZ or logon to ADS-C/CPDC "DGAC" until positive VHF contact is established.

**VNKT/Katmandu** There have been a few reports that the Tower at VNKT has been reporting erroneous weather to pilots. One example of such a report was "Tower informed us that there was some 3 km of visibility this morning but it to be less than 1.5 km while Kathmandu was engulfed by haze". If you encounter any issues while operating into VNKT please send us a note to [bulletins@fsbureau.org](mailto:bulletins@fsbureau.org).

**VIAR/Amritsar** has suspended all night operations for 1 year due to the planned reconstruction of the airports runways.

**VTBD/Bangkok** Officials approved an expansion that will allow for more aircraft, passengers and vehicle parking. The plan also includes provisions to cut landing fees during off-peak hours at VTBD and VTBS in an effort to increase usage of both airports. The project includes plans to extend the runway, add office buildings, and create additional parking zones for aircraft. The expansion is expected to be completed in 2025.

**Angola** The Ministry of Health in Angola has reported an ongoing outbreak of yellow fever in Luanda Province. The government of Angola requires all travelers older than 9 months to show proof of yellow fever vaccination on arrival. The CDC has a 'Watch Level 1, Practice Usual Precautions' advisory in place.

**FAA/United States** has issued Advisory Circular 00-30C. It describes the various types of CAT (Clear Air Turbulence) along with avoidance techniques and possible future forecast systems for helping Dispatchers and Pilots in the planning stages for proactive flight planning.

View the full International Bulletin for 30MAR2016

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## Midweek Briefing: Residual Disinsection for Italy, New Moscow Airport

Cynthia Claros  
30 April, 2024

## INTERNATIONAL BULLETIN

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**Italy now requiring Residual Disinsection** 17FEB In light of the spreading global coverage of Zika Virus cases, countries are rapidly changing rules related to Quarantine and Health. Italy is now requiring residual aircraft disinsection for every aircraft coming from any area, not only Zika affected ones.

**Moscow Ramenskoye opens to civil traffic** 17FEB UUBW/Moscow Ramenskoye, which previously served as a military airfield, is scheduled to open to civil traffic as an International Airport on 16MAR, becoming the fourth Moscow Airport. **Read more ...**

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**UUBW/Moscow Ramenskoye**, which previously served as a military airfield, is scheduled to open to civilians as an International Airport on 15MAR2016. The airport will be Moscow's fourth largest and is expected to serve approximately 1.9 million passengers per year. Russian Railways is planning on constructing a direct rail link between the facility and Moscow. **Read the full article.**

**Worldwide** As the mosquito-borne Zika virus spreads worldwide, some health and aviation authorities have begun targeting business aircraft to be treated with insecticide – similar to requirements that have been in place for commercial aircraft arriving from certain points of origin. The most prominent to date is Italy, which has reported several recent cases of the Zika virus affecting people who returned from trips to South America and the Caribbean. A "Certificate of Residual Disinsection" is now required for all aircraft operating in Italy, following recommended WHO and International Civil Aviation Organization Annex 9 procedures. Italy had originally limited the certificate requirement to aircraft arriving from Zika-affected countries, but "within 36 hours that changed" to all countries. Authorities in Costa Rica are requiring that aircraft arriving from affected countries be sprayed on arrival – with crew, passengers and luggage aboard – with an insecticide provided by the local agriculture department.

**UADD/Taraz, Kazakhstan** has been upgraded to RFF/Rescue Fire CAT9, and with regular international flights starting in June, should have customs available. Maybe become a useful Central Asian en-route

alternate.

**UKLV/Lviv FIR, Ukraine** A new Notam (A0193/16) is issued to extend the ban in Ukrainian Airspace of any aircraft operator registered in the Russian Federation until 09MAY.

**NWWW/Noumea** has multiple runway (and therefore airport) closures until 25FEB, check Notams carefully if operating.

**NZAA/Auckland** Work is currently in progress on the threshold of RWY 23L with the threshold inset 2,270m. The information is contained within AIP updates and not via NOTAM. Operators should note there is are no ILS approaches available at Auckland until 30MAR. While weather is usually very good during February and March operators can expect delays in poor wx.

