



Appendix A

Glossary and Abbreviations





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A

A-WEIGHTED SOUND LEVEL - The sound pressure level which has been filtered or weighted to reduce the influence of low and high frequency (dBA).

AC - Advisory Circular published by the Federal Aviation Administration.

ACCOM. - Accommodations

ADPM - Average Day of the Peak Month

AFB - Air Force Base

AGL - Above Ground Level

AIA - Annual Instrument Approaches

AICUZ - Air Installation Compatible Use Zones define areas of compatible land use around military airfields.

AIP - Airport Improvement Program of the FAA.

AIR CARRIER - A commercial scheduled service airline carrying interregional traffic.

AIRCRAFT MIX - The relative percentage of operations conducted at an airport by each of four classes of aircraft differentiated by gross takeoff weight and number of engines.

AIRCRAFT TYPES - An arbitrary classification system which identifies and groups aircraft having similar operational characteristics for the purpose of computing runway capacity.

AIR NAVIGATIONAL FACILITY (NAVAID) - Any facility used for guiding or controlling flight in the air or during the landing or takeoff of aircraft.

AIR ROUTE SURVEILLANCE RADAR (ARSR) - Long-range radar which increases the capability of air traffic control for handling heavy enroute traffic. An ARSR site is usually located at some distance from the ARTCC it serves. Its range is approximately 200 nautical miles. Also called ATC Center Radar.

AIR TAXI - Aircraft operated by a company or individual that performs air transportation on a non-scheduled basis over unspecified routes usually with light aircraft.

AIRPORT AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC USE - An airport available for use by the public with or without a prior request.

AIRPORT MASTER PLAN - Long-range plan of airport development requirements.

ALP - Airport Layout Plan

ALSF-1 - Approach Light System with Sequence Flasher Lights

ALS - Approach Light System

AMBIENT NOISE - All encompassing noise associated with a given environment, being usually a composite of sounds from many sources near and far.

ANCLUC - Airport Noise and Compatible Land Use Control plan; an FAA sponsored land use compatibility planning program preceding Part 150 Airport Noise Compatibility Program.

APPROACH CONTROL SERVICE - Air traffic control service provided by a terminal area traffic control facility for arriving and departing IFR aircraft and, on occasion, VFR aircraft.

APPROACH FIX - The point from or over which final approach (IFR) to an airport is executed.

APPROACH SLOPE - Imaginary areas extending out and away from the approach ends of runways which are to be kept clear of obstructions.

APPROACH SURFACE - An element of the airport imaginary surfaces, longitudinally centered on the extended runway centerline, extending upward and outward from the end of the primary surface at a designated slope.

AREA NAVIGATION (RNAV) - A method of navigation that permits aircraft operations on any desired course within the coverage or stationed-reference navigation systems or within the limits of self-contained system capability.

ARC - Airport Reference Code

ARFF - Aircraft Rescue and Fire-Fighting

ARTS-III - Automated Radar Terminal Service - Phase III. A terminal facility in the air traffic control system using air ground communications and radar intelligence to detect and display pertinent data such as flight identification, altitude and position of aircraft operating in the terminal area.

ASDE - Airport Surface Detection Equipment

ASOS – Automated Surface Observing System

ASV - Annual Service Volume - a reasonable estimate of the airfield's annual capacity.

ATCT - Airport Traffic Control Tower

ATC - Air Traffic Control

AVIGATION AND HAZARD EASEMENT - An easement which provides right of flight at any altitude above the approach surface, prevents any obstruction above the approach surface, provides a right to cause noise vibrations, prohibits the creation of electrical interferences, and grants right-of-way entry to remove trees or structures above the approach surface.

B

BASED AIRCRAFT - An aircraft permanently stationed at the airport, usually by some form of agreement between the aircraft owner and airport management.

BIT - Bituminous Asphalt Pavement

BUSINESS JET - Any of a type of turbine powered aircraft carrying six or more passengers and weighing less than approximately 90,000 pounds gross takeoff weight.

