

FAA INTRODUCES NEW CHART AGENT MODEL

July 14, 2009

What's at Issue

The FAA has introduced a new model for distribution of aviation charts to the flying public.

Why It's Important

The new chart model has the potential to reduce the availability of aviation charts at smaller airports and FBOs.

Major Provisions

The new chart agent model will require chart agents to have a minimum annual net sales volume of \$5,000. Current chart agents who do not meet that level have the option to:

- Remain a chart agent and submit a business plan to the FAA detailing plans for increasing sales to reach the \$5,000 net sales level
- Cancel your account with the FAA and become a sales outlet for another chart agent
- Cancel your account with the FAA and no longer sell aviation charts

Current chart agents who do not meet the \$5,000 level must decide on a course of action by September 18, 2009.

NATA Position

NATA applauds the FAA for its concern for efficiency and economy in aviation chart delivery, but is concerned that the new chart model may adversely affect safety by restricting the availability of aviation charts at smaller FBOs and airports. Current chart agents who do not meet the sales volume requirement are encouraged to develop a plan of action so the availability of current charts is not affected.

Status

More information on the FAA's new Chart Agent Model is available at:
http://naco.faa.gov/index.asp?xml=naco/agent_model

Staff Contact: Mike France
Manager, Regulatory Affairs
mfrance@nata.aero