

AERONAUTICAL INFORMATION CIRCULAR 17/20

RADAR VECTORS AND NOISE ABATEMENT

Background

Guidance material in the *Transport Canada Aeronautical Information Manual (TC AIM) RAC*, “Rules of the Air and Air Traffic Services” subsection 7.5, “Standard Instrument Departure (SID)”, which states that, “When air traffic control (ATC) issues radar vectors, they will commence only after the requirements of the noise abatement procedure have been complied with.”

This statement has led some pilots to believe that when an ATC radar vector is in contradiction to the noise abatement procedure, they are not to initiate the vector until after noise abatement procedure is completed. This is an unsafe interpretation, as delaying the initiation of an ATC radar vector can result in a loss of separation or a collision.

Action

To remove ambiguity with respect to pilot action when ATC provides a radar vector that contradicts a noise abatement procedure, TC AIM RAC “Rules of the Air and Air Traffic Services” subsection 7.5, “Standard Instrument Departure (SID)”, guidance is amended as described below.

Current version:

It is the pilot’s responsibility to follow the noise abatement procedures. SIDs, as published, will not contravene them. When ATC issues radar vectors, they will commence only after the requirements of the noise abatement procedure have been complied with.

Replace with this version:

SIDs may include specific communications failure procedures. These specific procedures supersede the standard communications failure procedures.

SIDs, as published, will not contravene noise abatement procedures. ATC-assigned vectors will not normally contravene noise abatement procedures however, ATC may be required to issue a vector contrary to noise abatement for flight safety reasons.

ATC assigned vectors shall be followed in a timely manner even if they are in conflict with the published noise abatement procedures

This new guidance regarding ATC radar vectors and noise abatement procedures takes effect immediately in accordance with this Aeronautical Information Circular (AIC). The TC AIM RAC “Rules of the Air and Air Traffic Services” subsection 7.5, “Standard Instrument Departure (SID)”, will be updated during the next amendment cycle.

Further Information

For further information, please contact:

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James Ferrier', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

James Ferrier
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