

1. Background/Purpose

A location indicator is a unique code used to simplify the identification of a landing facility, navigational aid or meteorological station.

NAV CANADA assigns and controls Canadian aviation location indicators¹. Meteorological station location indicators currently reside in the Environment Canada METSTAT tables and/or in a NAV CANADA database². The purpose of the following location indicator requirements is to set clear and modernized guidelines for consistent assignments of future location indicators for meteorological stations. It is not intended to retroactively change historical or current location indicators that do not fit within these requirements.

2. Scope / Applicability

NAV CANADA assigns four-letter indicators beginning with letters "CW", "CX", "CY" and "CZ" and local four-character letter-number indicators beginning with "C" in its area of jurisdiction for all meteorological stations used for the dissemination of aeronautical meteorological data.

Location indicators are considered permanent and will not be changed without strong and documented justification, primarily concerning air safety or a significant change of landing facility status. Location indicators are not interchangeable and cannot be transferred from one location to another or from one airport to another even within the same community. The original indicator will remain in effect, in most instances, even if it is necessary to change the facility's name.

Any reassignment or change in usage or change in name of a location indicator assignment must be coordinated with NAV CANADA.

- › For aviation meteorological stations owned by Environment Canada, coordination takes place directly with NAV CANADA Aviation Weather Services.
- › For all other aviation meteorological stations, NAV CANADA Aeronautical Information Management is responsible for final coordination and assignment of Canadian location indicators.

Note: These requirements are limited to aviation meteorological stations. For any meteorological stations that do not disseminate aviation meteorological data, location codes beginning with "CW", "CX", "CY" and "CZ" should not be assigned. All further references to a meteorological station in this document are specific to an aviation meteorological station.

¹ Transport Canada Aeronautical Information Manual – GEN 1.1.2

² NAV CANADA databases include the Canada Flight Supplement, Canada Water Aerodrome Supplement, AIP Canada (ICAO) and electronic repositories.

3. Location

When located on the aerodrome, the meteorological station indicator should match the aerodrome indicator. If more than one station exists at the same site (for example, NAV CANADA station and Environment Canada station):

- › The primary station used for supporting aviation activity at the aerodrome should match the aerodrome location indicator.
- › The secondary station is assigned a unique location indicator beginning with “CW”.

When the meteorological station is located more than 1.6 NM (3 km) from the geometric centre of the runway complex of an aerodrome, it will be considered as an offsite meteorological station and be issued a unique four-letter or four-character letter number location indicator.

Canadian ICAO indicators outside of the “CW”, “CX”, “CY”, “CZ” range are considered non standard and may have justification for reassignment for ease of international data interoperability and/or for inclusion in FAA Order 7350 – Location Identifiers. Current non-standard indicators may be considered grandfathered for compliance to the paragraphs above.

Meteorological station name codes should be representative of the geographic location they are serving.

Details concerning NAV CANADA location indicator assignment standards are in Appendix A of this document.

4. Requests

Only the Meteorological Service Provider may make requests for the purpose of commissioning or decommissioning meteorological stations. Requests for location indicator and name codes should be made by contacting AISDATA@navcanada.ca with:

- › Owner(s) and Operator of the meteorological service
- › Desired name code (geographic location name)
- › City and Province of the meteorological station
- › Location from served aerodrome; for example, distance and direction from aerodrome or coordinates
- › Type of reports to be originated from the corresponding meteorological service

For additions, modifications or deletions to existing data concerning private meteorological stations, the Aeronautical Data Originator must submit a Meteorological Services Data Submission Form (DSFMET).