C

CY - Calendar Year

CARGO - Originating and/or terminating.

CASP - California Aviation System Plan

CAT I - Category I Instrument Landing System. (Minimums: decision height of 200 feet; Runway visual range 1,800 feet).

CAT II - Category II Instrument Landing System. (Minimums: decision height of 100 feet; Runway visual range 1,200 feet).

CAT III - Category III Instrument Landing System. (Minimums: no decision height; Runway visual range of from 0 to 700 feet depending on type of CAT III facility).

CENTER'S AREA - The specified airspace within which an air route traffic control center provides air traffic control and advisory service.

CEQA - California Environmental Quality Act

CFR - Crash, Fire and Rescue. This is now called Airport Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF).

CIRCLING APPROACH - A maneuver initiated by the pilot to align the aircraft with a runway for landing when a straight-in instrument approach is not possible. This maneuver requires ATC clearance and that the pilot establish visual reference to the airport.

CL - Centerline

CNEL - Community Noise Equivalent Level - a noise metric used in California to describe the overall noise environment of a given area from a variety of sources.

COMM. - Communications

COMMERCIAL SERVICE AIRPORT - A public airport which received scheduled passenger service and enplanes annually 2,500 or more passengers.

COMMUTER AIRLINE - Aircraft operated by an airline that performs scheduled air transportation service over specified routes using aircraft with 60 seats or less.

CONC. - Portland Cement Concrete Pavement

CONICAL SURFACE - An imaginary surface extending upward and outward from the periphery of the horizontal surface at a slope of 20 to 1 for a horizontal distance of 4,000 feet.

CONNECTION - A passenger who boards an aircraft directly after deplaning from another flight. On-line single carrier connections involve flights of the same carrier, while interline or off-line connections involve flights of two different carriers. This term can also be applied to freight shipments.

CONTROLLED AREA - Airspace within which some or all aircraft may be subject to air traffic control.

CONTROL TOWER - A central operations facility in the terminal air traffic control system consisting of a tower cab structure (including an associated IFR room if radar equipped) using air/ground communications and/or radar, visual signaling and other devices to provide safe and expeditious movement of terminal air traffic.

CONTROL ZONES - These are areas of controlled airspace which extend upward from the surface and terminate at the base of the continental control area. Control zones that do not underlie the continental control area have no upper limit. A control zone may include one or more airports and is normally a circular area with a radius of 5 statute miles of any extensions necessary to include instrument departure and arrival paths.

CONTROLLED AIRSPACE - An airspace of defined dimensions within which air traffic control service is provided to IFR flights and to VFR flights in accordance with the airspace classification, Class A, Class B, etc.

CROSSWIND RUNWAY - A runway aligned at an angle to the prevailing wind which allows use of an airport when crosswind conditions on the primary runway would otherwise restrict use.

CURFEW - A restriction placed upon all or certain classes of aircraft by time of day, for purposes of reducing or controlling airport noise.

D

DECISION HEIGHT (DH) - With respect to the operation of aircraft, this means the height at which a decision must be made, using an ILS or PAR instrument approach, to either continue the approach or to execute a missed approach.

DEMAND - The actual number of persons, aircraft or vehicles currently using a facility if that facility is operating at or below capacity or the number of persons, aircraft or vehicles who want to use the facility when the facility is operating above capacity.

DEPLANEMENT - Any passenger getting off an arriving aircraft at an airport. Can be both a terminating and connecting passenger. Also applies to freight shipments.

DISTANCE MEASURING EQUIPMENT (DME) - An electronic installation established with either a VOR or ILS to provide distance information from the facility to pilots by reception of electronic signals. It measures, in nautical miles, the distance of an aircraft from a NAVAID.

E

ENPLANEMENT - Any passenger boarding a departing aircraft at an airport. Can be both a local origin and a connecting passenger. Applies also to freight shipments.

ENROUTE - The route of flight from point of departure to point of destination, including intermediate stops (excludes local operations).

