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Minimum Operational Performance Standards for Airborne Area Navigation Equipment Using a Single Collocated VOR/DME Sensor Input

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SC-137

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FOREWORD

This document was prepared by Special Committee 137 of the Radio Technical Commission for Aeronautics. It was approved by RTCA on May 24, 1990 and supersedes RTCA/DO-180, *Minimum Operational Performance Standards for Airborne Area Navigation Equipment Using VOR/DME Reference Facility Sensor Inputs*, approved September 17, 1982.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page

FOREWORD i

TABLE OF CONTENTS iii

1.0 PURPOSE AND SCOPE 1

1.1 Introduction 1
1.2 System Characteristics 2

1.2.1 Waypoint Definition 2
1.2.2 Course Selection 3

1.2.2.1 "TO-FROM" Equipment 3
1.2.2.2 "TO-TO" Equipment 3

1.2.3 Path Computation 3
1.2.4 Coordinate Systems 3
1.2.5 Aircraft Position Computation 4
1.2.6 Navigation Modes and Annunciation 4
1.2.7 Station Selection 4
1.2.8 VOR/DME Latitude/Longtitude Sensors 4
1.2.9 Lateral and Vertical Steering Outputs 5
1.2.10 Holding Pattern Manuevering 5

1.3 Intended Use and Operational Environment 5

1.3.1 Area Navigation in the Present ATC System 5
1.3.2 Historical Considerations 6
1.3.3 Route Width Consideration 10

1.3.3.1 En route RNAV Route 10
1.3.3.2 En route VOR Airway Route 10
1.3.3.3 Terminal 10
1.3.3.4 Approach 10

1.3.4 Postulated Air Traffic Control Environment 11
1.3.5 Operational Environment Assumptions 12

1.4 Error Budgets 12

1.4.1 Error Budget - 2D 12

1.4.1.1 VOR/DME Sensors 12
1.4.1.2 North Reference Effects 13

1.4.2 Error Budget - VNAV 13

1.5 Test Procedures 13

1.5.1 Bench Tests 14
1.5.2 Environmental Tests 14
1.5.3 Installed Tests 14

Page

1.5.4 Operational Tests 14

1.6 Definitions of Terms 14

2.0 EQUIPMENT PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS AND TEST PROCEDURES 15

2.1 General Requirements 15

2.1.1 Airworthiness 15
2.1.2 General Performance 15
2.1.3 Fire Resistance 15
2.1.4 Operation of Controls 15
2.1.5 Accessibility of Controls 15
2.1.6 Sensor Interfaces 15
2.1.7 Control/Display Capability 15
2.1.8 Control/Display Readability 15
2.1.9 Effects of Test 16
2.1.11 Maneuver Anticipation and Direct-To Function 16
2.1.11 Display Update Rate 16

2.2 2D RNAV Functional and Accuracy Requirements - Standard Conditions 17

2.2.1 Equipment Functional Requirements 17

2.2.1.1 Cross-Track Deviation 17

2.2.1.1.1 Numeric Display Information 17
2.2.1.1.2 Non Numeric Display Information 17

2.2.1.2 Waypoint Distance Display (Output Display) 17
2.2.1.3 "TO-FROM" Indication 18
2.2.1.4 Course Selection 18
2.2.1.5 Waypoint and Station Selection 18

2.2.1.5.1 Waypoint Entry 18
2.2.1.5.2 VOR/DME Facility Selection 18

2.2.1.6 Waypoint Storage 18
2.2.1.7 Waypoint or Leg Sequencing . 20

2.2.1.7.1 Holding Pattern Maneuvering 20

2.2.1.8 Position Display 20
2.2.1.9 Input Data Observation 20
2.2.1.10 Failure/Status Indications 20
2.2.1.11 Slant Range Error Correction 21
2.2.1.12 Equipment Computational Response Time 21

2.2.2 2D Accuracy Requirements 21
2.2.3 Dynamic Tracking 22
2.2.4 Tracking Through Short Outages 23

