

AFOD Flight Planning Hints

This document contains the combined hints of all AFOD Flight Plan examples along with references to relevant regulations and publications.

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Addressee(s)

If you file your flight plan at a non-US-Army airfield, enter AD ETEEWYX in the third line of the addressee portion to ensure the flight plan will be addressed to the AFOD.

[AP2 Flight Planning Flight Planning and Air Traffic Flow Management Procedures]

7 Aircraft Identification

Enter your approved call sign or the applicable agency code (e.g. "R" for US Army) followed by the last five digits of your aircraft registration. The aircraft ID cannot be longer than seven characters. If your call sign is longer, abbreviate it and enter the full call sign in Item 18 under RMK/VOICE CALLSIGN...

[ICAO DOC 4444 Appx 2][AIP ENR 1.10][GP 4-4 DD Form 1801 – DoD International Flight Plan Item 7 AIRCRAFT IDENTIFICATION]

8 Flight Rules & Type of Flight

8 (a) Flight Rules

Indicate the flight rules, under which your flight will be conducted.

I (IFR), V (VFR), Y (IFR to VFR) or Z (VFR to IFR)

[ICAO DOC 4444 Appx 2][AIP ENR 1.10][GP 4-4 DD Form 1801 – DoD International Flight Plan Item 8 FLIGHT RULES]

8 (b) Type of Flight

M (military flight)

[ICAO DOC 4444 Appx 2][AIP ENR 1.10][GP 4-4 DD Form 1801 – DoD International Flight Plan Item 8 TYPE OF FLIGHT]

9. Number, Type of Aircraft & Wake Turbulence Category

9 (a) Number

Number of aircraft. Leave blank for single aircraft.

[ICAO DOC 4444 Appx 2][AIP ENR 1.10][GP 4-4 DD Form 1801 – DoD International Flight Plan Item 9 NUMBER OF AIRCRAFT]

9 (b) Type of Aircraft

State the ICAO type designator as published in ICAO DOC 8643, NOT the military designator (i.e. BE20 for C-12, C560 for UC-35 or GLF5 for C-37). If no designator is specified or known, the letter group ZZZZ shall be entered and the type of aircraft shall be stated in Item 18 along with the identification group TYP/...

[ICAO DOC 4444 Appx 2][ICAO DOC 8643][AIP ENR 1.10][GP 4-2 DD Form 175 – Military Flight Plan][GP 4-4 DD Form 1801 – DoD International Flight Plan Item 9 TYPE OF AIRCRAFT*]

(* GP not in compliance with ICAO and national regulations)

Formations flights with different aircraft types

In the case of a formation flight performed with different aircraft types, "ZZZZ" shall be inserted. The types and number of aircraft of each type shall be inserted in Item 18, preceded by "TYP/".

Otherwise, state the ICAO type designator as published in ICAO DOC 8643, NOT the military designator (i.e. BE20 for C-12, C560 for UC-35 or GLF5 for C-37). If no designator is specified or known, the letter group ZZZZ shall be entered and the type of aircraft shall be stated in Item 18 along with the identification group TYP/...

[ICAO DOC 4444 Appx 2][ICAO DOC 8643][AIP ENR 1.10][GP 4-2 DD Form 175 – Military Flight Plan][GP 4-4 DD Form 1801 – DoD International Flight Plan Item 9 TYPE OF AIRCRAFT*]

(* GP not in compliance with ICAO and national regulations)

9 (c) Wake Turbulence Category

Wake Turbulence Category of your aircraft

[ICAO DOC 4444 Appx 2][ICAO DOC 8643][AIP ENR 1.10][GP 4-2 DD Form 175 – Military Flight Plan][GP 4-4 DD Form 1801 – DoD International Flight Plan Item 9 WAKE TURBULENCE CATEGORY]

10 Equipment and Capabilities

10 (a) Radio communication, navigation and approach aid equipment and capabilities

List the equipment and capabilities of your aircraft starting with S if standard equipment (VHF RTF, VOR and ILS) is carried and serviceable. The designator S must not be inserted if enroute equipment (RNP) for area navigation is not available.

Then enter the designators for the rest of your equipment in alphabetical order.

If the letter R is used, the performance based navigation levels that can be met are to be specified in Item 18 following the indicator PBN/. For guidance see ICAO Doc 9613.

If the letter G is used, the types of external GNSS augmentation, if any, are to be specified in Item 18 following the indicator NAV/.

For IFR flights, if not equipped with RNP (R or G), enter NAV/RNAVX in Item 18 and 'Z' in Item 10a.

