



International Civil Aviation Organization

**The Eleventh Meeting of the Regional Airspace Safety Monitoring
Advisory Group (RASMAG/11)**

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Agenda Item 3: Reports from Asia/Pacific RMAs and EMAs

Assessment of Non-State-Approved Operators Using Pacific RVSM Airspace

(Presented by Pacific Approvals Registry and Monitoring Organization (PARMO))

SUMMARY

This working paper presents an assessment of non-State-approved operators using Pacific and a portion of North East Asia Reduced Vertical Separation Minimum (RVSM) airspace for the period of December 2008.

1. Introduction

1.1 The Pacific Approvals Registry and Monitoring Organization (PARMO), a service provided by the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration's Technical Center, serves as the regional monitoring agency (RMA) for Pacific and for a portion of North East Asia airspace.

1.2 As part of the duties and responsibilities of an RMA (reference 1), the PARMO performs regular checks on the operator compliance with State approval requirements in Pacific and North East airspace where the RVSM is applied.

1.3 The purpose of this paper is to provide an assessment of operators who identified themselves as having State RVSM approval but a record of RVSM approval was not found.

2. Traffic Sample Data

2.1 The PARMO requests an annual one-month traffic movement sample and monthly large height deviation reports from the ATS providers in Pacific and North East Asia airspace. The second column of Table 1 lists the Flight Information Regions (FIRs) in Pacific and North East Asia airspace for which the PARMO is the responsible RMA.

2.2 As indicated in Table 1, the traffic sample data (TSD) for December 2008 for Pacific and North East Asia airspace was received from all of the FIR's under PARMO responsibility.

State	FIR Name	Status
Fiji	Nadi	Received
New Zealand	Auckland	Received
Republic of Korea	Incheon	Received
Tahiti	Tahiti	Received
United States	Oakland	Received
	Anchorage	Received

Table 1: Summary of December 2008 Traffic Sample Data Received by the PARMO

3. Assessment of Non-State-Approved Operators Using Pacific and North East Asia Airspace

3.1 This section provides a summary of an assessment of operator compliance with State approval requirements in Pacific and North East airspace where the RVSM is applied, using the one-month samples of Pacific and North East Asia traffic movement data collected during December 2008

3.2 The importance of timely notification by States of operator approval status to RMAs is emphasized by the results presented in this section.

3.3 All civil aircraft operations observed in each sample were compared against the combined approvals database from January 2009. The operator-aircraft combinations identified as having an approval for operations in RVSM airspace (“/W” or “/Q”) in Field 10 of the ICAO flight plan) found in the traffic data, were cross-examined with the relevant combined approvals database. The traffic samples received from the Anchorage, Auckland, Nadi, and Oakland FIRs contained the information necessary to perform this cross-check. The traffic samples received from the Incheon and Tahiti FIRs did not contain the ICAO Flight Plan Field 10 information. Thus, the filed RVSM approval status was not known for these traffic samples. Any operation for which an RVSM approval was not found will be examined further.

3.4 Appendix A of this report contains the detailed summary of the analysis. The operator-aircraft combinations identified in Appendix A are still under investigation. Based on prior experience, the PARMO needs to investigate the possibility that some of the operations listed may have been conducted by another operator under a wet lease arrangement. Unfortunately, the traffic data samples do not provide sufficient detail to account for this circumstance. The most direct way to explain the failure to match is through operator confirmation of such an arrangement.

3.5 An additional systematic reason for failure to match operations and approvals is a delay in State notification of the approval status of some operators to the appropriate RMA. This situation should be remedied in the future because of the widespread application of RVSM throughout the Region.

3.6 The summary also reveals possible cases of non-RVSM approved operations, with some possible non-approved operations showing /W in Field 10 of the ICAO flight plans. These are under investigation at present.

4. Summary and Conclusions

4.1 PARMO has begun an initial examination into the non-state approved operators using Pacific and portions of North East Asia RVSM airspace based on traffic samples from December 2008. Further investigation into the operations identified in the study will be performed to ensure that a lag in the RVSM approval data was not responsible for the lack of approval.

5. Actions by the Meeting

5.1 The meeting is invited to note the results of the airspace safety oversight presented in this working paper.

References

1. *Handbook for a Regional Monitoring Agency Supporting Implementation and Continued Safe Use of the Reduced Vertical Separation Minimum: RMA Handbook*, International Civil Aviation Organization, August 2003 Edition.

Appendix A
Summary of the Assessment of Non-State-Approved Operators Using Pacific and a Portion of North East Asia RVSM Airspace Based on Traffic Samples from December 2008

A1. Table A1 presents a summary of the operations in the December 2008 Anchorage Oceanic FIR traffic sample for which RVSM approvals were not found in the January 2009 combined RVSM approvals database. There is only one unique general aviation operator-aircraft type combination accounting for 3 operations for which RVSM approvals were not found. The PARMO has not yet completed the investigation into these operations.

