



**AERONAUTICAL SERVICES ADVISORY  
MEMORANDUM  
(ASAM)**

Focal Point: Gen

ASAM.  
No: 009  
Issue 6  
Date: 07.12.20  
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**Title: Guidance Material on Aeronautical Information Regulation and Control (AIRAC)'s**

## 1. CHANGE RECORD

Date	Version	Author	Revision Description
07/12/2020	6	Jamesie O'Sullivan	Amendment to submission period from 40 working days to 2 AIRAC cycles. Formatting.

## 2. INTRODUCTION

- 2.1. Aeronautical "environment" data is constantly changing. Airspace structures and routes are revised, navigation aids change, SIDs and STARs are amended, runway and taxiway information changes. It is essential, for both efficiency and safety, that Pilots, Air Traffic Controllers, Air Traffic Flow Managers, Flight Management Systems and Aviation Charts all have the same data set. Therefore, operationally significant changes to the AIP shall be published in accordance with AIRAC.
- 2.2. AIRAC (**A**eronautical **I**nformation **R**egulation **A**nd **C**ontrol) is a system aimed at advance notification, based on common effective dates, of circumstances that necessitate significant changes in operating practices.
- 2.3. The AIS provider must publish aeronautical information and data according to the AIRAC effective dates. They shall ensure the integrity of data and confirm the level of accuracy of the information distributed for operations, including the source of such information, before such information is distributed.
- 2.4. Aeronautical data originators need to be aware of the AIS provider's sign-off dates to meet each of the AIRAC effective dates. A table of associated dates are incorporated in this Memorandum.
- 2.5. The provision of Aeronautical Information Services in Ireland is subject to initial National Supervisory Authority (NSA) certification and ongoing oversight in accordance with EU Single European Sky Legislation.
- 2.6. Readers should forward advice of errors, inconsistencies, requests for further information or suggestions for improvement to this regulatory requirement to the [airspace@iaa.ie](mailto:airspace@iaa.ie)



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### **3. REFERENCES**

- 3.1. The operation and maintenance of AIS in Ireland is subject to a number of ICAO, EU and Irish Regulations, Standards and Recommended practices.
- 3.2. Relevant legislation includes:
  - 3.2.1. ICAO Annex 15 - Aeronautical Information Services.
  - 3.2.2. ICAO Doc 8126 - AIS Manual
  - 3.2.3. ICAO Doc 10066 - PANS-AIM
  - 3.2.4. Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 1035/2011 of 17 October 2011.
  - 3.2.5. Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/373 of 1 March 2017
- 3.3. ASAM No. 006 - Guidance Material on Aeronautical Information Publication (AIP) Change Request.

### **4. DETAIL**

#### **4.1. The need for control**

- 4.1.1. The AIS provider shall publish under the AIRAC system the establishment, withdrawal of, and premeditated significant changes (including operational trials) to aeronautical information stipulated under ICAO Annex 15 upon a series of common effective dates at intervals of 28 days.
- 4.1.2. The information notified under the AIRAC system shall not be changed further for at least another 28 days after the effective date, unless the circumstance notified is of a temporary nature and would not persist for the full period. This information shall be made available by the aeronautical information service (AIS) to reach recipients at least 28 days in advance of the effective date.
- 4.1.3. A NOTAM shall be originated and issued promptly whenever the information to be distributed is of a temporary nature and of short duration, or when operationally significant permanent changes or temporary changes of long duration are made at short notice, except for extensive text and/or graphics.
- 4.1.4. AIRAC information is distributed by the AIS unit at least 42 days in advance of the AIRAC effective dates with the objective of reaching recipients at least 28 days in advance of the effective date. When information has not been submitted by the AIRAC date, a NIL notification shall be distributed not later than one cycle before the AIRAC effective date concerned.
- 4.1.5. Implementation dates other than AIRAC effective dates shall not be used for pre-planned operationally significant changes requiring cartographic work and/or for updating of navigation databases.
- 4.1.6. The AIS provider shall ensure that when updating contents covered by the AIRAC system on its aeronautical database, the effective date of data coincide with the established AIRAC effective date used for the publication of information in paper copy form.



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#### **4.2. Regulated system**

- 4.2.1. An AIS provider must publish AIP Amendments, AIP Supplements and aeronautical charts in accordance with the international schedule of AIRAC effective dates. Permanent changes to the AIP shall be published as AIP Amendments. Temporary changes of long duration (three months or longer) and information of short duration which contains extensive text and/or graphics shall be published as AIP Supplements.
- 4.2.2. When an AIP Amendment or an AIP Supplement is published in accordance with AIRAC procedures, a so-called "Trigger NOTAM" shall be originated giving a brief description of the contents, the effective date and time, and the reference number of the amendment or supplement.
- 4.2.3. Aeronautical information and data changes requiring AIRAC notification must be distributed so that recipients receive the AIP Amendments, AIP Supplements and aeronautical charts at least 28 days before the AIRAC effective date.
- 4.2.4. Whenever major changes are planned and where advance notice is desirable and practicable, information should be made available by the AIS so as to reach recipients at least 56 days in advance of the effective date.
- 4.2.5. Aeronautical information and data published under the AIRAC system must be identified by the acronym 'AIRAC'.
- 4.2.6. AIS must provide sign-off dates to aeronautical data originators of an AIP Amendment, AIP Supplement and aeronautical chart to ensure data changes reach AIS in sufficient time for each applicable AIRAC effective date.

