

Appendix A

Glossary of Terms



Delta Airport Consultants, Inc.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

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A-Weighted Sound Level (dBA):-The ear does not respond equally to sound frequencies. It is less efficient at low and high frequencies than it is at medium or speech-range frequencies. Thus, to obtain a single number representing the sound level of a noise having a wide range of frequencies in a manner representative of the ear's response, it is necessary to reduce the effects of the low and high frequencies with respect to the medium frequencies. The resultant sound level is said to be A-weighted, and the units are decibels (dB); hence, the abbreviation is dBA. The A-weighted sound level is also called the noise level. Sound level meters have an A-weighting network for measuring A-weighted sound level.

Access Taxiway: A taxiway that provides access to a particular location or area.

Active Based Aircraft: Aircraft that have a current airworthiness certificate and are based at an airport.

Actual Runway Length: The length of full width, usable runway from end to end or full strength pavement where those runways are paved.

Administration Building: A building or buildings accommodating airport administration activity and public facilities for itinerant and local flying, usually associated with general aviation fixed base operations.

Administration Space: The space including, but not limited to, space for offices, cafeterias, conference rooms,

lobbies, waiting rooms, garages, parking lots.

Advisory Circular: A series of FAA publications consisting of all nonregulatory material of a policy, guidance, and informational nature.

Aeronautical Chart: A map representing a portion of the earth, made especially for use in air navigation.

AFSS (Automated Flight Service Station) A (non-air traffic control) FAA facility providing pilots with weather briefing and flight-plan filing by radio, telephone and in person. Monitors flight plans for overdue aircraft and initiates search and rescue services. "Automated" refers to telephone call handling equipment and computer information systems aiding pilot briefers.

Air Cargo: All commercial air express and air freight except air mail and air parcel post.

Air Carrier Airport: An airport (or runway) designated by design and/or use for air carrier operations.

Air Carrier – All Cargo: A certificated route air carrier authorized to perform scheduled air freight, express, and mail transportation service as well as the conduct of nonscheduled operations (which may include passengers over specified routes).

Air Carrier – Certificated Route: An air carrier holding a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity issued to conduct scheduled services over specified routes and a limited amount of nonscheduled operations.

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Air Carrier – Commuter: An air taxi operator which: (1) performs at least five round trips per week between two or more points and publishes flight schedules that specify the times, days of the week, and places between which such flights are performed; or (2) transports mail by air under a current contract with the U.S. Postal Service.

Air Carrier – Intrastate: An air carrier licensed by a state to operate wholly within its borders but not permitted to carry interline passengers from out of state.

Aircraft Approach Category: A grouping of aircraft based on 1.3 times their stall speed in their landing configuration at their maximum certificated landing weight.

Aircraft Design Group (ADG): A grouping of airplanes based on wingspan.

Aircraft Operations: The airborne movement (landing or taking off) of aircraft. There are two types of operations – local and itinerant.

1. Local operations are performed by aircraft that:

- a. Operate in the local traffic pattern or within sight of the airport.
- b. Are known to be departing for, or arriving from, flight in local practice areas within a 20-mile radius of the airport.
- c. Execute simulated instrument approaches or low passes at the airport.

2. Itinerant operations are all aircraft operations other than local operations.

Aircraft Rescue And Fire Fighting (ARFF): The aircraft rescue and fire fighting capability required at airports under Federal Aviation Regulations (FAR) Part 139.

Aircraft Tiedown: Positions on the ground surface that are available for securing aircraft.

Airfield Capacity (Hourly): The maximum number of aircraft operations (landings or takeoffs) that can take place on an airfield in one hour under specific conditions.

Air Freight: A system or service set up for the carrying of freight by air.

Airman's Meteorological Information (AIRMET): An in-flight weather advisory concerning weather phenomena of less severity than that covered by SIGMETs, which are potentially hazardous to certain aircraft, e.g., those having limited equipment, instrumentation, or pilot qualifications. These advisories cover moderate icing and turbulence, winds of 40 knots or more within 2,000 feet of the surface, and the initial onset of visibilities less than 2 miles or ceilings less than 1,000 feet.

Air Navigation Facility (NAVAID): Any facility used or designed for use as an aid to air navigation.

