

SAFETY INFORMATION 5/2022

16 February 2022



VFR FLIGHTS FLIGHT PLAN (FPL) REQUIREMENTS

Purpose:

This Safety Information (SI) emphasises on the importance of implementing the requirement stipulated in Civil Aviation Directives (CAD) 2001 – Protection of Persons and Property in submission of FPL Item 16 and 18. In the interests of safety, this SI is issued to alert and remind all pilots and air navigation service providers.

Background:

The seamless and efficient flow of air traffic is achieved, in part, by ensuring that flight plans and its associated messages are transmitted, processed, and transferred between Air Traffic Service Units (ATSU) in a seamless, efficient, and consistent manner. The methods and procedures used to file and/or originate flight plans have a residual effect on the quality of the air traffic services rendered. The transmission of flight plans containing erroneous information, has a direct impact on the safety and efficiency of flights.

Discussion:

Civil Aviation Authority of Malaysia (CAAM) has received reports involving aircraft which have failed to report or notify Air Traffic Control (ATC) as required, in particular, a report of arrival to a destination. It was found that in numerous occasions, Item 16 in the FPL i.e destination aerodrome (DEST) was not specified accurately. The term “aerodrome” where it is used in the flight plan is intended to cover also sites other than aerodromes which may be used by certain types of aircraft, e.g. helicopters or balloons.

Whenever an arrival report is required, failure to comply with this instruction may cause serious disruption in the air traffic services and incur great expense in carrying out unnecessary search and rescue operations.

Recommended Action:

- a) Pilot-in-command to **strictly adhere** to the flight planning requirements in CAD 1101 - Air traffic management Appendix 2, para 2, Item 16 and 18.
- b) Pilot-in-command is to ensure:
 1. **INSERT** in **Item 16** of the FPL, the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) four-letter location indicator of the destination aerodrome as specified in Doc 7910, *Location Indicators*; or

2. if no location indicator has been assigned or for aerodromes not listed in the relevant Aeronautical Information Publication, **INSERT 'ZZZZ'** and **SPECIFY in Item 18** the actual name of the location, position of the location in LAT/LONG or bearing and distance from the nearest significant point, preceded by DEST/; and
 3. **INSERT in Item 18**, Person-on-ground contact number(s) so as to enable ATSU to obtain information or message comparable to an arrival report, where such a report is required.
- c) Air Traffic Control Officers (ATCO) in ATSUs are **to ensure** that;
1. FPL submitted are compliance with the format and data conventions;
 2. FPL is checked for its completeness and, to the extent possible, for accuracy; and
 3. Regulation under CAD 2001, Chapter 2, para 2.2 and 2.3 are adhered to by the pilot-in-command.

CAAM will continue to closely monitor development of the issue for any further relevant information and guidance.

For further information, please refer to the following documents available in the CAAM website:

- a) CAD 2 – Rules of the Air
- b) CAD 11 – Air Traffic Services
- c) CAD 1101 – Air Traffic Management
- d) CAD 2001 – Protection of Persons and Property



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Chief Executive Officer

for Civil Aviation Authority of Malaysia

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