For IFR flights, if unable to meet minimum RNAV requirements due to equipment failure or degradation, enter NAV/RNAVINOP in Item 18 and 'Z' in Item 10a. 'S' or 'R' shall not be entered in Item 10a.

For flights above FL195 the carriage of 8.33 kHz radio is required. State aircraft not equipped with 8.33 kHz radio (Y) can be exempt from this requirement if equipped with UHF RTF, the entry COM/EXM833 is made in Item 18 and 'Z' in Item 10a.

For flights inside RVSM airspace (F290 and above), if not RVSM equipped, enter STS/NONRVSM in Item 18.

[ICAO DOC 4444 Appx 2][ICAO DOC 9613][AIP ENR 1.10][GP 4-4 DD Form 1801 – DoD International Flight Plan Item 10 EQUIPMENT & 18 OTHER INFORMATION]

10 (b) Surveillance equipment and capabilities

This item includes transponder, ADS-B and ADS-C capabilities.

[ICAO DOC 4444 Appx 2][AIP ENR 1.10][GP 4-4 DD Form 1801 – DoD International Flight Plan Item 7 Mode S, Item 10 & Item 18]

13 Departure Aerodrome & Time

13 (a) Departure Aerodrome

Enter the ICAO location indicator for your aerodrome of departure as specified in ICAO DOC 7910. If you depart from a field site or there is no ICAO code published, enter ZZZZ and list the name AND lat/long coordinates or bearing and distance from the nearest significant point of your landing site in item 18 under DEP/...

DO NOT use indicators like ED40, ET43 or EH58. These indicators are no official ICAO location indicators and can't be used in a flight plan! This also applies for EBCH, LBNS and LYBS! Use ZZZZ as described above instead.

[ICAO DOC 4444 Appx 2][ICAO DOC 7910 AIP ENR 1.10][GP 4-4 DD Form 1801 – DoD International Flight Plan Item 13]

13 (b) Time

Enter your EOBT (Estimated Off Block Time) in UTC (Z).

EOBT = desired takeoff time – standard taxi time for your ADEP

[ICAO DOC 4444 Appx 2][AIP ENR 1.10][GP 4-4 DD Form 1801 – DoD International Flight Plan Item 13]

15 Cruising Speed & Level

15 (a) Cruising Speed

Cruising speed in knots, indicated by 'N' followed by four digits.

When you fly in airspace where the metric system or mach number is used, please consult the GP or the appropriate AIP.

[ICAO DOC 4444 Appx 2][AIP ENR 1.10][GP 4-4 DD Form 1801 – DoD International Flight Plan Item 15 CRUISING SPEED]

15 (b) Level

IFR

Initial flight level:

‘A’ followed by three digits indicating your altitude in hundreds of feet or, if above transition altitude,

‘F’ followed by three digits indicating your flight level.

When you fly in airspace where the metric system is used, please consult the GP or the appropriate AIP.

Make sure you chose the appropriate flight level (odd or even) for your direction of flight. When in doubt consult AIP ENR 3.

[ICAO DOC 4444 Appx 2][AIP ENR 1.10][AIP ENR 3][GP 4-4 DD Form 1801 – DoD International Flight Plan Item 15 CRUISING LEVEL]

VFR

For VFR flights (except VFR Night flights into other than US Army controlled airspace), “VFR” can be entered instead of the requested cruising level

[ICAO DOC 4444 Appx 2][AIP ENR 1.10]

VFR NIGHT

For VFR Night flights, enter an appropriate VFR cruising altitude or flight level for your direction of flight.

[ICAO DOC 4444 Appx 2][AIP ENR 1.10]

15 (c) Route

IFR

Beginning of route: If you depart from an aerodrome with a published standard instrument departure route (SID), start your route with the published abbreviated designation for a valid SID for your flight (see AIP AD), followed by the last point of the SID.

If no SID is published, start your route description with ‘DCT’ followed by the first point of your route.

[ICAO DOC 4444 Appx 2][AIP ENR 1.10][AIP AD][GP 4-4 DD Form 1801 – DoD International Flight Plan Item 15 ROUTE]

Route: The route of flight shall be indicated by points connected by published ATS routes or ‘DCT’ for flights outside published ATS routes. Route points can be specified by published waypoints, nav aids,

lat/long coordinates and DME points. Please don't insert VFR-checkpoint names, city names or airfield identifiers, but provide the corresponding lat/long coordinates if you want to use them.