ENROUTE AIRSPACE - Controlled airspace above and/or adjacent to terminal airspace.

EQUIVALENT SOUND LEVEL (LEQ) - The steady A-weighted sound level over a specified period that has the same acoustic energy as the fluctuating noise during that period.

F

F&E - Facilities and Equipment Programming - FAA

FAA - Federal Aviation Administration of the United States Department of Transportation

FAR - Federal Aviation Regulation

FAR Part 36 - A regulation establishing noise certification standards for aircraft.

FAR Part 77 - A regulation establishing standards for determining obstructions to navigable airspace.

FAR Part 139 - A regulation which prescribes rules governing the certification and operation of land airports which serve any scheduled or unscheduled passenger operation of an air carrier that is conducted with an aircraft having a seating capacity of more than 30 passengers.

FAR Part 150 - A regulation establishing criteria for noise assessment and procedures and criteria for FAA approval of noise compatibility programs.

FBO - Fixed Base Operator

FEDERAL AIRWAYS - See Low Altitude Airways.

FINAL APPROACH IFR - The flight plan of landing aircraft in the direction of landing along the extended runway centerline from the base leg to the runway.

FLEET MIX - The proportion of aircraft types or models expected to operate at an airport.

FLIGHT SERVICE STATION (FSS) - A facility operated by the FAA to provide flight assistance service.

FY - Fiscal Year

G

GA - General Aviation - Refers to all civil aircraft and operations which are not classified as air carrier.

GLIDE SLOPE (GS) - The vertical guidance component of an Instrument Landing System (ILS).

GND CON. - Ground Control

GPS - Global Positioning System

H

HANGAR – In this report hangars are classified as individual or conventional. Individual hangars are designed to accommodate a single aircraft and may be portable, “T”, or rectangular hangars. These are assumed to accommodate smaller, personal use aircraft. Individual hangars may be constructed in groups that results in a larger structure, however, the individual hangar spaces are counted separately. Conventional hangars are larger structures designed to accommodate several aircraft in an open bay(s) and for the purposes of this report are assumed to house turboprop and business jet aircraft. Conventional hangars are often occupied by an FBO.

HGRS. - Hangars

HIGH ALTITUDE AIRWAYS - See Jet Routes.

HIRL - High Intensity Runway Lighting

HITL - High Intensity Taxiway Lighting

HOLDING - A predetermined maneuver which keeps an aircraft within a specified airspace while awaiting further clearance.

HORIZONTAL SURFACE - An imaginary surface constituting a horizontal plane 150 feet above the airport elevation.

I

IFR - Instrument Flight Rules that govern flight procedures under IFR conditions (limited visibility or other operational constraints).

IMAGINARY SURFACE - An area established in relation to the airport and to each runway consistent with FAR Part 77 in which any object extending above these imaginary surfaces is, by definition, an obstruction.

INDUCED TRIPS - See Trip.

INSTRUMENT APPROACH - A series of predetermined maneuvers for the orderly transfer of an aircraft under instrument flight conditions from the beginning of the initial approach to a landing or to a point from which a landing may be made visually.

INSTRUMENT LANDING SYSTEM (ILS) - A precision landing aid consisting of localizer (azimuth guidance), glide slope (vertical guidance), outer marker (final approach fix) and approach light system.

INSTRUMENT OPERATION - A landing or takeoff conducted while operating on an instrument flight plan.

INSTRUMENT RUNWAY - A runway equipped with electronic and visual navigation aids for which a precision or non-precision approach procedure having straight-in landing minimums has been established.

INTEGRATED NOISE MODEL (INM) - A computer-based airport noise exposure modelling program.

ITINERANT OPERATIONS - All aircraft arrivals and departures other than local operations.

INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS - Aircraft operations performed by air carriers engaged in scheduled international service.

J

JET ROUTES - A route designed to serve aircraft operating from 18,000 feet MSL up to and including flight level 450.