**NZQN/Queenstown** is closed from 1800 each day until 31MAR for runway widening works.

**AYPY/Port Moresby** Telecoms outage continues. To contact ATC Centre use (675) 325 8704 instead of published numbers. Multiple VHF freqs out of service, use HF 5565 as alternate.

**RPHI/Manila** has a radar outage on 18-19FEB meaning procedural control will affect the Luzon island area within the FIR, 10/15 minute enroute separation as standard.

**Somalia** A local terrorist organisation claimed responsibility for the bombing of a Daallo Airlines passenger aircraft on 02FEB shortly after it took off from Mogadishu's Aden Adde International Airport (HCMM/MGO). The bombing forced the Airbus A321-111 to make an emergency landing at Mogadishu's airport.

**South Africa** Refurbishment will affect Johannesburg's OR Tambo International Airport (FAOR/JNB) beginning 13FEB when security and immigration will move from Terminal A to the Central Terminal. Slow processing expected until end March.

**US and Cuba advance Air Service agreement** US officials will travel to Havana to officially sign the agreement that will make the two countries a step closer for its first commercial flights. Once the US-Cuba air travel pact that was agreed upon on 16DEC2015 will be finalized, airlines will have about two weeks to submit applications for US-Cuba routes with the US Department of Transport and get approval from Cuban authorities to obtain space at Cuban airports. Industry experts expect that the first Cuba-bound flights will be in the air sometime in 2016.

View the full International Bulletin 17FEB2016

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## Midweek Briefing: Mexico Volcano Eruption, Atlantic MNPS is over... Introducing HLA

Cynthia Claros  
30 April, 2024



**Mexico Volcano Eruption** 29JAN Popocatepetl Volcano, which is 55 kilometres southeast of Mexico City, had its last major eruption in 2000; it erupted on Tuesday this week affecting flight operations at **MMPB/Puebla**, and with the risk of further eruptions affecting operations in Mexico City itself.

**Atlantic MNPS is over... introducing HLA** 29JAN Effective next week, 04FEB, there are another round of changes on the North Atlantic – HLA/High Level Airspace is the replacement for MNPS, and the airspace is extended with Bodø joining Shanwick, Gander, Reykjavik, New York, and Santa Maria. Read our **International Ops Notice 01/2016**.

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**North Atlantic** Effective 04FEB MNPS Airspace is replaced by HLA/High Level Airspace on the North Atlantic – extended with Bodø joining Shanwick, Gander, Reykjavik, New York, and Santa Maria. RNP4 or RNP10 now required. Read our **International Ops Notice 01/2016** or our blog post: **Did you know MNPS is over?**

**TTxx/Trinidad and Tobago** The annual Carnival in Port of Spain will take place on February 8 and 9, 2016. Travel and tourism activities are expected to continue for up to two weeks after the celebration and will be busiest during weekends. February 10, 2016 (Ash Wednesday) is expected to be the busiest day of the year at the Port of Spain airport. February 8 to 9, 2016 is also expected to be a congested time for departures.

**KSFO/Super Bowl 50** The FAA will not be imposing a slot-based special traffic management program for the game on 08FEB, but ramp reservations, made through specific FBOs, will be required for all arrivals and departures from 04-08FEB. The rule will apply to all airports in the region, including San Francisco International, Oakland International, Hayward Executive, Norman Y. Mineta San Jose International, Livermore Municipal, Buchanan Field, Napa County, Charles M. Schulz-Sonoma County, Monterey Regional, Watsonville Municipal and Salinas Municipal. NBAA has set up a Super Bowl 50 information page that includes links to the FAA arrival/departure routes.

**Uxxx/Tajikistan** The U.K.'s Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) issued updated travel advice for Tajikistan that reads as follows: "In early September 2015, armed clashes involving security forces resulted in a number of deaths close to Dushanbe International Airport and in the Romit Valley not far from Dushanbe. While tensions have eased, security remains heightened. You should continue to take extra care, monitor the local media and check this advice regularly."

**KFZZ/Falcon Field, Arizona** In January and February, Runways 4R/22L and 4L/22R at Falcon Field Airport (FFZ) in Mesa, AZ will be closed non-concurrently for the taxiway ALPHA realignment construction project. These are hard closures with no potential for runway recall. Runway 4L/22R had closed Jan. 12, at 6 a.m. (1300Z) and will remain closed until Saturday, Jan. 30, 2016. Runway 4R/22L is expected to close Monday, Feb. 1, at 6 a.m. (1300Z) and remain closed until Sunday, Feb. 15.

