SUBJECT : AREA NAVIGATION EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS IN COMPLIANCE WITH RNP APCH SPECIFICATION FOR AIRCRAFT FLYING TO NICE-CÔTE D’AZUR AIRPORT.

This AIC cancels and supersedes AIC A 14/18

1. New Requirements

1.1 RNP APCH requirement
Starting from 1st January 2019, and pursuant to the decree dated 8 January 2018¹, aircraft flying to Nice Côte d’Azur Airport (LFMN) under general air traffic using instrument flight rules must be equipped with an area navigation system in compliance with the RNP APCH navigation specification as defined by ICAO document 9613 – Performance-based Navigation (PBN) Manual.
At least LFMN RNAV A (GNSS) RWY 04 and RNAV D (GNSS) RWY 22 approach procedures shall be included in the area navigation system database.

¹ Decree of 8 January 2018 on area navigation equipment requirements in conformity with RNP APCH specifications for aircraft flying to Nice-Côte d’Azur Airport.

1.2 Exemptions
The new requirements noted in §1.1 do not apply to aircraft:
- owned, rented or charted by the French State, and aircraft belonging to Foreign States;
- in emergency situations;
- performing medical flights or medical evacuations.
When flight planning permits, operators of aircraft in the above situations, not meeting the requirements noted in §1.1, must notify Nice ATC services of their intentions with a 24-hour advance notice. This notification may result in requests for modification of arrival times in order to optimally integrate the flights in the air traffic.
Notification is to be made by email to the following address:
temps-reel.nice@aviation-civile.gouv.fr

1.3 Derogations
In general, no derogations will be granted.
The only possible exceptions concern flights considered to be of major national importance and will be subject to approval by the director of French South-East Civil Aviation Authority. In these very exceptional cases, the request for approval must be justified and must be sent to the following email address with a minimum of 7-day advance notice:
rnpapch-nice-derogation@aviation-civile.gouv.fr
The aircraft operator of a flight which has been given this approval must notify Nice ATC services by e-mail with a 48-hour advance notice to the following address:
temps-reel.nice@aviation-civile.gouv.fr

2 Operational consequences

2.1 Flight plan:
Starting from 1st January 2019, the RNP APCH capacity must be included in all IFR flight plans to Nice Airport (using « S1 » or « S2 » markers in field number 18 or « B » marker in Field number 10a).
For the flights that are exempted (see § 1.2), field number 18 has to be filled as noted below:
• Flights with a State status: STS/STATE or STS/HEAD
• Medical or evacuation flights: STS/MEDEVAC or STS/HOSP
• Search and rescue flights: STS/SAR
• Fire fighting flights: STS/FFR
• or STS/ATFMX
The IFR flight plans to Nice Airport not compliant with one of those conditions in the fields numbers 18 or 10a will be rejected.
2.2 RAIM predictions:

It is recalled that during flight planning, an RAIM prediction is necessary for certain GNSS systems. This prediction assures that the satellite coverage is sufficient at the estimated time of arrival in Nice to perform an RNAV (GNSS) approach using its avionic systems. When RAIM is continuously unavailable for more than 5 minutes the flight plan should be revised.

2.3 Approach Procedures In Effect:

Starting from 1st January 2019, the following procedures will be in effect at Nice Airport:

• Runway 04 in use:
  • RNAV (GNSS) A by default
  • ILS, LOC or RNAV (GNSS) Y, RNAV (GNSS) Z if weather conditions are not met for implementation of RNAV (GNSS) A.

• Runway 22 in use:
  • RNAV (GNSS) D

2.4 Unforseen situations:

Conventional VOR procedures will remain published as a back-up but will only be used in the event of unforseen situations (GNSS system malfunction during flight, GNSS interference...).