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UK DATALINK SERVICES

1 Introduction

1.1 In addition to the Oceanic Route Clearance Authorisation service (ORCA) (UK AIP ENR 2-2-4-6 paragraph 8) the following datalink services are now available in the UK:

Datalink VOLMET (D-VOLMET);
Datalink Automatic Terminal Information Service (D-ATIS).

1.2 D-ATIS is currently available at London/Gatwick, Manchester, London/Heathrow and now Aberdeen airports.

1.3 Datalink messaging rules are detailed in the ARINC 623 specification. Aircraft equipped with AEEC 623 compliant ACARS-MU can interact with these services.

2 D-VOLMET is available in four regions and can be requested by interrogating an aerodrome in any of the UK VOLMET broadcasts, with the exception of any non-UK Aerodrome, using an Arrival/Departure Indicator 'E'. Alternatively each broadcast may be interrogated using the following non-aerodrome indicators in conjunction with an Arrival/Departure Indicator 'E':

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| (a) London VOLMET Main | EGT1 (ARINC or SITA); |
| (b) London VOLMET South | EGT2 (ARINC or SITA); |
| (c) London VOLMET North | EGT3 (ARINC or SITA); |
| (d) Scottish VOLMET | EGPX (ARINC or SITA). |

3 LONDON/Gatwick and Aberdeen D-ATIS

3.1 For Gatwick and Aberdeen, a single ATIS message, containing both arrival and departure ATIS is delivered in response to either a departure ('D') or arrival ('A') ATIS request.

3.2 When aircrew make a contract ('C') request 'EGKKC' or 'EGPDC' they will receive an initial reply with a single arrival ATIS message, and then subsequent single arrival ATIS updates as they change within the contract period (similar to the example in paragraph 3.3). The bottom line of the ATIS information will show 'AUTO UPDATE ENDS AT hhmm' - this statement confirms the contract is in place and the time of the automatic disconnect from the service. For London/Gatwick and Aberdeen this time out is currently set to 1 hour.

3.3 Example of printout:

EGKK ARR ATIS I 0020Z
GROUND MOVEMENT CONTROL
FREQUENCY 121.8 IS CLOSED. ATC SERVICE IS
AVAILABLE ON TOWER FREQUENCY 124.22
RWY IN USE 08R
00000KT 5000 BR SKC 10/09 Q1027
QFE 1020
ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF INFORMATION I
AND ADVISE AIRCRAFT TYPE ON FIRST
CONTACT

AUTO UPDATE ENDS AT 0120

4 Manchester and LONDON/Heathrow D-ATIS

4.1 A separate arrival and departure ATIS service is available at Manchester and LONDON/Heathrow. A single arrival ATIS message is delivered in response to an arrival ('A') ATIS request, and a single departure ATIS message is delivered in response to a departure ('D') ATIS request.

4.2 Example printout for an arrival request

EGCC ARR ATIS Z 0850Z
LANDING RWY 24R
28010KT 20KM FEW020 09/07 Q1017
QFE1008
RWY SFC WET WET WET
LINK G IS CLOSED
LINK JB IS CLOSED
ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF INFORMATION Z
AND ADVISE AIRCRAFT TYPE ON FIRST CONTACT

4.3 Example printout of a departure request

EGCC DEP ATIS L 0820Z
DEPARTURE RWY 24L
27007KT 20KM FEW020
FEW040CB 08/06 Q1017
RWY SFC WET WET WET
LINK G IS CLOSED
LINK JB IS CLOSED
ALL HOLD SHORT
INSTRUCTIONS MUST BE
ACKNOWLEDGED AND READ BACK.
ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF
INFORMATION L AND
ADVISE AIRCRAFT TYPE ON FIRST CONTACT

4.4 When aircrew make a contract ('C') request 'EGCCC' or 'EGLLC' they will receive an initial reply with a single arrival ATIS message, and then subsequent single arrival ATIS updates as they change within the contract period (similar to the example in paragraph 4.2). The bottom line of the ATIS information will show 'AUTO UPDATE ENDS AT hhmm' (similar to the example in paragraph 3.3) - this statement confirms the contract is in place and the time of the automatic disconnect from the service. For Manchester and LONDON/Heathrow this time out is currently set to 1 hour.

4.5 If an aircraft makes two contract requests for the same or another aerodrome within the same contract period (1 hour), then the first contract request will be cancelled by the system and auto updates will continue for the period of the second contract request. If more than two requests are made then the second contract will be cancelled and auto updates continue for the period of the third contract request and so on.

5 For further information on NATS D-ATIS Services, please contact:

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This Circular is issued for information, guidance and necessary action.