**Kxxx/United States** A few weeks ago we reported on new FAA FDC NOTAMs that eliminate the need to obtain a TSA Waiver for domestic flights in the US. on 17JAN The FAA has corrected an error in these (in simple terms, they forgot to include some previously issued exceptions), and so there are 3 brand new NOTAMS effective – these are 6/4255, 6/4256 and 6/4260. Got some time? **Read the original NOTAMs in full.**

**Mxxx/Mexico** The U.S. Department of State warns U.S. citizens about the risk of traveling to certain places in Mexico due to threats to safety and security posed by organized criminal groups in the country. U.S. citizens have been the victims of violent crimes, such as homicide, kidnapping, carjacking, and robbery by organized criminal groups in various Mexican states. This Travel Warning replaces the Travel Warning for Mexico, issued May 5, 2015

**EISN/Shannon FIR** Due to a number of flights deviating from clearances prior to exiting Shanwick OCA, flight crews are reminded that Eastbound route clearances issued by Shannon Control for aircraft exiting Oceanic Airspace apply from AGORI, SUNOT, BILTO, PIKIL, ETARI, RESNO, VENER, DOGAL, NEBIN, MALOT, TOBOR, LIMRI, ADARA, DINIM, RODEL, SOMAX, KOGAD, BEDRA, OMOKO, TAMEL AND LASNO. Flights shall not turn before these points.

**Uxxx/Russia** The Russian Institute of Volcanology has issued a code orange alert after Russia's Zhupanovsky volcano began erupting earlier this week, sending clouds of ash and gas to 27,000 ft. A code orange advises pilots to avoid flying near the ash cloud, reportedly moving over the North Pacific Ocean driven by prevailing easterly winds.

**UIII/Irkutsk** has issued NOTAM A0134/16 closing RWY 12/30 weekly on Tuesdays from 1210-1450Z beginning Feb 02 and ending March 22. UIII is not available as an alternate during those times.

**UHSS/Yuzhno** is closed daily between 0330-0500Z due to preventative maintenance. No end date has been issued.

**RPHI/Manila FIR** has begun Phase 1-b of an ADS/CPDLC trail. The specific details of the plan can be found [here](#).

**Wxxx/Indonesia** As of 19JAN, Mount Egon has been erupting on Flores Island, which is located east of Bali Island. Egon emitted large amounts of ash and noxious gas. As of yet, the eruption has not caused any flight delays or cancellations; however, previous volcanic eruptions in the lesser Sunda Islands have caused extended delays in Denpasar and Mataram.

**Zxxx/China** Talks with the Zhuhai municipal government, Chinese government, Zhuhai Airport Authority and the Civil Aviation Authority China (CAAC) resulted in temporary International China Inspection and Quarantine (CIQ) services at Zhuhai Airport for non-scheduled business aviation movements. Following the approval late last month, China's National Port Administration Office opened a temporary customs port on January 1. The approval is renewable on a six-month basis. During the "approval period" from January 1 to June 30, crewmembers of foreign business aviation flights can enter and exit China via the temporary business aviation port at Zhuhai Airport.

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# Monday Briefing: North Atlantic OTS Changes, Indonesia Volcano Eruption

Declan Selleck  
30 April, 2024

<b>INTERNATIONAL BULLETIN</b>	<b>ISSUED BY FLIGHT SERVICE BUREAU</b>
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**North Atlantic OTS Changes this week 09NOV** This Wednesday (12NOV) sees the implementation of the new NAT Track OTS, marking the first change to the lateral structure since the tracks were introduced in 1965. New requirements include RNP4, and 24 new Oceanic Entry Points come into effect. See below for further.

**Indonesia Volcano Eruption 09NOV** Operations into WADD/ Denpasar, Bali continue to be disrupted due to ongoing eruption of Mt. Rinjani on Lombok Island. Also affected are nearby WARB/Blimbingsari and WADL/Lombok.

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**EINN/Shannon FIR** CPDLC service is withdrawn on the evening prior to implementation of the new NAT Track system, voice service only from 1715Z onwards on 11NOV.