[ICAO DOC 4444 Appx 2][AIP ENR 1.10][AE Reg. 95-40, 8 Flight Plans d. (2)][GP 4-4 DD Form 1801 – DoD International Flight Plan Item 15 ROUTE]

End of route: The last point of your route description should be the starting point of a standard instrument arrival route (STAR) of your destination aerodrome, followed by the published abbreviated designator of the STAR. If no STAR is published, enter a 'DCT' after the last point of your route.

[ICAO DOC 4444 Appx 2][AIP ENR 1.10][GP 4-4 DD Form 1801 – DoD International Flight Plan Item 15 ROUTE]

Stay

En-Route Stay Indicator: The stay indicator specifies the location and duration of a special en-route flight activity (e.g. training, exercises in holding areas or maintenance checks)

The stay indicator consists of the letter group STAY followed by a sequence number from 1 to 9, a slash and the time spent in the area indicated in hours and minutes: STAY1/0120

The stay indicator is inserted between the point of entry in the STAY AREA and the point of exit from the STAY AREA. The entry and the exit point can be the same.

To indicate the reason for the stay a pertinent STAYINFO indicator with the same sequence number shall be entered in item 18 of the FPL.

The stay indicator shall only be used for en-route special activities and not for approaches at an airport along your route of flight or at your destination aerodrome.

Don't forget to add the duration of your stay to your total EET.

The STAY indicator can only be used for flights entirely inside IFPS airspace. For flights partially or entirely outside IFPS airspace the delay shall only be indicated in item 18 of your flight plan as 'DLE/' followed by the point and duration (HHMM) of the delay. (Example: DLE/GESAD0100)

[ICAO DOC 4444 Appx 2][AIP ENR 1.10][IFPS User Manual][AP2 Flight Planning]

Mixed GAT/OAT

GAT is inserted after the reporting point at which the change from OAT to GAT is completed.

OAT is inserted after the reporting point at which the change from GAT to OAT is completed.

[ICAO DOC 4444 Appx 2][AIP ENR 1.10][AP2 Flight Planning 1-2 Flight Planning and Air Traffic Flow Management Procedures]

Composite

YM

Change IFR to VFR: After the point at which you intend to change the flight rules, enter the identification group "VFR". A STAR shall not be entered after the last point of your IFR route, however, that point can be the starting point of a STAR.

[ICAO DOC 4444 Appx 2][AIP ENR 1.10][AP2 Germany Filing Flight Plans]

ZM

Change VFR to IFR: After the point at which you intend to change the flight rules, enter the speed and cruising level data, followed by the identification group “IFR”. A SID shall not be entered before the first point of your IFR route, however, that point can be the last point of a SID.

[ICAO DOC 4444 Appx 2][AIP ENR 1.10][AP2 Germany Filing Flight Plans]

VFR

VFR routes shall be indicated by points connected by ‘DCT’. Route points can be specified by published waypoints, nav aids, lat/long coordinates and DME points. Please don’t insert VFR-checkpoint names, city names or airfield identifiers, but provide the corresponding lat/long coordinates if you want to use them.

[ICAO DOC 4444 Appx 2][AIP ENR 1.10][AE Reg. 95-40, 8 Flight Plans d. (2)][GP 4-4 DD Form 1801 – DoD International Flight Plan Item 15 ROUTE]

VFR Night

For VFR flights at night, the route shall be indicated as far as possible in accordance with an IFR routing. The route of flight shall be defined by points connected by published ATS routes or ‘DCT’ for flights outside published ATS routes. Route points can be specified by published waypoints, nav aids and DME points.

[ICAO DOC 4444 Appx 2][AIP ENR 1.10][AE Reg. 95-40, 8. Flight Plans d. (2)]

16 Destination Aerodrome, Total EET, ALTN & 2nd ALTN

16 (a) Destination Aerodrome

As with the departure aerodrome, enter the ICAO location identifier for your aerodrome of destination or alternate. If you plan to land on a field site or there is no ICAO code published for your ADES or ALTN, enter ZZZZ and list the name AND lat/long coordinates or bearing and distance from the nearest significant point of your landing site in item 18 under DEST/... or ALTN

DO NOT use indicators like ED40, ET43 or EH58. These indicators are no official ICAO location indicators and can't be used in a flight plan! This also applies for EBCH, LBNS and LYBS! Use ZZZZ as described above instead.

[ICAO DOC 4444 Appx 2][AIP ENR 1.10][GP 4-4 DD Form 1801 – DoD International Flight Plan Item 16]

16 (b) Total EET

For IFR flights, the estimated time required from departure until arrival over the established point defined by reference to navigation aids, from which an instrument approach procedure is intended, or, if no navigation aid is associated with the destination aerodrome, until arrival over the destination aerodrome.

