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Minimum Operational Performance Standards (MOPS) for Airborne Area Navigation Equipment Using Multi-Sensor Inputs

RTCA DO-187
November 13, 1984

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F O R E W O R D

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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	3
1.2.2 Course Selection	4
1.2.2.1 "TO-FROM" Equipment	4
1.2.2.2 "TO-TO" Equipment	4
1.2.3 Path Computation	4
1.2.4 Coordinate Systems	5
1.2.5 Position Sensing	5
1.2.6 Aircraft Position Computation	6
1.2.7 Navigation Modes and Annunciation	7
1.2.8 Station Selection	7
1.2.9 Lateral and Vertical Steering Outputs	7
1.3 Intended Use and Operational Environment	7
1.3.1 Area Navigation in the Present ATC System	8
1.3.2 Historical Considerations	12
1.3.3 Route Width Considerations	13
1.3.3.1 En Route RNAV Route	13
1.3.3.2 En Route VOR Airway Route	13
1.3.3.3 Terminal	14
1.3.3.4 Approach	14
1.3.4 Postulated Air Traffic Control Environment	15
1.3.5 Operational Environment Assumptions	16
1.4 Error Budgets	17
1.4.1 Error Budget - 2D	17
1.4.1.1 VOR/DME Sensors	17
1.4.1.2 Multi-Sensors	17
1.4.2 Error Budget - VNAV	18

Page

1.5 Test Procedures 18

1.5.1 Environmental Tests 18
1.5.2 Bench Tests 19
1.5.3 Installed Tests 19
1.5.4 Operational Tests 19

1.6 Definitions of Terms 19

Table 1-1 Summary of Representative Vertical Guidance Error Budget in Feet (99.7% Probability) 9

Figure 1-1 Vertical Clearance Boundaries (Typical) 11
Figure 1-2 Approach Route Widths 14

2.0 EQUIPMENT PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS AND TEST PROCEDURES 21

2.1 General Requirements 21

2.1.1 Airworthiness 21
2.1.2 General Performance 21
2.1.3 Fire Resistance 21
2.1.4 Operation of Controls 21
2.1.5 Accessibility of Controls 21
2.1.6 Sensor Interfaces 21
2.1.7 Control/Display Capability 22
2.1.8 Control/Display Readability 22
2.1.9 Effects of Test 22
2.1.10 Maneuver Anticipation and Direct-To Function 22

2.2 2D RNAV Functional and Accuracy Requirements - Standard Conditions 22

2.2.1 Equipment Functional Requirements 22

2.2.1.1 Cross-Track Deviation Display 22
2.2.1.2 Waypoint Distance Display 23
2.2.1.3 "TO-FROM" Indication 23
2.2.1.4 Course Selection 24
2.2.1.5 Waypoint Entry 24
2.2.1.6 Waypoint Storage 24
2.2.1.7 Waypoint or Leg Sequencing 25
2.2.1.8 Position Display 25
2.2.1.9 Input Data Observation 25
2.2.1.10 Navigation Mode Indication 25
2.2.1.11 Failure/Status Indications 25
2.2.1.12 Slant Range Error Correction 26
2.2.1.13 Equipment Computational Response Time 26

2.2.2 2D Accuracy Requirements (95% Probability) 27

Page

2.3 VNAV Functional and Accuracy Requirements - Standard Conditions 29

2.3.1 Equipment Functional Requirements 29

2.3.1.1 Waypoint Altitude 29
2.3.1.2 Vertical Path Deviation 29
2.3.1.3 Vertical Profile 29

2.3.2 VNAV Accuracy Requirements 30

2.4 Equipment Performance - Environmental Conditions 31

2.4.1 Temperature and Altitude Tests 31

2.4.1.1 Low Operating Temperature Test 32
2.4.1.2 High Short-Time Operating Temperature Test 32
2.4.1.3 High Operating Temperature Test 32
2.4.1.4 In-Flight Loss of Cooling Test 33
2.4.1.5 Altitude Test 33
2.4.1.6 Decompression Test 33
2.4.1.7 Overpressure Test 33

2.4.2 Temperature Variation Test 34
2.4.3 Humidity Test 34
2.4.4 Shock Tests 34

2.4.4.1 Operational Shocks 34
2.4.4.2 Crash Safety Shocks 35

2.4.5 Vibration Test 35
2.4.6 Explosion Proofness Test 35
2.4.7 Waterproofness Tests 35

2.4.7.1 Drip Proof Test 35
2.4.7.2 Spray Proof Test 36
2.4.7.3 Continuous Stream Proof Test 36

2.4.8 Fluids Susceptibility Tests 36

2.4.8.1 Spray Test 37
2.4.8.2 Immersion Test 37

2.4.9 Sand and Dust Test 38
2.4.10 Fungus Resistance Test 38
2.4.11 Salt Spray Test 38
2.4.12 Magnetic Effect Test 38
2.4.13 Power Input Tests 39

Page

2.4.13.1 Normal Operating Conditions 39
2.4.13.2 Abnormal Operating Conditions 39

2.4.14 Voltage Spike Conducted Test 40

2.4.14.1 Category A Requirements 40
2.4.14.2 Category B Requirements 40

2.4.15 Audio Frequency Conducted Susceptibility Test 40
2.4.16 Induced Signal Susceptibility Test 41
2.4.17 Radio Frequency Susceptibility Test (Radiated and Conducted) 41
2.4.18 Emission of Radio Frequency Energy Test 41

