DATA LINK OPERATIONAL AUTHORIZATION CHECKLIST

1. SOURCE DOCUMENTS. The following source documents were consulted in developing this operational authorization outline.

A. Generic Authorization Process

AC 120-70B (Operational Authorization Process for the use of Data Link Communication Systems) (12/29/2005).

B. Area Of Operations Procedures

1. ***Data Link Communication Operational Authorization Information Package***. Summarizes the operational authorization process for operations and provides "Lessons learned" by Pacific operators and ATS Providers. Published on FAA Oceanic Procedures Branch (AJE-32) website: (http://www.faa.gov/about/office_org/headquarters_offices/ato/service_units/enroute/oceanic/)

2. ***ICAO – Global Operational Data Link (GOLD) document.*** *This is the official standardized document on procedures for the use of Data Link in all Oceanic areas. This document can be downloaded from the following website:* (http://www.faa.gov/about/office_org/headquarters_offices/ato/service_units/enroute/oceanic/

3. ***FAA Oceanic NOTAMS and State Aeronautical Information Publications***. Specific policy and procedures related to CPDLC and ADS-C operations in individual FIR's are published in International NOTAMS and in individual State AIP's.

4. ***FAA Pacific / Alaska Chart Supplements and North Atlantic Doc 007.*** These publications currently contain policy and procedures for use of SATCOM Voice and will be updated as needed.

2. CONTENT OF OPERATOR APPLICATION FOR OPERATIONAL AUTHORIZATION TO USE DATA LINK.

The operator's application to obtain authorization to use Data Link must address and contain the following subjects including those identified in AC 120-70B. The applicable AC 120-70B paragraphs are referenced below.

A. List of Source documents used:

1. ***For Generic Data Link Operations*** (e.g., Aircraft/Avionics Manufacturer Documents)

2. ***For area of operations specific policy/procedures***. See D3 below

B. Description of aircraft Data Link systems including certification documents and current configuration (e.g., current avionics load)

C. General Information.

D. Area of Operations/Routes where operator intends to use Data Link.

1. ***List of areas and/or routes where operator intends to conduct Data Link operations***

2. ***List of Air Traffic Centers/Service Providers with which operator intends to communicate via Data Link***

3. ***List policy/procedures source documents applicable to each area(s) of operations, such as:***

a. ICAO-Global Operational Data Link Document (GOLD)

b. State Aeronautical Information Publications (AIP)

c. State NOTAMS

d. FAA Chart Supplements

e. Jeppesen Chart Supplements

E. Flight Crew Qualification Programs.

F. Manuals and Other Publications.

G. MMEL/MEL.

H. Issues Unique To a Particular Operator.

I. Maintenance Programs.

3. CONTENT OF FLIGHTCREW QUALIFICATION PROGRAMS

A. Academic Training Subjects. ***BASIC SOURCE DOCUMENT FOR DATA LINK PROCEDURES IN OCEANIC AREAS IS THE ICAO GOLD Document.. POLICY/PROCEDURES APPLICABLE TO SPECIFIC FIR'S ARE IN STATE AIP'S AND NOTAMS.***

AC 120-70B calls for the following areas to be addressed:

1. ***Acronyms***. ***Source: ICAO GOLD document***

2. ***General Concepts of Digital and Analog Communications***.

3. ***Expected Flightcrew Response***

4. ***ATS Coordination***

5. ***Aircraft Digital or Analog Comm Equipment Components, Displays, Alerts. SOURCES: Aircraft manufacturer documents.***

6. ***Interface with other aircraft systems***

7. ***Aircraft Flight Manual (AFM) Information***

8. ***Minimum Equipment List (MEL) Provisions***

9. ***Data link Event Reports***

10. ***Data link Malfunction or Irregularity Reports***

11. ***Human Factors—Lessons learned***

B. Operational Use Training

1. ***General requirement***

2. ***Simulators***

3. ***Computer Based Instruction (CBI)***

4. ***Policy on Initial Pilot Evaluation***

5. ***Recurrent Training and Evaluation***

C. Currency (Recency Of Experience)

D. Line Checks and Route Checks

E. Loft

4. OPERATIONAL AUTHORIZATION DOCUMENTS.

Approval to use Data Link in flight operations is granted through the issuance of OpSpec A-O56. The CMO/FSDO should coordinate the approval with AFS-400 and FAA Regional 220 branches.

NOTE: If you have questions about this checklist or process you can also contact one of the following in AFS-400:

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