

required in Title 46, Code of Federal Regulations 10.304(h). The meetings are open to the public.

**DATES:** The Working Group will meet on Tuesday, February 12, 2002, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., and on Wednesday, February 13, 2002, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. These meetings may close early if all business is finished. Requests to make oral presentations should reach the Coast Guard on or before February 5, 2002.

**ADDRESSES:** The Working Group will meet in the 7th Floor, All-Hands Conference Room at Coast Guard's National Pollution Fund Center, 4200 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA. Send written materials and requests to make oral presentations to Mr. Gerald P. Miente; Commandant (G-MSO-1), Room 1210, U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, 2100 Second Street, SW, Washington, DC 20593-0001. This notice is available on the Internet at <http://dms.dot.gov>. *Security notice:* All non-military/government participants MUST first go to the 10th floor of the Pollution Fund Center's offices with a photo ID (driver's license) and sign in. You will then receive a 2-day pass for the meetings.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Gerald P. Miente, Assistant Executive Director, TSAC, telephone 202-267-0229, fax 202-267-4570, or e-mail at: [gmiente@comdt.uscg.mil](mailto:gmiente@comdt.uscg.mil).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notice of this meeting is given under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. 2. The performance criteria to be discussed at this working group meeting, when developed, will be announced by a notice in the **Federal Register** and made available for review and comment. Sample Towing Officer Assessment Records (TOARs) were published on May 21, 2001, as part of the Navigation and Vessel Inspection Circular 4-01 (NVIC 4-01) entitled "Licensing and Manning for Officers of Towing Vessels." This NVIC provides guidance on the implementation of a recent interim rule, also titled Licensing and Manning for Officers of Towing Vessels (Docket Number USCG 1999-6224), published in the **Federal Register** on April 26, 2001 (66 FR 20931). The NVIC is available on the Internet at [http://www.uscg.mil/hq/g-m/nvic/4\\_01/n4\\_01.pdf](http://www.uscg.mil/hq/g-m/nvic/4_01/n4_01.pdf). The rulemaking history is also available on the Internet at <http://dms.dot.gov> under the same docket number (USCG 1999-6224).

#### Agenda of Meeting

The agenda includes the Working Group's review of the TOARs and the drafting of performance criteria

proposals that will be presented to the full Committee for approval at a later date.

#### Procedural

This meeting is open to the public. Please note that the meeting may close early if all business is finished. At the Chair's discretion, members of the public may make oral presentations during the meeting. If you would like to make an oral presentation at the meeting, please notify the Assistant Executive Director on or before February 1, 2002.

#### Information on Services for Individuals With Disabilities

For information on facilities or services for individuals with disabilities or to request special assistance at the meeting, contact the Assistant Executive Director as soon as possible.

Dated: December 26, 2001.

**Joseph J. Angelo,**

*Director of Standards, Marine Safety and Environmental Protection.*

[FR Doc. 02-544 Filed 1-8-02; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-15-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### Noise Exposure Map Notice; Receipt of Noise Compatibility Program and Request for Review Boca Raton, Airport Boca Raton, Florida

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) announces its determination that the noise exposure maps submitted by the Boca Raton Airport Authority for Boca Raton Airport under the provisions of Title I of the Aviation Safety and Noise Abatement Act of 1979 (Pub. L. 96-193) and 14 CFR part 150 are in compliance with applicable requirements. The FAA also announces that it is reviewing a proposed noise compatibility program that was submitted for Boca Raton Airport under part 150 in conjunction with the noise exposure maps, and that this program will be approved or disapproved on or before June 30, 2002.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** The effective date of the FAA's determination on the noise exposure maps and of the start of its review of the associated noise compatibility program is December 31, 2001. The public comment period ends March 1, 2002.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Bonnie L. Baskin, Federal Aviation Administration, Orlando Airports District Office, 5950 Hazeltine National Drive, Suite 400, Orlando, Florida 32822-5024. Comments on the proposed noise compatibility program should also be submitted to the above office.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This notice announces that the FAA finds that the noise exposure maps submitted for Boca Raton Airport are in compliance with applicable requirements of part 150, effective December 31, 2001. Further, FAA is reviewing a proposed noise compatibility program for that airport which will be approved or disapproved on or before June 30, 2002. This notice also announces the availability of this program for public review and comment.

Under section 103 of Title I of the Aviation Safety and Noise Abatement Act of 1979 (hereinafter referred to as "the Act"), an airport operator may submit to the FAA noise exposure maps which meet applicable regulations and which depict noncompatible land uses as of the date of submission of such maps, a description of projected aircraft operations, and the ways in which such operations will affect such maps. The Act requires such maps to be developed in consultation with interested and affected parties in the local community, government agencies, and persons using the airport.

An airport operator who has submitted noise exposure maps that are found by FAA to be in compliance with the requirements of Federal Aviation Regulations (FAR) part 150, promulgated pursuant to Title I of the Act, may submit a noise compatibility program for FAA approval which sets forth the measures the operator has taken or proposes for the reduction of existing noncompatible uses and for the prevention of the introduction of additional noncompatible uses.