L

LAT - Latitude

LDA - Localizer Type Directional Aid

LDN - Day-Night Average Sound Level. The 24-hour average sound level, in decibels, from midnight to midnight, obtained after the addition of ten decibels to sound levels for periods between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m.

LDNG. AIDS - Landing Aids

LENGTH OF HAUL - The non-stop airline route distance from a particular airport.

LEVEL OF SERVICE - An arbitrary but standardized index of the relative service provided by a transportation facility.

LIRL - Low Intensity Runway Lighting

LITL - Low Intensity Taxiway Lighting

LOAD FACTOR - Ratio of the number of passenger miles to the available seat miles flown by an airline representing the proportion of aircraft seating capacity that is actually sold and utilized. Load factors are also referred to in air cargo and can be determined by weight or volume.

LOC - Localizer (part of an ILS)

LOCAL OPERATION - Operations performed by aircraft which: (a) operate in the local traffic pattern or within the sight of the tower; (b) are known to be departing for, or arriving from, flight in local practice areas located within a 20-mile radius of the control tower, or (c) execute simulated instrument approaches or low passes at the airport.

LOM - Compass locator at an outer marker (part of an ILS). Also called COMLO.

LONG - Longitude

LOW ALTITUDE AIRWAYS - Air routes below 18,000 feet MSL. They are referred to as Federal Airways.

LRR - Long-Range Radar

M

MALS - Medium Intensity Approach Light System

MALSF - Medium Intensity Approach Light System with sequence flashing lights.

MALSR - MALS with Runway Alignment Indicator Lights (RAIL)

MARKER BEACON - An electronic navigation facility which transmits a fan or boneshaped radiation pattern. When received by compatible airborne equipment they indicate to the pilot that he is passing over the facility. Two to three beacons are used to advise pilots of their position during an ILS approach.

MCE – Three letter identifier for Merced Municipal Airport.

MGW - Maximum Gross Weight

MILITARY OPERATION - An operation by military aircraft.

MINIMUM DESCENT ALTITUDE (MDA) - The lowest altitude, expressed in feet above mean sea level, to which descent is authorized on final approach or during circling-to-land maneuvering in execution of a standard instrument approach procedure where no electronic glide slope is provided.

MIRL - Medium Intensity Runway Lighting

MISSED APPROACH - A prescribed procedure to be followed by aircraft that cannot complete an attempted landing at an airport.

MITL - Medium Intensity Taxiway Lighting

MLS - Microwave Landing System

MM - Middle Marker (part of an ILS)

MOA - Military Operations Area

MODAL SPLIT - The distribution of trips among competing travel modes, such as walk, auto, bus, etc.

MODE - A particular form or method of travel such as walk, auto, carpool, bus, rapid transit, etc.

MOVEMENT - Synonymous with the term operation, i.e., a takeoff or a landing.

MSL - Mean Sea Level

N

NA - Not applicable

NAS - NATIONAL AIRSPACE SYSTEM - The common system of air navigation and air traffic encompassing communications facilities, air navigation facilities, airways, controlled airspace, special use airspace and flight procedures authorized by Federal Aviation Regulations for domestic and international aviation.

NAVAID - See Air Navigation Facility.

NDB - NON-DIRECTIONAL BEACON - An electronic ground station transmitting in all directions in the L/MF frequency spectrum; provides azimuth guidance to aircraft equipped with direction finder receivers. These facilities are often established with ILS outer markers to provide transition guidance to the ILS system.

NEPA - National Environmental Policy Act

NM - Nautical Mile

NOISE ABATEMENT - A procedure for the operation of aircraft at an airport which minimizes the impact of noise on the environs of the airport.

NOISE CONTOUR - A noise impact boundary line connecting points on a map where the level of sound is the same.

NOISE EXPOSURE MAP - A scaled, geographic depiction of an airport, its noise contours and surrounding area.

NOISE LEVEL REDUCTION (NLR) - The amount of noise level reduction achieved through incorporation of noise attenuation (between outdoor and indoor levels) in the design and construction of a structure.