For flights arriving VFR, the estimated time required from departure until arrival over the destination aerodrome.

[ICAO DOC 4444 Appx 2][AIP ENR 1.10][GP 4-4 DD Form 1801 – DoD International Flight Plan Item 16]

16 (c) Altn Aerodrome/2nd Altn Aerodrome

Insert ICAO location identifier(s) for your destination alternate aerodrome(s). If no ICAO location identifier is published for one or both your destination alternate aerodromes, enter ZZZZ and specify the name AND lat/long coordinates or bearing and distance from the nearest significant point after ALTN/ in item 18.

Take-off alternate aerodromes and en-route alternate aerodromes shall be entered in item 18 after TALT/ for take-off alternates or RALT/ for en-route alternates.

[ICAO DOC 4444 Appx 2][AIP ENR 1.10][GP 4-4 DD Form 1801 – DoD International Flight Plan Item 16]

18 Other Information

STS/

- STS/ALTRV For a flight operated in accordance with an altitude reservation.
- STS/SAR For a flight engaged in Search and Rescue missions.
- STS/HEAD For a flight with 'Head of State' status.
- STS/HOSP For a medical flight specifically declared by the medical authorities.
- STS/HUM For flights operating for humanitarian reasons.
- STS/STATE For military registered aircraft or civil registered aircraft used in military and/or customs and/or police services.
- STS/FFR For a flight engaged in fire-fighting.
- STS/NONRVSM For a non-RVSM flight intending to operate in RVSM airspace.
- STS/MEDEVAC For a life critical medical emergency evacuation.
- STS/MARSA For a flight for which military entity assumes responsibility for separation of military aircraft.
- STS/FLTCK For a flight performing calibration of nav aids.
- STS/HAZMAT For a flight carrying hazardous material.

PBN/

Indicate relevant RNAV or RNP capabilities. Only 8 codes (16 characters) are allowed after PBN/. If you have more than 8 codes, enter the 8 most relevant for your flight after PBN/ and the least relevant after NAV/ and include 'Z' in Item 10a.

For guidance refer to ICAO DOC 9613.

[ICAO DOC 4444 Appx 2][ICAO DOC 9613][AIP ENR 1.10][GP 4-4 DD Form 1801 – DoD International Flight Plan Item 18][GP 6-7 Performance Based Navigation (PBN)]

NAV/

Significant NAV equipment other than specified in PBN. 'Z' required in item 10a.

SBAS - If the letter G is used, the types of external GNSS augmentation, if any, are specified in Item 18 following the indicator NAV/ and separated by a space.

RNAVX or RNAVINOP - If RNAV equipment is missing or the minimum RNAV requirements cannot be met.

[ICAO DOC 4444 Appx 2][AIP ENR 1.10][GP 4-4 DD Form 1801 – DoD International Flight Plan Item 18][GP 6-7 Performance Based Navigation (PBN)]

DEST/

If you plan to land on a field site or there is no ICAO code published for your ADES, enter ZZZZ in item 16 and list the name AND lat/long coordinates or bearing and distance from the nearest significant point of your landing site.

[ICAO DOC 4444 Appx 2][AIP ENR 1.10][GP 4-4 DD Form 1801 – DoD International Flight Plan Item 18]

DOF/

Date of Flight in the format YYMMDD

REG/

Registration mark of the aircraft if it is different from the aircraft identification entered in item 7
In a formation, the registration marks of ALL aircraft of the formation shall be inserted.

[ICAO DOC 4444 Appx 2][AIP ENR 1.10][GP 4-4 DD Form 1801 – DoD International Flight Plan Item 18]

EET/

(ZM) Estimated elapsed time until crossing the switch over point to IFR (Format: PointHHMM)

[ICAO DOC 4444 Appx 2][AIP ENR 1.10][IFPS User Manual][AP2 Germany Filing Flight Plans]

(International VFR) Point of crossing the international border and estimated elapsed time to this point. Not required by all countries. Consult the respective national AIP.

[ICAO DOC 4444 Appx 2][AIP ENR 1.10][IFPS User Manual][AP2 Flight Planning]

(FIR Boundary Crossing (IFR)) Estimated elapsed time to FIR boundary crossing for international flights. This is not required for border crossings within the IFPS with exception of Turkey. Format: FIR entered followed by time HHMM.