The Boca Raton Airport Authority submitted to the FAA on December 11, 2001, noise exposures maps, descriptions and other documentation which were produced during the Boca Raton Airport part 150 Noise Compatibility Study Update conducted between March 1999 and December 2001. It was requested that the FAA review this material as the noise exposure maps, as described in section 103(a)(1) of the Act, and that the noise mitigation measures, to be implemented jointly by the airport and surrounding communities, be approved as a noise

compatibility program under section 104(b) of the Act.

The FAA has completed its review of the noise exposure maps and related descriptions submitted by the Boca Raton Airport Authority. The specific maps under consideration are "2001 Noise Exposure Map with Existing Noise Compatibility Program" and "2006 Noise Exposure Map with Recommended Noise Compatibility Program" in the submission. The FAA has determined that these maps for Boca Raton Airport are in compliance with applicable requirements. This determination is effective on December 31, 2001. FAA's determination on an airport operator's noise exposure maps is limited to a finding that the maps were developed in accordance with the procedures contained in Appendix A of FAR part 150. Such determination does not constitute approval of the applicant's data, information or plans, or a commitment to approve a noise compatibility program or to fund the implementation of that program.

If questions arise concerning the precise relationship of specific properties to noise exposure contours depicted on a noise exposure map submitted under section 103 of the Act, it should be noted that the FAA is not involved in any way in determining the relative locations of specific properties with regard to the depicted noise contours, or in interpreting the noise exposure maps to resolve questions concerning, for example, which properties should be covered by the provisions of section 107 of the Act. These functions are inseparable from the ultimate land use control and planning responsibilities of local government. These local responsibilities are not changed in any way under part 150 or through FAA's review of noise exposure maps. Therefore, the responsibility for the detailed overlaying of noise exposures contours onto the map depicting properties on the surface rests exclusively with the airport operator which submitted those maps, or with those public agencies and planning agencies with which consultation is required under section 103 of the Act. The FAA has relied on the certification by the airport operator, under section 150.21 of FAR part 150, that the statutorily required consultation has been accomplished.

The FAA has formally received the noise compatibility program for Boca Raton Airport, also effective on December 31, 2001. Preliminary review of the submitted material indicates that it conforms to the requirements for the submittal of noise compatibility programs, but that further review will be

necessary prior to approval or disapproval of the program. The formal review period, limited by law to a maximum of 180 days, will be completed on or before June 30, 2002.

The FAA's detailed evaluation will be conducted under the provisions of 14 CFR part 150, section 150.33. The primary considerations in the evaluation process are whether the proposed measures may reduce the level of aviation safety, create an undue burden on interstate or foreign commerce, or be reasonably consistent with obtaining the goal of reducing existing noncompatible land uses and preventing the introduction of additional noncompatible land uses.

Interested persons are invited to comment on the proposed program with specific reference to these factors. All comments, other than those properly addressed to local land use authorities, will be considered by the FAA to the extent practicable. Copies of the noise exposure maps, the FAA's evaluation of the maps, and the proposed noise compatibility program are available for examination at the following locations: Federal Aviation Administration, Orlando Airports District Office, 5950 Hazeltine National Drive, Suite 400, Orlando, Florida 32822-5024.

Questions may be directed to the individual named above under the heading, **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

Issued in Orlando, Florida, December 31, 2001.

**W. Dean Stringer,**

*Manager, Orlando Airports District Office.*

[FR Doc. 02-491 Filed 1-8-02; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-13-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### **RTCA Special Committee 198: Next-Generation Air/Ground Communications System (NEXCOM)**

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of RTCA Special Committee 198 meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The FAA is issuing this notice to advise the public of a meeting of RTCA Special Committee 198: Next-Generation Air/Ground Communications System (NEXCOM).

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on January 23-25, 2002, starting at 9:00 am.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at RTCA, 1828 L Street, Suite 805, Washington, DC, 20036.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** RTCA Secretariat, 1828 L Street, NW., Suite 805, Washington, DC, 20036; telephone (202) 833-9339; fax (202) 833-9434; Web site <http://www.rtca.org>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Pursuant to section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, 5 U.S.C., Appendix 2), notice is hereby given for a Special Committee 198 meeting. The agenda will include:

- January 23:
- Opening Plenary Session (Welcome and Introductory Remarks, Review Minutes of Previous Meeting)
- Review and Act on Comments received during the Final Review and Comment Period for the Document *Next Generation Air/Ground Communications (NEXCOM) Principles of Operations VHF Digital Link (VDL) Mode 3*
- Closing Plenary Session (Date and Place of Next Meeting)
- January 24-25:
- Working Group 3 Editorial and Final Changes to the VDL-3 Principles of Operation Document
- Working Group 4, NEXCOM Plan, US National Airspace System (NAS) Plan for Transition to Air/Ground ICAO VDL-3 based Integrated Voice and Data
- Working Group 5, NEXCOM Safety and Performance Requirements (SPR) Document

Attendance is open to the interested public but limited to space availability. With the approval of the chairmen, members of the public may present oral statements at the meeting. Persons wishing to present statements or obtain information should contact the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section. Members of the public may present a written statement to the committee at any time.

Issued in Washington, DC, on December 18, 2001.

**Janice L. Peters,**

*FAA Special Assistant, RTCA Advisory Committee.*

[FR Doc. 02-486 Filed 1-8-02; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### **RTCA Special Committee 172: Future Air-Ground Communications in the Very High Frequency (VHF) Aeronautical Data Band (118-137 MHz)**

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of RTCA Special Committee 172 meeting.