

Lufthansa Systems FlightNav

General Navigation Data Information

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Fixes at half degrees of latitude in the NAT region (NAT OPS Bulletin 2015_003)

The purpose of this document is to forward information about current and future coding of reporting positions defined by half degree of latitude and full degree of longitude at Lufthansa Systems.

Background

Entry, exit and intermediate points within Oceanic Control Areas are often defined by unnamed waypoints, meaning there is no published five-letter-name-code. These points are often defined by geographical coordinates, expressed in degrees of latitude and longitude.

Industry standard ARINC 424 provides guidance on how to designate such unnamed points in Section 7, Paragraph 7.2.5.

RLatSM trials

Within the North Atlantic Region (NAT) a trial application of Reduced Lateral Separation Minima (RLatSM) will begin in November 2015. Today, the NAT tracks are designed to be at least 60 NM apart through spacing the points defining these tracks by at least one full degree of latitude. For the trial phase, the change is to reduce lateral separation, which can be practically achieved by establishing tracks which are spaced by half degree of latitude. So for the first time in the NAT region, reporting positions will be used that are located at a half degree of latitude and full degree of longitude (e.g. N50° 30' W040° 00').

LSY coding

By default, Lufthansa Systems does not provide fixes located in the NAT region that are defined by half degree of latitude and full degree of longitude. As of cycle 1508, there will be no such fixes present as standard data within the NAT region. Only fixes in the NAT region that are defined by full degrees of latitude and longitude will be coded as standard waypoints. These are designated as per ARINC 424, 7.2.5 (e.g. N50° 00' / W040° 00' is designated 5040N).

Recommendation from the NAT region ANSPs

The ANSPs from the NAT region published a common language AIC, recommending the use of the letter H instead of the letter N in order to not confuse the points with the full degree latitude fixes (e.g. N50° 30' / W040° 00' would be H5040).

Options for FMS NavDB customers

Lufthansa Systems offers to tailor waypoints that are defined by half degree of latitude upon customer request for any tailored navigation database. The naming convention to be applied will be defined by the customer. This could either be as per ARINC 424, 7.2.5 (e.g. N50° 30' / W040° 00' would be N5040) or any other means of uniquely identifying these fixes. For a non-tailored standard navigation database, please consult your FMS vendor for options.

Options for ARINC 424 file customers

Customers receiving ARINC 424 files directly from Lufthansa Systems can chose between the following options regarding fixes located in the NAT region that are defined by half degree of latitude and full degree of longitude

- none included (default)
- all included, naming convention per ARINC 424, 7.2.5
- all included, naming convention as defined by customer

Please contact us in case of any questions or comments.

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