2.3 VNAV Functional and Accuracy Requirements - Standard Conditions 25

Page

2.3.1 Equipment Functional Requirements 25

2.3.1.1 Waypoint Altitude 25
2.3.1.2 Vertical Path Deviation 25
2.3.1.3 Vertical Profile 25

2.3.2 VNAV Accuracy Requirements 25

2.4 Equipment Performance - Environmental Conditions 27

2.4.1 Temperature and Altitude Tests 27

2.4.1.1 Operating Low Temperature Test 27
2.4.1.2 Short-Time Operating High Temperature Test 27
2.4.1.3 Operating High Temperature Test 28
2.4.1.4 In-Flight Loss of Cooling Test 28
2.4.1.5 Altitude Test 28
2.4.1.6 Decompression Test 28
2.4.1.7 Overpressure Test 29

2.4.2 Temperature Variation Test 29
2.4.3 Humidity Test 29
2.4.4 Shock Tests 29

2.4.4.1 Operational Shocks 29
2.4.4.2 Crash Safety Shocks 30

2.4.5 Vibration Test 30
2.4.6 Explosion Proofness Test 30
2.4.7 Waterproofness Tests 30

2.4.7.1 Drip Proof Test 30
2.4.7.2 Spray Proof Test 30
2.4.7.3 Continuous Steam Proof Test 31

2.4.8 Fluids Susceptibility Tests 31

2.4.8.1 Spray Test 31
2.4.8.2 Immersion Test 31

2.4.9 Sand and Dust Test 32

2.4.10 Fungus Resistance Test 32
2.4.11 Salt Spray Test 32
2.4.12 Magnetic Effect Test 33
2.4.13 Power Input Tests 33

2.4.13.1 Normal Operating Conditions 33
2.4.13.2 Abnormal Operating Conditions 33

2.4.14 Voltage Spike Conducted Test 33

2.4.14.1 Category A Requirements 33
2.4.14.2 Category B Requirements 34

Page

2.4.15 Audio Frequency Conducted Susceptibility Test 34
2.4.16 Induced Signal Susceptibility Test 34
2.4.17 Radio Frequency Susceptibility Test (Radiated and Conducted) 35
2.4.18 Emission of Radio Frequency Energy Test 35
2.4.19 Lightning Induced Transient Susceptibility 35

2.5 Equipment Test Procedures 37

2.5.1 Definitions of Terms and Conditions of Tests 37
2.5.2 Test Procedures 37

2.5.2.1 Cross Reference 38

2.5.3 2D RNAV Functional and Accuracy Requirements - Standard Conditions 38

2.5.3.1 Static Tests 38

2.5.3.1.1 Matrix of Test Conditions 38
2.5.3.1.2 Waypoint Distance and Aircraft Position Displays . 43
2.5.3.1.3 Waypoint Storage and Input Data Observation 43
2.5.3.1.4 Navigation Mode Indication and Failure/Status Indications 43
2.5.3.1.5 Slant Range Correction 44
2.5.3.1.6 Cross-Track Deviation Display 44

2.5.3.2 Dynamic Tests 44

2.5.3.2.1 "TO-FROM" Indication and 2D Accuracy Requirements 47
2.5.3.2.2 Waypoint or Leg Sequencing and Equipment Computational Response Time 47
2.5.3.2.3 Tracking Through Short Outages 53

2.5.4 VNAV Functional and Accuracy Requirements - Standard Conditions . . . 53

2.5.4.1 Static Tests 53
2.5.4.2 Dynamic Tests 57

3.0 INSTALLED EQUIPMENT PERFORMANCE 61

3.1 Equipment Installation 61

3.1.1 Accessibility 61
3.1.2 Display Visibility 61
3.1.3 Interference Effects 61
3.1.4 Inadvertent Turnoff 61

3.2 Installed Equipment Performance Requirements 61

3.2.1 General Performance Requirements 61

3.2.1.1 Cross-Track Deviation Display 61
3.2.1.2 Vertical Path Deviation Display 61
3.2.1.3 Lateral Maneuver Anticipation 62
3.2.1.4 Automatic Lateral Change 62

Page

3.2.1.5 Direct-To Function 62
3.2.1.6 Vertical Maneuver Anticipation 62
3.2.1.7 Automatic Altitude Change 62
3.2.1.8 Display of Selected Waypoint 66

3.2.2 Installed Accuracy 66

3.2.2.1 Background 66
3.2.2.2 Standard Error Budget 66
3.2.2.3 System Error Tradeoffs 67

3.3 Conditions of Test 67

3.3.1 Power Input 67
3.3.2 Associated Equipment or Systems 67
3.3.3 Environment 67
3.3.4 Adjustment of Equipment 67
3.3.5 Warm-Up Period 67