Airport: An area of land or water that is used or intended to be used for the landing and takeoff of aircraft, including its buildings and facilities. (FAR Part 1)

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Airport Advisory Service (AAS): A service provided by flight service stations at airports not served by a control tower. This service consists of providing information to landing and departing aircraft concerning wind direction and velocity, favored runway, altimeter setting, pertinent known traffic, pertinent known field conditions, airport taxi routes and traffic patterns, and authorized instrument approach procedures.

Airport Beacon: A navigational aid emitting alternating white and green flashes to indicate a lighted airport or white flashes only for an unlighted airport.

Airport Elevation: The highest point on an airport's usable runways expressed in feet above mean sea level (MSL).

Airport Environs: The area surrounding an airport that is considered to be directly affected by the presence and operation of the airport.

Airport Imaginary Surfaces: Imaginary surfaces established at an airport for obstruction determination purposes.

Airport Improvement Program (AIP): A program administered by the Federal Aviation Administration to provide financial grants-in-aid for airport planning, airport development projects, and noise compatibility programs. The program was established through the Airport and Airway Improvement Act of 1982, which was incorporated as Title V of the Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 1982 (P.L. 97-248).

Airport Land Use Plan: A generalized plan depicting proposed land uses within the airport boundary. The land use plan is

a required element of an airport master plan.

Airport Layout Plan (ALP): The plan for an airport showing the layout of existing and proposed airport facilities and structures.

Airport Master Plan: Appropriate documents and drawings concerning the development of a specific airport from a physical, economic, social, and political jurisdictional perspective. The airport layout plan is a part of this plan.

Airport Operation: A landing or a takeoff at an airport. (A low approach below traffic pattern altitude or a touch-and-go operation are counted as both a landing and a takeoff; i.e., two operations.)

Airport Reference Point (ARP): The airport reference point is the latitude and longitude of a point that is the approximate center of all existing and proposed landing and takeoff areas.

Airport Sponsor: A public agency or tax-supported organization such as an airport authority, that is authorized to own and operate an airport, obtain property interests, obtain funds, and be legally, financially, and otherwise able to meet all applicable requirements of current laws and regulations.

Airport System Planning: The development of information and guidance to determine the extent, type, nature, location, and timing of airport development needed to establish a viable and balanced system of public airports.

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Airports Closed to the Public: An airport not available to the public without permission from the owner.

Airports Open to the Public: An airport open to the public without prior permission and without restrictions within the physical capacities of available facilities.

Air Route: Navigable airspace between two points which is identifiable.

Air Route Surveillance Radar (ASR): A remote radar facility connected to an air route traffic control center and used to detect and display the azimuth and range of enroute aircraft operating between terminal areas, enabling the ATC controller to provide air traffic control services in the air route traffic control system.

Air Route Traffic Control Center (ARTCC): A facility that provides air traffic control service to aircraft operating on an IFR flight plan within controlled airspace.

Airspace: Space in the air above the surface of the earth or a particular portion of such space, usually defined by the boundaries of an area on the surface projected upward.

Air Traffic: Aircraft operating in the air or on an airport surface, exclusive of loading ramps and parking areas. (FAR Part 1)

Air Traffic Control (ATC): A service operated by appropriate authority to promote the safe, orderly, and expeditious flow of air traffic. (FAR Part 1)

Air Traffic Hub: Air traffic hubs are not airports; they are the cities and Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas requiring aviation services. Communities fall into four classes as determined by each community's percentage of the total enplaned passengers in scheduled and nonscheduled service of the domestic certificated air carriers in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and other U.S. areas designed by the Federal Aviation Administration. The four hub types are: "L" (large), "M" (medium), "S" (small), and "N" (non-hub).

Airway: A path through navigable airspace within which air traffic service is provided.

Alignment (Azimuth): The azimuth or actual magnetic bearing of a course.

Alignment (Elevation): The actual angle above a horizontal plane, originating at a specific point of a course used for altitude guidance.

Alternate Airport: An airport where an aircraft, may land if a landing at the intended airport becomes inadvisable. (FAR Part I)

Ambient Noise-The total of all noise in a system or situation, independent of the presence of the specific sound to be measured. In acoustical measurements, strictly speaking, ambient noise means electrical noise in the measurement system. However, in popular usage, ambient noise is also used to mean "background noise" or "residual noise."

Approach Area: The defined area over which landing and takeoff operations are made.