Agency Name / Registration Number	Aircraft Type	Number of Observations in Sample
S3868	B752	3

Table A1. Operations in the 2008 Anchorage FIR Traffic Sample for Which RVSM Approvals Were Not Found

A2. Table A2 presents a summary of the operations in the December 2008 Auckland FIR traffic sample for which RVSM approvals were not found in the January 2009 combined RVSM approvals database. There are 3 unique operator-aircraft type combinations accounting for 5 operations for which RVSM approvals were not found. The PARMO has not yet completed the investigation into these operations.

Agency Name / Registration Number	Aircraft Type	Number of Observations in the Sample
SkyAirWorld, Pty. Ltd. (SYW)	E190	2
Empresa Aviacion Interamericana S.A. (VNA)	A320	2
Heavylift International (HVL)	DC86	1

Table A2. Operations in the 2008 Auckland FIR Traffic Sample for Which RVSM Approvals Were Not Found

A3. Table A3 presents a summary of the operations in the December 2008 Incheon FIR traffic sample for which RVSM approvals were not found in the January 2009 combined RVSM approvals database. There are 5 unique operator-aircraft type combinations accounting for 193 operations for which RVSM approvals were not found. The PARMO has not yet completed the investigation into these operations. Because the ICAO Flight Plan Field 10 information was not included in the traffic sample data, some of the operations in Table A3 may not have filed the “W” in Field 10 indicating RVSM approval. The investigation will reveal these operations and will be removed from the table.

Agency Name / Registration Number	Aircraft Type	Number of Observations in Sample
Vietnam Airlines (HVN)	A330	66
Cebu Pacific Air (CEB)	A320	50

Agency Name / Registration Number	Aircraft Type	Number of Observations in Sample
Mongolian Airlines (MGL)	B738	39
Mongolian Airlines (MGL)	A310	21
Sakhalinskije Aviatrassy (SHU)	B732	17

Table A3. Operations in the 2008 Incheon FIR Traffic Sample for Which RVSM Approvals Were Not Found

A4. Table A4 presents a summary of the operations in the December 2008 Nadi FIR traffic sample for which RVSM approvals were not found in the January 2009 combined RVSM approvals database. There are 10 unique operator-aircraft type combinations accounting for 23 operations for which RVSM approvals were not found. The PARMO has not yet completed the investigation into these operations.

Agency Name / Registration Number	Aircraft Type	Number of Observations in the Sample
Air Caledonie International (ACI)	B772	4
Air Vanuatu (AVN)	B738	4
ZKRML	WW24	4
VHLNJ	BE20	3
Heavylift Cargo Airlines Pty. Ltd. (Australia) (HVY)	B721	2
VHNGA	WW24	2
Air Caledonie International (ACI)	B722	1
Solomon Airlines Limited (SOL)	F100	1
VHJCX	LJ36	1
VHNCX	B712	1

Table A4. Operations in the 2008 Nadi FIR Traffic Sample for Which RVSM Approvals Were Not Found

A5. Table A5 presents a summary of the operations in the December 2008 Oakland FIR traffic sample for which RVSM approvals were not found in the January 2009 combined RVSM approvals database. There are 8 unique operator-aircraft type combinations accounting for 8 operations for which RVSM approvals were not found. The PARMO has not yet completed the investigation into these operations.

Agency Name / Registration Number	Aircraft Type	Number of Observations in Sample
A4OBC	B738	1
OEIKM	GLEX	1
OOCBC	B744	1
VHAJJ	WW24	1
XAJPS	GLF4	1
Sunwest Home Aviation Ltd. (CNK)	F900	1
Aerolineas Del Pacifico-Aeropacsa (RPC)	H25B	1
SkyAirWorld, Pty. Ltd. (SYW)	E190	1

Table A5. Operations in the 2008 Oakland FIR Traffic Sample for Which RVSM Approvals Were Not Found

A6. Table A6 presents a summary of the operations in the December 2008 Tahiti FIR traffic sample for which RVSM approvals were not found in the January 2009 combined RVSM approvals database. There is 1 unique operator-aircraft type combination accounting for 3 operations for which RVSM approvals were not found. The PARMO has not yet completed the investigation into these operations. Because the ICAO Flight Plan Field 10 information was not included in the traffic sample data, some of the operations in Table A6 may not have filed the “W” in Field 10 indicating RVSM approval. The investigation will reveal these operations and will be removed from the table.

Agency Name / Registration Number	Aircraft Type	Number of Observations in Sample
Empresa Aviacion Interamericana S.A. (VNA)	A320	3

Table A6. Operations in the 2008 Tahiti FIR Traffic Sample for Which RVSM Approvals Were Not Found