**LGGG/Athens FIR** Strike of Greek Radio Operators (thereby including AFTN messaging, and AFIS) announced this morning for 12NOV. Overflights will not be affected. Full details [here](#).

**HESH/Sharm el-Sheikh** remains open but subject to multiple advice notices from international Authorities. Many airlines have cancelled operations into the airport after increasing suspicions that a bomb was loaded here onto the A320 which crashed into the Sinai Desert.

**HLLL/Tripoli FIR** Libya has issued updated advice regarding airport availability – HLLQ, HLTQ and HLZW are only available for international arrivals, daylight hours only. PPR and Permit is required prior operations.

**SCFZ/Antofagasta ACC, Chile.** Crews on Airways UL780 and UL302 are requested to inform ATC of any speed changes greater than .02 Mach; if unable on VHF, use HF 10024. The procedure is to ensure separation between succeeding aircraft operating on CI speeds.

**SBXX/Brazil** The Brazilian Grand Prix takes place 13-15NOV making Sao Paulo operations at SBSP/Congonhas, SBGR/Guarulhos, and SBKP/Campinas busier than usual.

**RPLL/Manila, Philippines** APEC 2015 Summit being held 17-20NOV. Check restrictions, many commercial flights have been suspended during this period. Parking at a premium. Consider quieter alternates such as RPLC/Clark.

**YXXX/Australia** Australian Border Force strike commencing midnight 09NOV across Australian airports. As a result, departure and arrival processing at Australian airports may take longer than usual.

**WADD/Denpasar, Indonesia** Operations here continue to be disrupted due to ongoing eruption of Mt. Rinjani. Also affected are nearby WARB/Blimbingsari and WADL/Lombok. For updates monitor [http://www.bom.gov.au/products/Volc\\_ash\\_recent.shtml](http://www.bom.gov.au/products/Volc_ash_recent.shtml)

**LIXX/Italy** Possible ATC strike on 14NOV 1200-1600Z announced.

**KXXX/US** Airport Runway closures: BWI-RWY 10/28 CLOSED SEA-RWY 16C/34C CLOSED LAS-RWY 7L/25R CLOSED

**KLAS/Las Vegas** NBAA 2015 will take place 17-19NOV limiting airport capacity.

**HECC/Cairo FIR, Egypt** Point PASOS (LCCC FIR) is again available in both directions for flight planning. Please be aware flights departing OLBA via LCCC must file via VELOX-PASOS. Also see HECC NOTAM 1A277/15 and 1A278/15 for flight planning guidance.

**VHHH/Hong Kong** Arrival and Departure delays up to 30 minutes can be expected due to a flight check and maintenance on RWY 07L/25R on 09NOV 0530-0100 and 10NOV 2300-0100.

**Caribbean** Tropical Weather Advisory Shower and thunderstorm activity is showing signs of organization in association with a low pressure system located just north of the Turks and Caicos and the southeastern Bahamas. A tropical depression or a tropical storm is likely to form on Monday while the low moves west-northwestward to northwestward near or over the central and northwestern Bahamas. For further details see National Hurricane Center

**KLAX/Los Angeles** Due to military operations of the coast of LAX there is a risk of arrival delays and reroutes during the overnight periods until Nov 12th.

**MWCR/Grand Cayman** may be forced to shorten the runway at Owen Roberts International Airport (MCWR/GCM). The runway, which was extended to accommodate long-haul flights, may have to be shortened in order to accommodate a 400 ft/124 m safety area. An extension of the runway cannot be further extended, and the airport authority is examining all options.

**CYYQ/Churchill** has amended opening hours 1200-2200Z M-F.

**PKWA/Bucholz** has revised ATC hours from 01NOV, 0800-1230 and 1330-1600LT.

**NWWW/Tontouta** has a main runway closure 09-12NOV at various times, some daytime. Check NOTAM 1543/15.

**EGPF/Glasgow** is closed overnight 22NOV-11DEC for runway and taxiway repairs.

**DRRR/Niamey** Ouagadougou ACC is now operational H24 again; the previously implemented contingency plan for traffic operating outside ATC service hours is withdrawn.