3.4 Test Procedures for Installed Equipment Performance 68

3.4.1 Ground Test Procedures 68

3.4.1.1 Conformity Inspection 68
3.4.1.2 Equipment Function 68
3.4.1.3 Interference Effects 68
3.4.1.4 Power Supply Fluctuations 68
3.4.1.5 Equipment Accessibility 68

3.4.2 Flight Test Procedures 68

3.4.2.1 Displayed Data Readability 68
3.4.2.2 Interference Effects 69
3.4.2.3 Flight Demonstration 69
3.4.2.4 Simulator Demonstration 70

4.0 OPERATIONAL CHARACTERISTICS 71

4.1 Required Operational Characteristics 71

4.1.1 Power Input 71
4.1.2 Navigation Displays 71
4.1.3 Navigation Controls 71
4.1.4 System Operational Integrity 71
4.1.5 Equipment Operating Limitations 71

4.2 Test Procedures for Operational Characteristics 71

4.2.1 Power Input 71
4.2.2 Navigation Displays 71
4.2.3 Navigation Controls 71
4.2.4 System Operational Integrity 71

Page

MEMBERSHIP 73

APPENDIX A Postulated Area Navigation Operational Environment Definition
APPENDIX B Acceptable Trade-off Techniques for Determining Systems Performance
APPENDIX C Glossary of Terms for Navigation Functions
APPENDIX D Great Circle Course Computations
APPENDIX E Implementing Epoch Year Magnetic Variation Values
APPENDIX F Acceptable Procedural Techniques for Lateral Maneuver Anticipation

1.0 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

1.1 Introduction

This document contains minimum operational performance standards (MOPS) for airborne area navigation equipment (2D and 3D) operated in the National Airspace System (NAS) using inputs from a single collocated VOR/DME station. Performance standards for equipment operated in other airspace, such as the North Atlantic Minimum Navigation Performance Standard (MNPS), are contained in the respective guidance material for that airspace. RNAV performance standards for equipment using other sensor inputs, such as multiple VOR or DME stations, including scanning DMEs, inertial navigation sensors and Loran-C, are contained in other RTCA MOPS. Incorporated within these standards are equipment characteristics that should be useful to users, designers, manufacturers and installers of the equipment. This document defines the performance, functions and features for a 2D system that performs only lateral guidance and a 3D system that performs both lateral and vertical guidance. Equipment may be manufactured and tested to meet 2D or 3D requirements (or both) in the en route, terminal and approach modes or any combination thereof.

Section 1.0 of this document provides information needed to understand the rationale for equipment characteristics and requirements stated in the remaining sections. It describes typical equipment applications and operational goals, and forms the basis for the standards stated in Sections 2.0 through 4.0. Definitions and assumptions essential to proper understanding of this document are also provided in Section 1.0.

Section 2.0 contains the minimum performance standards for the equipment. These standards define required performance under standard operating conditions and stressed physical environmental conditions. It also details the recommended bench test procedures necessary to demonstrate compliance.

Section 3.0 describes the performance required of the installed equipment. Tests for the installed equipment are included when performance cannot be adequately determined through bench testing.

Section 4.0 describes the operational characteristics for equipment installations and defines conditions that will assure the operator that operations can be conducted safely and reliably in the expected operational environment.

Compliance with these standards by manufacturers, installers and users is recommended as one means of assuring that the equipment will satisfactorily perform its intended function(s) under conditions normally encountered in routine aeronautical operations. In addition, to safely and efficiently implement area navigation, it is mandatory that the airborne equipment be designed such that all airborne operations responding to like controller instructions will result in similar maneuvering of the aircraft, regardless of system type.

The word "equipment" as used in this document includes all components or units necessary (as determined by the equipment manufacturer or installer) for the equipment to properly perform its intended function. For example, the airborne area navigation "equipment" may include: sensor(s), a computer unit, an input-output unit which interfaces with existing aircraft displays/systems, a control unit, a display, shock mount(s), etc. In the case of this example, all of the foregoing components or units comprise the "equipment." It should not be inferred from this example, however, that every area navigation equipment will necessarily include all of the foregoing components or units. This will depend upon the design used by the equipment manufacturer.