



# **Advisory Circular**

**AC ATM – AFTN – 01 – 23**

## **Guidance Material for the Transmission of Long Messages on the Aeronautical Fixed Telecommunications Network (AFTN)**

Aerodrome & Air Navigation Safety Oversight Office (AANSOO)  
Office of the Director General  
Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines  
Old MIA Road, Pasay City, 1300

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Advisory Circulars (AC) are intended to provide recommendations and guidance to illustrate a means, but not necessarily the only means, of complying with regulatory requirements, or to explain certain regulatory requirements by providing interpretative and explanatory materials.

CAAP will generally accept that when the provisions of an Advisory Circular have been met, compliance with the relevant regulatory obligations has been satisfied.

Where an AC is referred to in a “Note” within regulatory documentation, the AC remains as guidance material.

ACs should always be read in conjunction with the referenced regulations.

**GUIDANCE MATERIAL FOR THE TRANSMISSION OF LONG MESSAGES ON THE  
AERONAUTICAL FIXED TELECOMMUNICATION NETWORK (AFTN)**

**General**

Advisory Circulars contain information about standards, practices, and procedures that the Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines has found to be an acceptable means of compliance. An advisory circular is not intended to be the only means of compliance with the rule/regulation or requirement, and consideration will be given to other methods of compliance that may be presented to the Director General. New standards, practices or procedures that are found to be acceptable, shall be added to the appropriate Advisory Circular.

**Purpose**

This advisory circular provides guidance on the requirement for the transmission of separate message over AFTN when a text exceeding 1,800 characters is encountered and when messages are transmitted only on low-speed circuits.

**Applicability**

The guidance provided in this advisory circular is applicable to all Aviation Organizations (Domestic and International), Pilots, Airline Operations Center, Air Traffic Service Units and Airport Authorities (Aerodrome Operators).

**Status of This Advisory Circular (AC)**

This AC is an original issue.

**Copy of this AC**

The Regulatory Safety Standards Division (RSSD) of Aerodrome and Air Navigation Safety Oversight Office (AANSOO) makes ACs available to the public through the Internet. This AC on the Transmission of Long Messages on the AFTN may be accessed through the CAAP home page ([www.caap.gpv.ph](http://www.caap.gpv.ph)). A printed copy of this and other ACs can also be requested from the AANSOO, Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines (CAAP), MIA Road, Pasay City 1301, Telefax: (632) 8-246-2040.

  
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Director General  
Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines

AC ATM-01-23

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**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

**SECTION 1 – POLICY AND GENERAL INFORMATION**

1.1	Related Regulations .....	1
1.2	Related Publications .....	1
1.3	Definitions .....	1

<b>SECTION 2 – PROCEDURE .....</b>	<b>2</b>
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AC ATM-01-23

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## SECTION 1 – POLICY AND GENERAL INFORMATION

### 1.1 Related Regulations

- Civil Aviation Regulations for Air Navigation Services (CAR-ANS) Part 2 – Aeronautical Telecommunications Communication Procedures with PANS Status

### 1.2 Related Publications

- ICAO Annex 10 Vol. II, Attachment B; and
- ICAO Doc 8400 Procedure for Air Navigation Services (PANS) ICAO Abbreviations and Codes

### 1.3 Definitions

**Aeronautical fixed telecommunication network (AFTN).** A worldwide system of aeronautical fixed circuits provided, as part of the aeronautical fixed service, for the exchange of messages and/or digital data between aeronautical fixed stations having the same or compatible communications characteristics.

**AFTN origin station.** An AFTN station where messages and/or digital data are accepted for transmission over the AFTN.

## SECTION 2 – PROCEDURE

- 2.1 The text of the messages entered by the AFTN origin station shall not exceed 1,800 characters in length.

*Note 1.— Where it is desired that a communication with a text exceeding 1,800 characters be transmitted over the aeronautical fixed telecommunication network, requires that such a communication be entered by the AFTN origin station in the form of separate messages, each text of which does not exceed 1,800 characters.*

*Note 2.— The character count includes all printing and non-printing characters in the message from, but not including, the alignment function preceding the beginning of the text to, but not including, the end-of-text signal.*

- 2.2 When messages are transmitted only on low-speed circuits, the text of messages entered by the AFTN origin station shall not exceed 1 800 characters in length. AFTN messages exceeding 1 800 characters shall be entered by the AFTN origin station in the form of separate messages.

*Note 1.— Low-speed circuits operate at 300 bits per second or less.*

*Note 2.— The character count includes all printing and non-printing characters in the text from, but not including, the start-of-text signal to, but not including, the first alignment function of the ending.*

- 2.3 Each message part should carry the same address and origin with the sequence of each part indicated on the last line of text as follows:

(End of first message)	// END PART 01 //
(End of second message)	// END PART 02 //
... etc. ...	
(End of last message)	// END PART XX/XX //

*Note.— The following example illustrates the application of the above procedure, for a three part message. The message part sequence information is included in the text character count.*

a) *First message:*

(Address)	GG RPLLYMYX
(Origin)	102030 RPVMYMYX
(Text)	text
(Ending)	// END PART 01 //
	NNNN

b) *Second message:*

(Address)	GG RPLLYMYX
(Origin)	102030 RPVMYMYX
(Text)	text continued
(Ending)	// END PART 02 //
	NNNN

c) *Third and last message:*

(Address)	GG RPLLYMYX
(Origin)	102030 RPVMYMYX
(Text)	remainder of text
(Ending)	// END PART 03/03 //
	NNNN