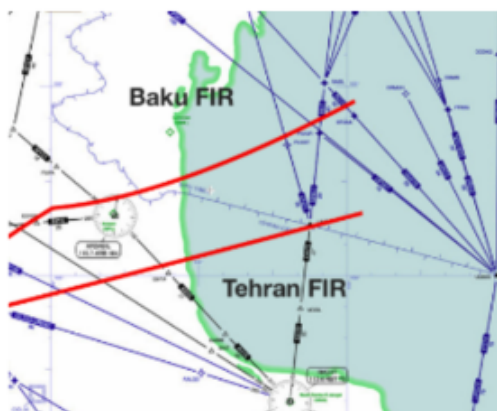
**View the full International Operations Bulletin for 09NOV2015.**

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# Monday Briefing: North Atlantic Changes, Caspian Sea Missiles

Declan Selleck  
30 April, 2024

INTERNATIONAL BULLETIN	ISSUED BY FLIGHT SERVICE BUREAU
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**19OCT2015** Flight operations in the NAT region will see significant changes in around three weeks time, including new 'half-degree' NAT tracks, new Entry Points in Gander and Shanwick OCA's, and several procedural changes. A Special Bulletin with plotting chart, summarising the changes, will be issued by Flight Service Bureau next week.

**19OCT2015** Last week 26 cruise missiles were launched across International air routes in Azerbaijan, Iraq, and Iran, with reports suggesting 4 did not travel as intended. The risk to aircraft operators is summarised in our International Ops Notice 10/15, see below for details.

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**RPHI/Manilla FIR, Philippines** Typhoon Koppu has maintained its strength as it continues to move northward with slightly increasing forward speed along the shores of Ilocos Sur, Luzon. Current location (1200Z Monday) is to the west of RPLI/Laoag Airport. It is forecast to weaken to a Tropical Storm within 24 hours. No reports of airports affected so far.

**OMDW/Dubai World** hosts Dubai Airshow 08-12NOV. Landing Permit required for all flights, 3 days processing, standard documents and requirements. Slot required for OMDW, window +/- 5mins. Show details at [www.dubaiairshow.aero](http://www.dubaiairshow.aero)

**OPRN/Islamabad, Pakistan** closed 1300-1800 daily due runway works 18-28OCT.

**SEXX/Ecuador** A new DGAC resolution now effective permits non-scheduled aircraft to land without a Landing Permit as long as the aircraft is operating under private ops, will not stay longer than 72 hours in Ecuador, and visits only one location in Ecuador. The official document is [here](#) (in Spanish).

**VHHH/Hong Kong** with effect 25OCT (IATA Winter 2015) will amend slot issuing procedures to give priority to operators with higher capacity aircraft, and where same types conflict for the same slot time, lower noise levels.

**LIXX/Italy** ATC Strike confirmed for 24OCT (Saturday) 0800-1600, service will be provided to Overflights and Intercontinental flights only.

**LTXX/Turkey** Traffic operating through the south eastern part of Turkish airspace to/from Tehran and Baghdad FIRs should check Notams for restrictions. Several restrictions up to FL310 due to military operations.

**EGXX/Shanwick** Large scale Military Exercise 'At Sea Demonstration' ASD15 affecting OEP's ERAKA and GOMUP starts on 19OCT.

**LFxx/France** Datalink implemented from 22OCT LFRR/Brest and LFBB/Bordeaux ACC from 0900L. Initial phase, no ACL (Clearance via CPDLC), and aircraft must be on Eurocontrol whitelist. Ref France AIC A22/15.

**VNXX/Nepal** continues to experience shortages of fuel due to a halt in shipments coming from India. Available fuel for domestic airlines is rapidly decreasing, and authorities worry that domestic flights will soon be unavailable. The Nepalese government has requested that international airlines carry return fuel or refuel at airports en route, as Tribhuvan International Airport (VNKT/KTM) has no available fuel.

**View the full International Ops Bulletin for 19OCT2015.**

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## Monday Briefing: China ADIZ Flight Planning Rules, Warsaw FIR reroutes

Declan Selleck  
30 April, 2024

**China ADIZ FPL Rules** Dec 4: Last weeks introduction of a new Air Defense Identification Zone (ADIZ) in the East China Sea requests operators to send FPL data to Beijing. There is no new requirement for overflight permits or prior permission. Advice being given to operators is to copy the ATC plan to the two AFTN addresses listed. Read more below ...

