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Cancelled 00-27

AC NO: AC 90-55

DATE: 31 Aug 71



ADVISORY CIRCULAR

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

SUBJECT: IDENTIFICATION OF AIR TAXI OPERATIONS
FOR AIR TRAFFIC COUNTING

1. **PURPOSE.** This Circular informs air taxi and commercial operators (ATCO), certificated under the provisions of Federal Aviation Regulations, Part 135, that they now fall under a separate category for air traffic counting purposes and outlines air traffic identification procedures to be used. These operations include commuter air carriers, scheduled and nonscheduled air taxis and air taxi operators of large aircraft under the provisions of FAR 135.2.
2. **EFFECTIVE DATE.** The provisions of this Circular are effective upon receipt.
3. **REFERENCE.** Federal Aviation Regulations, Part 135.
4. **GENERAL.** In the past, recording and reporting activities within the Federal Aviation Administration air traffic control system have been divided into three basic user categories; i.e., general aviation, air carrier and military. To meet additional requirements for identifying and planning for the needs generated by air taxi and commercial operators, a separate category of "air taxi" has been established for the purpose of counting these activities as well. Counting air taxi operations as a separate category will provide a means for including total persons served and aircraft activity in the criteria for establishing facilities such as towers, radars, and navigation and landing aids.
5. **PROCEDURES.** Pilots operating under the provisions of a Part 135, ATCO, certificate are urged to comply with the following procedures when communicating with air traffic control:

a. Commuter air carriers which have been assigned FAA call signs and letter designators are expected to use them when in radio contact with ATC and in filing flight plans. These call signs and designators are published in FAA Contractions Handbook, 7340.1, Section F.

b. Other air taxi/commercial operators should:

- (1) Prefix normal aircraft identification with the phonetic word "Tango" when making initial contact with ATC or when contacting ATC on a newly assigned frequency.

EXAMPLE.-"Tango Aztec 9464 Alpha"

The prefix "Tango" may be dropped in subsequent contacts on the frequency.

- (2) Prefix the normal registration (N) number with the letter "T" on flight plan filing.

EXAMPLE.-TN 9464A

6. INDUSTRY PARTICIPATION. To provide the broadest exposure of the information herein, user organizations which publish bulletins to their members should include any or all of the foregoing discussion points and procedures.



WILLIAM M. FLENER
Director, Air Traffic Service