



AIRCRAFT OWNERS AND PILOTS ASSOCIATION

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November 8, 2000

Mr. Jeff Griffith
Program Director
Air Traffic Planning and Procedures
Federal Aviation Administration
800 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20591

Dear Mr. Griffith:

The Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) is in receipt of your letter announcing the formation of an International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Flight Plan Transition Work Group. The ICAO Flight Plan issue has serious implications for the general aviation community and AOPA is committed to participating in this process. Our representative on the work group will be Mr. Mark Phaneuf.

As expressed in our June 5, 2000 correspondence to Mr. Ron Morgan, AOPA objects to the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) decision to use the ICAO Flight Plan format for all operations. This decision devalues and undermines the good work done by the Multi-Agency Air Traffic Services Procedures Coordination Group Technical Working Group (MAPCOG TWG). MAPCOG TWG developed a consensus recommendation for a Universal Flight Plan Format that, if adopted, will serve to meet the FAA's commitment to international harmonization with minimal negative impact on general aviation.

We look forward to participating in this working group and appreciate the opportunity for continued dialogue concerning the ICAO Flight Plan and the Universal Flight Plan format.

Sincerely

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Melissa K. Bailey
Vice President
Air Traffic Services

Cc: Mr. Ron Morgan