

INSTRUMENT PROCEDURES HANDBOOK

2004

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION
Flight Procedure Standards Branch**

PREFACE

The *Instrument Procedures Handbook* is designed as a technical reference for professional pilots who are conducting instrument flight rule (IFR) operations in the National Airspace System (NAS). Certified instrument flight instructors, instrument pilots, and instrument students may find this handbook a valuable training aid since it provides detailed coverage of instrument charts and procedures including IFR takeoff, departure, en route, arrival, approach, and landing. Safety information covering relevant subjects such as runway incursion, land and hold short operations (LAHSO), controlled flight into terrain (CFIT), and human factors issues also are included. Chapter 1 provides an overview of IFR operations in the NAS and highlights system improvement efforts being implemented by the FAA. Pilots, instructors, and flight crewmembers who are seeking only IFR procedural information may choose to begin with Chapter 2 — Takeoffs and Departures. The emphasis of this handbook applies to airplane operations. Guidelines specific to helicopter IFR operations are included in Appendix C – Helicopter Instrument Procedures.

This handbook conforms to pilot training and certification concepts established by the FAA. Where a term is defined in the text, it is shown in blue. Terms and definitions are also located in Appendix D – Glossary. There are different ways of teaching as well as performing instrument flight procedures. The discussion and explanations reflect the most commonly used instrument procedures. Occasionally, the word “must” or similar language is used where the desired action is deemed critical. The use of such language is not intended to add to, interpret, or relieve pilots of their responsibility imposed by Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR).

It is essential for persons using this handbook to also become familiar with and apply the pertinent parts of 14 CFR and the *Aeronautical Information Manual* (AIM). The AIM is available online at <http://www.faa.gov/atpubs>. Performance standards for demonstrating instrument competence required for pilot certification are prescribed in the Instrument Rating and Airline Transport Pilot Practical Test Standards as appropriate.

This handbook introduces advanced information for IFR operations and expands upon information contained in FAA-H-8083-15, *Instrument Flying Handbook*. This publication, as well as several others including the AIM, may be purchased from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO), Washington, DC 20402-9325.

The current Flight Standards Service airman training and testing material and subject matter knowledge codes for all airman certificates and ratings can be obtained from the Flight Standards Service web site at <http://av-info.faa.gov>. Additional web sites that provide access to FAA technical references include <http://afs600.faa.gov>. Information regarding the purchase of FAA subscription products such as charts, *Airport/Facility Directory* (A/FD), and other publications can be accessed at <http://www.naco.faa.gov>.

Comments regarding this handbook should be sent to afs420.iph@faa.gov or U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration, Flight Procedure Standards Branch, AFS-420, P.O. Box 25082, Oklahoma City, OK 73125.

AC 00-2, *Advisory Circular Checklist*, transmits the current status of FAA advisory circulars and other flight information publications. This checklist is free of charge and may be obtained by sending a request to U.S. Department of Transportation, Subsequent Distribution Office, SVC-121.23, Ardmore East Business Center, 3341 Q 75th Avenue, Landover, MD 20785. The checklist is also available on the Internet at <http://www.faa.gov> under Regulatory/Advisory information.

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