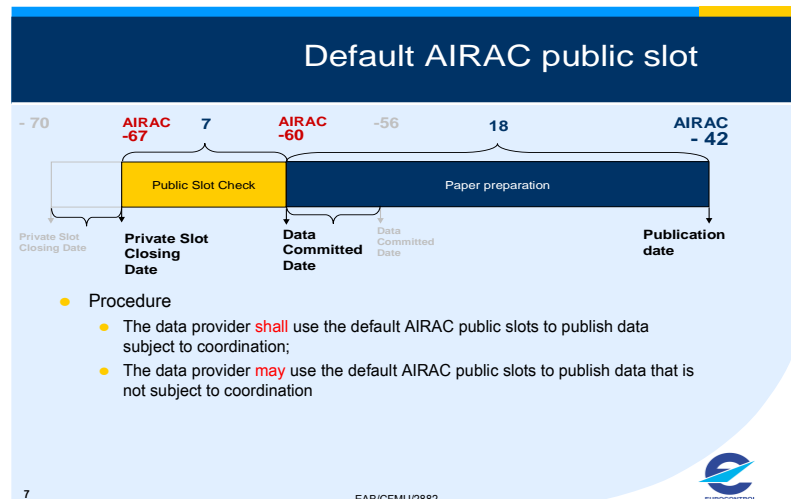
#### **4.3. Significant dates**

- 4.3.1. The sign-off date allows for a period of up to 14 days' distribution time, by the most expeditious means, in order for recipients to receive the information at least 28 days in advance of the effective date.
  - Sign-off dates: The date after which AIS will not accept any further changes to data. (Aircraft Flight Management Systems need the data often 20 days before the effective date to allow for the information re-coding, information uploading and distribution.)
- 4.3.2. The Effective Date: The date on which changes become operationally effective.
- 4.3.3. When the AIS does not receive AIRAC material from the responsible authorities/agencies for publication on the next scheduled AIRAC effective date, it must issue a NIL notification by NOTAM (or other means) at least one cycle (28 days or more) before the AIRAC effective date concerned.

#### 4.4. European AIS Database (EAD) System

4.4.1. The sequence for EAD means of compliance with the AIRAC standards of ICAO Annex 15 is:

- Electronic data in AIXM format is entered in the Database prior to AIRAC minus 70 days.
- This data is checked and verified by the EAD System during the 7-day period between AIRAC minus 67 to AIRAC minus 60.
- Paper preparation begins following successful electronic data input at AIRAC minus 60.
- Bulk printing and posting typically absorbs 7 to 10 days thus allowing approximately 8 days for initial paper preparation at AIRAC minus 60 to AIRAC minus 52.



4.4.2. The Irish State has chosen the EAD method of compliance as the acceptable means of compliance with the AIRAC Standards of ICAO Annex 15. Ireland has reported no differences to exist between the standards applicable within the Irish State and those of ICAO Annex 15.

#### 4.5. Use of AIRAC system during holiday periods

4.5.1. As many significant changes to facilities, services and procedures can be anticipated well in advance, a suitable effective date can be selected which does not conflict with a major holiday period. In addition, a publication date can be selected that provides for as much advance notice as possible.

4.5.2. Due to reduced staffing and increased postal delays, the AIRAC cycle date occurring in the 28-day period from 21 December to 17 January inclusive shall not be used for AIRAC effective dates within Ireland for the introduction of significant operational changes.

4.5.3. Under the AIRAC system the maximum period of advance notification is essential. If this policy is applied it will give users ample time for processing changes.



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**4.6. Schedule of AIRAC Significant dates**

SRD Submission Date (-4 AIRAC Cycles)	AIS Sign-off Date (-2 AIRAC Cycles)	Effective Date
		Blocked
		28/01/21
		25/02/21
	31/12/20	25/03/21
	28/01/21	22/04/21
31/12/20	25/02/21	20/05/21
28/01/21	25/03/21	17/06/21
25/02/21	22/04/21	15/07/21
25/03/21	20/05/21	12/08/21
22/04/21	17/06/21	09/09/21
20/05/21	15/07/21	07/10/21
17/06/21	12/08/21	04/11/21
15/07/21	09/09/21	02/12/21
12/08/21	07/10/21	Blocked
09/09/21	04/11/21	27/01/22
07/10/21	02/12/21	24/02/22
04/11/21	30/12/21	24/03/22
02/12/21	27/01/22	21/04/22
30/12/21	24/02/22	19/05/22
27/01/22	24/03/22	16/06/22
24/02/22	21/04/22	14/07/22
24/03/22	19/05/22	11/08/22
21/04/22	16/06/22	08/09/22
19/05/22	14/07/22	06/10/22
16/06/22	11/08/22	03/11/22
14/07/22	08/09/22	01/12/22
11/08/22	06/10/22	Blocked
08/09/22	03/11/22	26/01/23
06/10/22	01/12/22	23/02/23
03/11/22	29/12/22	23/03/23
01/12/22	26/01/23	20/04/23
29/12/22	23/02/23	18/05/23
26/01/23	23/03/23	15/06/23
23/02/23	20/04/23	13/07/23
23/03/23	18/05/23	10/08/23
20/04/23	15/06/23	07/09/23
18/05/23	13/07/23	05/10/23
15/06/23	10/08/23	02/11/23
13/07/23	07/09/23	30/11/23
10/08/23	05/10/23	Blocked