

BRASIL

**DEPARTAMENTO DE CONTROLE DO ESPAÇO AÉREO
SUBDEPARTAMENTO DE OPERAÇÕES
DIVISÃO DE GERENCIAMENTO DA NAVEGAÇÃO AÉREA
AV. GENERAL JUSTO, 160- 2 ANDAR
20021-130 RIO DE JANEIRO-RJ**

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AFS: SBRJYGYO

TEL: 55 21 2101-6761

SUBSCRIPTION 55 21 2117-7294

DATA LINK VOLMET (D-VOLMET)**1 PRELIMINARY ARRANGEMENTS****1.1 PURPOSE**

Inform the users of Air Navigation Services that the Meteorological Information for Aircraft in Flight Service is available via Data Link, herein referred to as D-VOLMET (DATA LINK VOLMET).

1.2 SCOPE:

This Aeronautical Information Circular (AIC) applies to all users of the Brazilian Airspace Control System (SISCEAB) which have the data link capability on board.

2 GENERAL PROVISIONS

Crews constantly need weather data for the aerodrome of departure, arrival, alternative and intended route to carry out proper planning of their flights.

In conventional mode, the SISCEAB VOLMET service provides weather information through voice message in the range of VHF frequencies, which requires special attention of the crew to understand the text and its transcription.

These voice message, broadcasted on VHF, are susceptible to errors of interpretation and the reception can be affected by signal interferences of multiple sources. Thereby, the service D-VOLMET extends the reliability of VOLMET, because the use of messages through written data facilitates the reception and interpretation of the text as well as reducing the workload of pilots and air traffic controllers.

With the D-VOLMET system, the meteorological data are transmitted through the data link network when requested by the cabin crew at the ACARS MU equipment. The weather information is displayed on the screen and can be printed at any time. This represents a significant increase in efficiency and safety of flight activities because it minimizes the workload of pilots and eliminates the possibility of misunderstanding.

The on-board ACARS MU equipment allows the pilot to select the option corresponding to D-VOLMET and type the location code relative to the aerodrome or FIR of interest to the flight.

When inserting a FIR location indicator, the D-VOLMET information service provides the SIGMET message(s) regarding each FIR and when no one SIGMET message is available, the message "NIL SIGMET" is displayed on the screen.

When inserting an aerodrome location indicator, the D-VOLMET information service provides the respective METAR/SPECI and TAF messages.

D-VOLMET will be provided by DECEA through the VHF DATACOM network, for information relating to national aerodromes and FIR, and will not result in any additional fees for users.

The availability of this Service will be informed by NOTAM and will be included in the RMK field of aeronautical publications.

During operational testing, the data link message displays a text that reads TEST MESSAGE - NOT OPERATIONAL USE, to informing that the system is on homologation phase.

4 FNAL ARRANGEMENTS

The approval of this AIC was published in DECEA Internal Bulletin nº 173 of 06 september 2012.

Cases not provided for in this Circular shall be settled by the Head of DECEA Operations Subdepartment.

For any questions or clarification, contact the Coordination and Control Division of DECEA Operations Subdepartment by phone: 55 21 2101-6271 or email: cco2@decea.gov.br.