

VIRTUAL ATLANTA ARTCC AND VIRTUAL HOUSTON ARTCC

LETTER OF AGREEMENT

EFFECTIVE: January 4, 2009

SUBJECT: INTER-CENTER COORDINATION PROCEDURES

1. PURPOSE. This Agreement between the Virtual Atlanta ARTCC (vZTL) and Virtual Houston ARTCC (vZHU) covers radar handoff and coordination procedures and is supplementary to the procedures in FAAO 7110.65.

2. DISCLOSURE. The Virtual Atlanta ARTCC and Virtual Houston ARTCC are affiliated with the Virtual Air Traffic Simulation (VATSIM) network. The procedures outlined in this document may identically or closely resemble real world procedures; however, information in this document is intended exclusively for use in the VATSIM flight simulation environment and shall never be used for actual flight or air traffic control operations. The Virtual Atlanta and Virtual Houston ARTCCs are not affiliated with the FAA or any of its dependencies.

3. CANCELLATION. Any previous agreements between the Virtual Atlanta ARTCC and the Virtual Houston ARTCC are cancelled.

4. PROCEDURES.

a. *ZTL Arrivals*

1. Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International (ATL)

(a) Ensure all Atlanta Hartsfield (ATL) arrivals, departing from or east of IAH TRACON and filed FL240 and above, will be established on the GCV transition to the LGC/HONIE STAR upon entering Atlanta Center airspace.

EXCEPTION: Aircraft departing MOB area airports landing ATL shall be routed via J37 MGM LGC/HONIE STAR.

2. Montgomery Arrivals (MGM)

(a) All aircraft shall cross the ZHU/ZTL boundary at or below FL230.

b. *ZHU Arrivals*

1. New Orleans Armstrong (MSY)

- (a) Ensure all New Orleans (MSY) bound arrivals enter the ZHU airspace direct SJI on the SLIDD arrival, at or below FL340.

2. Mobile Regional (MOB)

- (a) Ensure all aircraft cross the ZHU/ZTL boundary at or below 14,000.

3. Gulfport-Biloxi (GPT/BIX)

- (a) Ensure all aircraft cross the ZHU/ZTL boundary at or below FL200.

5. GENERAL.

- a. All aircraft are at 1x prior to initiating handoff requests.
- b. Handoff requests are made at least 10nm prior to ARTCC boundary and may be initiated up to 50nm without prior ATC coordination.
- c. Aircraft bound to the same airport or on the same route segment are separated by no less than 10nm (steady or increasing) unless further MIT separation is requested by vZTL or vZHU.
- d. All aircraft are assigned a valid altitude or flight level for the direction of flight as dictated in 7110.65 4-5-2.
- e. NORDO aircraft (not communicating via text or voice) are pointed out prior to crossing the appropriate ARTCC boundary.
- f. Any deviations from preferred routes or any aforementioned route in this document shall be coordinated with vZTL or vZHU prior to crossing the appropriate ARTCC boundary.
- g. Controllers shall modify all flight progress strips to reflect assigned altitude and route. Altitudes for crossing restrictions on descent shall be assigned using a Hard (F5) altitude function.

6. ATTACHMENTS.

a. Attachment 1: vZTL Center Sectors

Dan McCabe
Air Traffic Manager
vZTL ARTCC

Josh Guyer
Air Traffic Manager
vZHU ARTCC

Attachment 1: vZTL Center Sectors