NON-PRECISION APPROACH - A standard instrument approach procedure in which no electronic glide slope is provided.

NPI - Non-Precision Instrument Runway

NPIAS - National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems

O

OAG - Official Airline Guide

OBSTRUCTION - Any structure, growth, or other object, including a mobile object, that exceeds a limiting height established by federal regulations or by a hazard zoning regulation.

OFZ – Obstacle free zone

OM - Outer Marker (part of an ILS)

OPERATION - An aircraft arrival at or departure from an airport.

ORIGINATION - A passenger boarding an aircraft at an airport who has started his trip from a local, off-airport point. Also applicable to freight shipments.

OUTER FIX - A point in the destination terminal area from which aircraft are cleared to the approach fix or final approach course.

P

PAPI - Precision Approach Path Indicator

PAR - Precision Approach Radar

PAX - Passenger

PEAK HOUR FACTOR - The ratio of the average flow rate during the peak hour to the highest short-term (say 15 minutes) rate within the peak hour.

PEAK HOUR PERCENTAGE - The percentage of total daily trips or traffic occurring in the highest or "peak" hour. Frequently confused with Peak Hour Factor.

PI - Precision Instrument Runway marking.

POSITIVE CONTROL - The separation of all air traffic within designated airspace by air traffic control.

PRECISION APPROACH - A standard instrument approach procedure in which an electronic glide slope/glide path is provided; e.g., ILS/MLS and PAR.

PRIMARY COMMERCIAL SERVICE AIRPORT - A commercial service airport which enplanes .01 percent or more of the total annual U.S. enplanements.

PRIMARY RUNWAY - The runway on which the majority of operations take place. On large, busy airports, there may be two or more parallel primary runways.

PRIMARY SURFACE - An area longitudinally centered on a runway with a width ranging from 250 to 1000 feet and extending 200 feet beyond the end of a paved runway.

PROHIBITED AREA - Airspace of defined dimensions identified by an area on the surface of the earth within flight is prohibited.

PU - Publicly owned airport.

PVC - Poor visibility and ceiling.

PVT - Privately owned airport.

Q

QUEUE - A line of pedestrians or vehicles waiting to be served.

R

RADAR SEPARATION - Radar spacing of aircraft in accordance with established minima.

RAIL - Runway Alignment Indicator Lights

RCAG - Remote Center Air/Ground Communications

REIL - Runway End Identification Lights

RELIEVER AIRPORT - An airport which, when certain criteria are met, relieves the aeronautical demand on a high density air carrier airport.

RESTRICTED AREAS - Airspace of defined dimensions identified by an area on the surface of the earth within which the flight of aircraft, while not wholly prohibited, is subject to restrictions.

RNAV - See Area Navigation.

ROFA – Runway Object Free Area

ROTATING BEACON - A visual NAVAID displaying flashes of white and/or colored light used to indicate location of an airport.

RPZ – Runway Protection Zone

RSA – Runway Safety Area

RUNWAY PROTECTION ZONE –An area off the end of the runway end to enhance the protection of people and property on the ground.

RUNWAY SAFETY AREA - An area symmetrical about the runway centerline and extending beyond the ends of the runway which shall be free of obstacles as specified.

RVR - Runway Visual Range

RVV - Runway Visibility Value

R/W - Runway

S

SALS - Short Approach Light System

SDF - Simplified Directional Facility landing aid providing final approach course.

SEGMENTED CIRCLE - An airport aid identifying the traffic pattern direction.

SEPARATION MINIMA - The minimum longitudinal, lateral, or vertical distances by which aircraft are spaced through the application of air traffic control procedures.

SMSA - Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area.

SOCIOECONOMIC - Data pertaining to the population and economic characteristics of a region.

SSALF - Simplified Short Approach Light System with Sequence Flashing lights.

SSALS - Simplified Short Approach Light System.

