

Obstacle Datasets: A User Experience from NAVBLUE

ICAO EUR/MID Digital Datasets Workshop, Cairo

22.05.2023

Rachel Carson, Production Standards Specialist, NAVBLUE

NAVBLUE

AN AIRBUS COMPANY

Why use obstacle datasets at a data house?

Embracing the future of aeronautical information

- Easier and quicker to ingest data compared with capturing it from PDF publications
- Little need to manipulate or manually input the data, so the risk of introducing errors is reduced
- The data has been removed from other source publications, so we have no alternative



Challenges in sourcing obstacle datasets

'Obstacles' on the road to a fully automated future state

Obstacle datasets that are published outside of the normal aeronautical data chain:

- Not included as part of the standard subscription process
- AIP states that obstacle data is available when in fact it is not yet being distributed
- Obstacle data is available only through a 3rd party



Obstacle datasets that are published in a inefficient manner:

- No publication notification
- Update frequency is unclear
- Obstacle data published as many individual small datasets



Challenges in using obstacle datasets

'Obstacles' on the road to a fully automated future state

Missing information preventing the data from being useable:

- Data is published without horizontal and/or vertical reference systems
- Data is published non-uniformly in multiple sources

Dataset variation preventing the use of a unified capture process:

- Obstacle datasets published in several file formats
- Datasets published with different structure and/or attribute formats

Dataset timeliness preventing our customers from receiving up to date information:

- Datasets published on their effective date
- Infrequently-updated datasets that are already out of date when published



Examples of best practices

States progressing smoothly toward the future by making datasets easy to use

- Send notification when a new dataset is published
- Include the dataset in the same package as other publications
- Publish obstacle datasets with a regular frequency
- Clearly indicate the availability of the obstacle dataset in ENR 5.4/AD 2.10 of the AIP
- Publish datasets with sufficient time before our production deadlines
- Ensure obstacle datasets do not contradict, or contain different information to, the AIP
- Publish obstacle datasets in a standardised format that can be ingested without the need for manipulation



Thank you



AN AIRBUS COMPANY