

Flight Information Services Data Link (FISDL)

PROGRAM/PROJECT: <http://www1.faa.gov/aua/FISDL/>

LEAD AGENCY/COLLABORATING AGENCIES: Federal Aviation Administration

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SERVICE AREA(S)/INITIATIVE(S)

- *National Aviation Weather Initiatives:*
1: 2 2: 2 3: 3 5: 2 6: 2 7: 3 8: 2

FUNDING

- *Programmed/Planned (\$'s/FY):* No government funding provided.

TYPE OF PROGRAM/APPLICATION

Acquisition/Product Dissemination

SCOPE OF PROGRAM/PROJECT

- *What's being developed, procured, etc.:* VHF broadcast from a network of ground stations to in-cockpit displays of General Aviation aircraft, presenting nation-wide flight information products. FISDL implemented through joint FAA-industry agreement. FAA provides VHF frequency channels and management oversight to include review, acceptance and quality control of products transmitted. Industry installs and operates the ground data processing and transmission network at no cost to the FAA. Basic text products are provided to aircraft equipped to receive FISDL service at no cost; value-added graphic products are available through a subscription fee. Honeywell (Bendix/King) is the industry FISDL Service Provider.
- *How operations will be changed/improved:* provides general aviation pilots with updated weather information while airborne and thereby improves the safety and efficiency of general aviation flight operations.

PROGRAM/PROJECT MANAGEMENT

- *Basic guidance document for this program:* Requirements, Technology and Concepts for Aviation (RTCA) Minimum Aviation Systems Performance Standards (MASPS) for Flight Information Services-Broadcast (FIS-B) Data Link (DO-267, March 27, 2001)
- *Program/Project verification process:* Managed by FAA FISDL Office, AUA-460
- *Method used for end product validation:* FAA conducts periodic quality assessments of the FISDL transmissions.
- *Operational training for the user:* Text training materials are developed by the FISDL service provider (Honeywell) and are available on their website.

SCHEDULE/IMPLEMENTATION

- *Next major program milestone:* National coverage projected to be complete by CY04.
- *When program will become operational:* Operational service began in January 2002.
- *Plans for further improvements:* Continued development and enhancement of value-added graphical products, to include new products developed through the Aviation Weather Research Program.