

All NATMAC Representatives

4th December 2009

File Reference: DAP/CAS/MM/NFSR

NATMAC INFORMATIVE LETTER

Dear Colleagues,

NOTIFICATION OF THE INTRODUCTION OF NIGHT-TIME FUEL SAVING ROUTES (NTSR)

This letter is to advise you that the Director, Airspace Policy, has approved the introduction of Night-time Fuel Saving Routes (NFSR) in UK airspace.

This initiative shall provide shorter defined Eastbound North Atlantic routes for traffic overflying the UK at night, between 2359hrs and 0600hrs local. For flights exiting Oceanic airspace, aircraft operators will be able to flight plan a more optimal profile for routeing through UK airspace, which will improve operating costs and reduce fuel burn and CO₂ emissions.

This initiative is undertaken as part of the UK/Ireland Functional Airspace Block (FAB) as part of the Dynamic Management of the European Airspace Network (DMEAN) developments. As these routes are allowable Directs (DCT) above FL285, they will be listed as such in Appendix 4 of the CFMU RAD (UK) and in the UK & Ireland Standard Route Document (SRD). As they are not defined as Upper ATS routes, they will not be included in Section 3 of the UK En-route (ENR) AIP.

Any activation of a Danger Area that affects any portion of a published NFSR DCT will render that DCT unavailable for flight planning over that period. Closure of any DCT will be notified by NOTAM, and any flight plan filed on a closed route will result in the generation of a FPL reject message by IFPS.

The implementation of these NFSR will be in 2 phases:

- Phase 1 – 17th December for DCT routes overflying the Shannon/London UIR
- Phase 2 – 11th March for DCT routes overflying Shannon/Scottish UIR

A joint NATS/IAA initiative, further details can be obtained from the NATS Airspace Design Manager on 01489 44405, email: Steve.patterson@nats.co.uk.

Yours sincerely,

Original signed

J C WALKER
NATMAC Secretary