



GOVERNMENT OF CLIPPERTON
LE GOUVERNEMENT DU CLIPPERTON

Department of Civil Aviation



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CLIPPERTON AIRSPACE DELEGATED TO FLIGHT SERVICE BUREAU

Clipperton Oceanic Control Area introduced

Clipperton Island, South Pacific: The **Government of Clipperton** announces the introduction of a new Oceanic Control Area in the South Pacific, in partnership with the **Flight Service Bureau (FSB)**, creating a unique user-managed 1.8 million square kilometers of airspace.

With effect from 2359 UTC on March 31st, 2018, the Flight Service Bureau (www.flightservicebureau.org), an independent agency that monitors the world's airspace and airports for risks and changes, will assume control of the Clipperton Flight Information Region (FIR). The airspace was last used in 1958, at which time funding was removed by the coalition of American, French, and British governments, who oversaw operations in the airspace at that time.

Francois Renard, acting PM of the Clipperton Government, commented, "We are extremely proud to bring the Clipperton Flight Information Region back to life. Since 1958, there has been no service to aircraft in this part of the Pacific. Despite previous talks with a number of foreign governments, dating as far back as 1967 when we negotiated with the Soviet Union, we were unable to find the right partner until Flight Service Bureau provided us with the knowledge and expertise of OpsGroup. Through this, we are able to provide a service that would otherwise not have been possible. Clipperton is now back on the map with the Clipperton Oceanic Control Area (OCA).

Speaking for Flight Service Bureau, newly appointed Director of Oceanic Operations Reinhard Kettu said: "This is a milestone for FSB and OpsGroup. While on the face of it, it might appear highly unusual for a sovereign government to cede

control of its national airspace, it makes huge sense and is not without precedent. For Clipperton, they now have the resources to resurrect an airspace defunct since 1958. For aircraft operators, there will once again be someone in control of this huge chunk of Pacific Airspace. And for FSB, and OpsGroup, the users for the first time have a say in what happens in the airspace in which they fly.”

Kettu continued: “We now have control of almost 2 million square kilometers of airspace, and are free to do with it as we please. Through the OpsGroup community that we curate, we are aware of the frustrations of a rapidly advancing aviation environment. Changes are exponential, and many are purely bureaucratic. We have therefore determined that only the absolute minimum of equipment will be required to enter the airspace, and have set a moratorium on new requirements or changes until January 1st, 2038, which should give all operators a chance to catch up. For the first time, regulations are set by the users. There is no requirement for PBCS, RNP, ADS-B, ADS-C, GNS, GNSS, HLA, MNPS, RLAT, RLO, SLOP, or any of the other exponentially increasing acronyms that operators struggle to keep up with. No LOA’s, no slots, no delays. And no ramp checks. There are no Notams. Although it is large, it’s a simple piece of airspace, and that allows for a simple approach.

The Clipperton Oceanic Control Area is the worlds newest airspace. Until now, it has been designated XX04 – a black hole of some 1.8 million square kilometers in the South Pacific Ocean. No Air Traffic Control service was provided, although between 1937-1958 a radio service “Clipperton Radio” was provided from the island. Clipperton has also secured funding a new Oceanic Control Centre, which will be completed by 2021. FSB and the Clipperton Government have also partnered with Thales and the KPA Military Construction Unit in a US\$27 million agreement to build an entirely new Oceanic Control Centre on the Island, to be completed by 2021. “Until then, we will rely on HF and position reporting, but from 2021 we will be able to use space-based ADS-B”, said Mr. Kettu.

Full details about the airspace handover are published in the official Aeronautical Information Circular, **AIC No. 3 of 2018**, by the Clipperton DCA, available at: http://dca.clipperton-gov.co/files/AIC/AIC-A03-2018_ClippertonOceanic.pdf

About the Clipperton Department of Civil Aviation: Founded in 1937, the Clipperton DCA is entrusted with protecting the safety of the Aviation system in Clipperton.

About the Flight Service Bureau: FSB is an independent organisation that monitors the world’s airspace and airports for International Flight Operations changes that affect pilots, dispatchers, and aircraft operators. FSB manages SafeAirspace.net with current Overflight Risk information, and OpsGroup, a community of 4000+ pilots, dispatchers, and controllers.

Reading References:

Official Notice: AIC No. 3 of 2018, by the Clipperton DCA, available at: http://dca.clipperton-gov.co/files/AIC/AIC-A03-2018_ClippertonOceanic.pdf

Clipperton DCA web site: <http://dca.clipperton-gov.co/>

Clipperton Government website: <http://clipperton-gov.co/>

Flight Service Bureau website: <http://flightservicebureau.org/>

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