2.5 Equipment Test Procedures 42

2.5.1 Definitions of Terms and Conditions of Tests 42
2.5.2 Description of Tests and Procedures 43

2.5.2.1 Types of Tests 43
2.5.2.2 Procedures 43
2.5.2.3 2D Accuracy Analysis 43
2.5.2.4 Cross Reference 44

2.5.3 2D RNAV Functional and Accuracy Requirements - Standard Conditions 44

2.5.3.1 Static Tests 44
2.5.3.2 Dynamic Tests 52

2.5.4 VNAV Functional and Accuracy Requirements - Standard Conditions 55

2.5.4.1 Static Tests 55
2.5.4.2 Dynamic Tests 60

Table 2-1 2D RNAV Multi-Sensor Equipment Accuracy Requirements 28
Table 2-2 Minimum Accuracy Requirements for Vertical Guidance Equipment Employed in Airborne Vertical Navigation Systems in Feet (99.7% Probability) 30
Table 2-3 RNAV/VNAV Test/Requirements Cross Reference 45
Table 2-4 Static Accuracy for VOR/DME 48
Table 2-5 Cross-Track Deviation Display Test Conditions 52
Table 2-6 VNAV Static Tests -- Single Waypoint Plus Ascent/ Descent Angle 56
Table 2-7 VNAV Static Tests -- Dual Waypoints With Associated Altitudes 57
Table 2-8 VNAV Dynamic Tests -- Single Waypoint Plus Ascent/ Descent Angle 61

Page

Table 2-9 VNAV Dynamic Tests -- Dual Waypoints Plus Associated Altitudes 62

Figure 2-1 Test Set-up 46
Figure 2-2 Cross-Track (XTRK) and Along-Track (ATRK) Error 50
Figure 2-3 Waypoint Change Response 54
Figure 2-4 Vertical Path for Single Waypoint/Descent Angle 58
Figure 2-5 Vertical Path for Dual Waypoints With Associated Altitudes 59

3.0 INSTALLED EQUIPMENT PERFORMANCE 63

3.1 Equipment Installation 63

3.1.1 Accessibility 63
3.1.2 Display Visibility 63
3.1.3 Interference Effects 63
3.1.4 Inadvertent Turnoff 63

3.2 Installed Equipment Performance Requirements 63

3.2.1 General Performance Requirements 63

3.2.1.1 Cross-Track Deviation Display 63
3.2.1.2 Vertical Path Deviation Display 64
3.2.1.3 Lateral Maneuver Anticipation 64
3.2.1.4 Automatic Lateral Change 64
3.2.1.5 Direct-To Function 66
3.2.1.6 Vertical Maneuver Anticipation 66
3.2.1.7 Automatic Altitude Change 66
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 69
3.2.2.3 System Error Tradeoffs 69

3.3 Conditions of Test 70

3.3.1 Power Input 70
3.3.2 Associated Equipment or Systems 70
3.3.3 Environment 70
3.3.4 Adjustment of Equipment 70
3.3.5 Warm-Up Period 70

3.4 Test Procedures for Installed Equipment Performance 70

3.4.1 Ground Test Procedures 71

Page

3.4.1.1 Conformity Inspection 71
3.4.1.2 Equipment Function 71
3.4.1.3 Interference Effects 71
3.4.1.4 Power Supply Fluctuations 71
3.4.1.5 Equipment Accessibility 71

3.4.2 Flight Test Procedures 72

3.4.2.1 Displayed Data Readability 72
3.4.2.2 Interference Effects 72
3.4.2.3 Flight Demonstration 72
3.4.2.4 Simulator Demonstration 73

Figure 3-1 "Corner Cut" Turn Expansion for Maneuver Anticipation Test 65
Figure 3-2 Maneuver Anticipation 67
Figure 3-3 Vertical Maneuver Anticipation 68

4.0 OPERATIONAL CHARACTERISTICS 75

4.1 Required Operational Characteristics 75

4.1.1 Power Input 75
4.1.2 Navigation Displays 75
4.1.3 Navigation Controls 75
4.1.4 System Operational Integrity 75
4.1.5 Equipment Operating Limitations 75

4.2 Test Procedures for Operational Characteristics 75

4.2.1 Power Input 75
4.2.2 Navigation Displays 76
4.2.3 Navigation Controls 76
4.2.4 System Operational Integrity 76

MEMBERSHIP 77

APPENDIX A - Postulated Area Navigation Operational Environment Definition

APPENDIX B - Acceptable Trade-Off Techniques for Determining System 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 for airborne area navigation equipment (2D and 3D) operated in the National Airspace System (NAS) using multi-sensor inputs. 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. The types and numbers of these sensors are not specifically defined in this document. An RNAV multi-sensor system is defined as an area navigation system which determines aircraft position using data derived from sensors of two or more generic types, or alternatively from VOR and/or DME facilities which may or may not include the reference station. 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 which performs only lateral guidance and a 3D system which 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 of).

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, as envisioned by the members of Special Committee 137, 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.