SSALR - Simplified Short Approach Light System with Runway Alignment Indicator Lights (RAIL)

STANDARD LAND USE CODING MANUAL (SLUCM) - A standard system for identifying and coding land use activities published by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Federal Highway Administration.

STRAIGHT-IN APPROACH - A descent in an approved procedure in which the final approach course alignment and descent gradient permits authorization of straight-in landing minimums.

STOL - Short Takeoff and Landing

STOVL - Short Takeoff Vertical Landing

SYSTEM PLAN - A representative of the aviation facilities required to meet the immediate and future air transportation needs and to achieve the overall goals.

T

TACAN - Tactical Air Navigation

TDZ - Touchdown Zone

TERMINAL AIRSPACE - The controlled airspace normally associated with aircraft departure and arrival patterns to/from airports within a terminal system and between adjacent terminal systems in which tower enroute air traffic control service is provided.

TERMINAL CONTROL AREA (TCA) - This consists of controlled airspace extending upward from the surface or higher to specified altitudes within which all aircraft are subject to positive air traffic control procedures.
TERPS - Terminal Instrument Procedures

T-HANGAR - A T-shaped aircraft hangar that provides shelter for a single airplane.

THRESHOLD - The beginning of that portion of the runway usable for landing.

TOUCH-AND-GO OPERATION - An operation in which the aircraft lands and begins takeoff roll without stopping.

TRAFFIC PATTERN - The traffic flow that is prescribed for aircraft landing at, taxiing on, and taking off from an airport. The usual components of a traffic pattern are upwind leg, crosswind leg, downwind leg and final approach.

TRANSIENT OPERATIONS - See Itinerant Operations.

TRANSITIONAL SURFACE - An element of the imaginary surfaces extending outward at right angles to the runway centerline and from the sides of the primary and approach surfaces to where they intersect the horizontal and conical surfaces.

TRANSITIONAL AIRSPACE - That portion of controlled airspace wherein aircraft change from one phase of flight or flight condition to another.

TRIP - The one-way unit of travel between an origin and a destination.

TRIP ASSIGNMENT - That portion of the transportation planning process where distributed trips are allocated among the actual routes they can be expected to use.

TW & T/W - Taxiway

TWR - Control Tower

TVOR - Terminal Very High Frequency Omnidirectional Station

U

UHF - Ultra High Frequency

UNICOM - Radio communications station which provides pilots with pertinent airport information (winds, weather, etc.) at specific airports.

UTILITY RUNWAY - A runway intended to be used by propeller driven aircraft of 12,500 pounds maximum gross weight or less.

V

VASI - Visual Approach Slope Indicator providing visual glide path.

VASI-2 - Two Box Visual Approach Slope Indicator

VASI-4 - Four Box Visual Approach Slope Indicator

VECTOR - A heading issued to an aircraft to provide navigational guidance by radar.

VFR - Visual Flight Rules that govern flight procedures in good weather.

VFR AIRCRAFT - An aircraft conducting flight in accordance with Visual Flight Rules.

VHF - Very High Frequency

VISUAL APPROACH RUNWAY - A runway intended for visual approaches only.

VOR - Very High Frequency Omnidirectional Station. A ground-based radio (electronic) navigation aid transmitting radials in all directions in the VHF frequency spectrum; provides azimuth guidance to pilots by reception of electronic signals.

VORTAC - Co-located VOR and TACAN.

V/STOL - Vertical/Short Takeoff and Landing

VTOL - Vertical Takeoff and Landing (includes, but is not limited to, helicopters).

W

WARNING AREA - Airspace which may contain hazards to non-participating aircraft in international airspace.

WIND CONE (WIND SOCK) - Conical wind directional indicator.

WIND TEE - A visual device used to advise pilots about wind direction at an airport.

Y

YEARLY DAY-NIGHT AVERAGE SOUND LEVEL (L_{dn}) - The 24-hour average sound level, in decibels, for the period from midnight to midnight, obtained after the addition of ten decibels to sound levels for the periods between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m. the following day, averaged over a span of one year.

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