[ICAO DOC 4444 Appx 2][AIP ENR 1.10][IFPS User Manual][AP2 Flight Planning]

TYP/

In a formation with different types of aircraft, state the number and types of aircraft along with the identification group TYP/. If an ICAO type designator is published in ICAO DOC 8643, do not use the military designator.

[ICAO DOC 4444 Appx 2][ICAO DOC 8643][AIP ENR 1.10][GP 4-2 DD Form 175 – Military Flight Plan; GP 4-4 DD Form 1801 – DoD International Flight Plan Item 9 TYPE OF AIRCRAFT*]

(* GP not in compliance with ICAO and national regulations)

OPR/

Designator of aircraft operator as published in ICAO DOC 8585 or name of aircraft operator, if no designator has been assigned. (e.g. USR for US Army)

[ICAO DOC 4444 Appx 2][ICAO DOC 8585][AIP ENR 1.10][GP 4-4 DD Form 1801 – DoD International Flight Plan Item 18]

PER/

Indicate one aircraft performance data (single letter) if required by an ATS authority.

[ICAO Doc 8168 Volume I – Flight Procedures][AIP ENR 1.10][GP 4-4 DD Form 1801 – DoD International Flight Plan Item 18]

RMK/

OAT

This entry indicates that a flight is conducted as OAT. It shall be entered directly after the identification group “RMK/”

[AIP ENR 1.10][AP2 Germany – Operational Air Traffic][AP2 Germany – Filing Flight Plans; GP 8-8 Operations not Conducted Under ICAO Procedures]

OAT OVER GERMANY

Is to be entered for all flights into, out of or flying over Germany, does not indicate OAT versus GAT operations which would be indicated in the route of flight as required.

VFR NIGHT

The entry “VFR NIGHT” is required after “RMK/” for all VFR flights at night into controlled airspace (except US Army controlled).

[AIP ENR 1.10][AP2 Chapter 3 Germany Filing Flight Plans]

PPR Number

If a PPR is required for your destination aerodrome, state the PPR number or status of your PPR request as “pending” or “approved”. This will prevent unnecessary inquiries by the AFOD personnel and the recipients of your flight plan.

(REQ) Intentions

Indicate your intentions at your destination aerodrome (e.g. LOW APPROACH ONLY), unless a full stop landing is planned. Please consult the DOD FLIP Enroute Supplement for PPR requirements and, if a PPR is required, state the PPR number or status of your PPR request as “pending” or “approved”.

(REQ) Other Requests

Indicate any requests you have at your destination aerodrome, e.g. FUEL or RON.

REQ DEP ARR TO ETEEYWYX

This entry ensures that your actual time of departure and/or arrival is passed to the AFOD

[AP2 Flight Planning – Flight Planning and Air Traffic Flow Management Procedures][AP2 Germany – Filing Flight Plans]

MDCN

List your Military Diplomatic Clearance Numbers, preceded by the first two letters of the ICAO location identifiers of the FIR/UIRs entered. Please consult the Foreign Clearance Guide for respective aircraft entry requirements.

Diplomatic Clearances shall be listed after MDCN in the identification group RMK/. Example: MDCN ED XXXX LS XXXX LI XXXX

If a Diplomatic Clearance is still on request at the time you submit your flight plan, indicate that by the word “pending” in place of the Diplomatic Clearance Number and submit it to us when available. This will prevent unnecessary inquiries by the AFOD personnel and the recipients of your flight plan.

[Foreign Clearance Guide][GP 4-4 DD Form 1801 – DoD International Flight Plan Item 18]

STAYINFO1/

A STAYINFO indicator with the same sequence number as the corresponding STAY in item 15 shall be entered in item 18, explaining the reason for your stay and your intentions during that stay.

The stay indicator shall only be used for en-route special activities and not for approaches at an airport along your route of flight or at your destination aerodrome.

[ICAO DOC 4444 Appx 2][AIP ENR 1.10][IFPS User Manual][AP2 Flight Planning]

19 Supplementary Information

Fuel Endurance

Fuel endurance at the beginning of this portion

[ICAO DOC 4444 Appx 2][AIP ENR 1.10][GP 4-4 DD Form 1801 – DoD International Flight Plan Item 19]

Persons on Board

Total number of persons on board, including crew and pax

[ICAO DOC 4444 Appx 2][AIP ENR 1.10][GP 4-4 DD Form 1801 – DoD International Flight Plan Item 19]

Remarks

Please provide a mobile phone number under which we can get in touch with the crew during the mission and make sure it is turned on when on the ground (when practicable). This is important in order to relay slot times, route changes or other important messages.

[AP2 Germany – Filing Flight Plans]