**Poland FIR reroutes** Dec 3: With the introduction of a new ATC System in Poland, significant restrictions exist in the Warsaw FIR and will continue into the new year. To reduce complexity, traffic originating in Russia is rerouted around Poland, the ACC is at 65% capacity and TMA at 75%.

LSGG/Geneva Transition to new stripless ATC system will be complete 11DEC. Approach running at 80% capacity until 10DEC.

EPWW/Warsaw ACC Significant restrictions in place for the next few months due to new system. Overall Enroute capacity reduction of 35%. Restrictions affect traffic departing from U... with destinations LI\*\* LE\*\* LO\*\* EG\*\*, LFP\* and EHAM from 26 November until 15 January.

Afghanistan PPR is Mandatory for all flights to Bagram (OAIX), Jalalabad (OAJL), Kabul (OAKB), Kandahar (OAKN) and Tereen (OATN). For operations to more than one airfield, a separate PPR request form must be submitted for each one.

**NAT/North Atlantic** The FAA will publish a NOTAM on 12DEC detailing plans for the rollout of Phase 2 of the North Atlantic datalink mandate. Implementation will begin with Phase 2a on 05FEB2015, at which time flights within the North Atlantic Tracks (NAT) between FL350 and FL390 must be equipped with Fans 1/A controller-pilot datalink communications (CPDLC) and ADS-C systems. The program expands to these altitudes in the entire ICAO NAT region on Dec. 7, 2017, and to all flights in this region above FL290 on Jan. 30, 2020.

**Philippines** Due to ongoing relief efforts, fuel supply at the following locations is limited: RPMB/General Santos, RPMD/Davao, RPVI/Iloilo, and RPVK/Kalibo. There are also intermittent shortages at RPLL/Manila.

**YMML/Melbourne** is introducing Ground Delay Program capability as an ATFM measure. Currently exists at Sydney, Brisbane, and Perth. Operators will be issued a COBT slot time and must adhere. Slots are available from the Australian National Operations Centre (NOC).

**South America** Chile and Peru have introduced Oceanic Procedures for flights operating within their Antofagasta and Lima Oceanic FIRs, particularly on routes Lima-Santiago and vv. Refer AIC 5/13.

**LTAI/Antalya** Technical Stops are now accepted during the Winter Period. Previously, AYT did not accept any technical stops due to slot demand.

**Russia** New requirements for API and PNR data for Airlines operating both scheduled and non-scheduled flights in effect 01DEC. API data should be transmitted 15 mins prior departure to SITA MOWRU8X. NOTAM A2345/13 and AIC 04/13.

**Central America.** Many operators overlook payment of Navigation invoices in Central America, overdue payment of which is not discovered **until a permit is applied for**. COCESNA, the agency managing ATC in the region, has reminded operators that flights will not be allowed with overdue balances. The following are contact email addresses for the CAA/DGAC Billing department each country – check that your balance due is nil. Belize: est-belice@cocesna.org. Guatemala: cobrosguatemala@cocesna.org. El Salvador: cobroselsalvador@cocesna.org. Honduras: cobroslamesa@cocesna.org. Nicaragua: cobrosnicaragua@cocesna.org. Costa Rica: cobroscostarica@cocesna.org. **Ensure that you apply for a CENAMER Permit (CENAMER Notification)** before your flight into any FIR in this region.

**Saudi Arabia** Any flights landing at King Abdulaziz International Airport (KAIA) with passengers from Jijiga, Ethiopia (HAJJ) will be subject to a fine.

**Turkey** The DGCA announced on 27NOV that with immediate effect, original insurance certificates are required for **overflight** as well as landing permits related to scheduled flights. Previously, a PDF copy was accepted for overflights.

**India** Crews operating Ferry Flights and General Aviation crews can once again secure visas or TLP's (Temporary Landing Permits) on arrival into Indian airports. In addition, Indian missions and posts abroad have been authorized to grant business visas to crew of private non-revenue and charter flights within three days of the visa application. These visas will be endorsed on their national passport and not on the crew member certificate. These visa processing times also do not apply to crew who are nationals of a PRC country. Visas for these crew members could take as many as 30 days.