

MODEMS (Speed or Standard)

Two years ago, the standards were set for 28.8 and 33.6 kilobit modems. Even with standards some of these modems still have compatibility problems, (i.e., hard to connect, connect but no interaction, and a host of other problems.) These problems will differ depending on the data service provider equipment. However, most manufactures provide software updates to correct these problems. If you believe you have a problem, you should contact your dealer or the manufacturer.

The newest modems transfer data at the rate of 56,000 bits per second. Up until now there were two major technologies in the US to the 56-kilobyte modem solution. (Robotics "X2" and Rockwell's "K56Flex").

A compromise has been officially reached between the two modem camps. The ITU (the International Standards Organization) set the V.90 standard for 56Kbps modems in February.

Most users will be able to get flash upgrades to bring their X2 or K56flex modems to run V.90. So up until now it was possible to buy a modem and discover that it would not communicate with your service provider or only work at some reduced baud rate.

Solution: Do some research before purchasing that new high tech modem. If you have access to the Internet, we suggest that you log on to the following site <http://www.v90.com>. We found this site to provide invaluable information and tips for modems standards.

Hints for Encode/Decode/ Extended

Encode

Using proper names for airport, Navaid and Weather reporting facilities, DUATS returns the location identifiers associated with these facilities.

In the Dialog Box with Encode selected, enter a proper name for the Airport, Navaid or Weather reporting facility. To further define the location, a State may be entered. Separate the name and the State with a comma.

Example: Boston, MA.

The dialog box will accept a minimum of the first 3 characters of the name, up to a maximum of 42 characters including the State ID.

Example: BOS will return all the identifiers associated with facilities whose proper names start with BOS.

Note: The more definitive (e.g. Boston, MA) the shorter the list of identifiers, (i.e., BOS) may produce several pages of information.

Decode

Using 2-5 character identifiers, DUATS returns the proper name of the Airport, Navaid, Victor airways, Jet airways, or Weather reporting facility associated with the identifier

In the Dialog Box with Decode selected, enter 2 to 5 characters IDs for desired Airport, Navaid, Victor airways, Jet airways, or Weather locations. Up to 10 IDs may be specified at a time. ID must be separated by a SPACE (e.g. SEA DFO LAX SAN PHX SLC BOI DCA IAD BOS).

Example: J1 will provide all route elements that make up J1.

Extended Decode: Using 2-5 character airport identifiers, DUATS returns basic information on the requested airport. This information includes lat/long, elevation, magnetic variation, Unicom Frequency, Common Traffic Advisory Frequency (CTAF), and types of weather reported, including NOTAM reporting. (The location identifier for weather and NOTAMs is provided if different from the airport ID).

Extended Decode

Aircraft ID: Enter your aircraft registration number, or select from your aircraft database.

Input: Enter names or identifiers, depending on whether you are encoding or decoding.

Enter 3 to 5 character IDs for desired airport, navaid or weather locations. Up to ten IDs may be specified at a time. Separated with SPACES (e.g. SEA SFO LAX SAN PHX SLC BOI DCA IAD BOS)

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DUATS...Still the Fastest Way into the Air & Still Free

Download the latest version of the Cirrus software 2.2 from either the Internet or place your order by calling 1-800-345-3828 or 1-703-818-4634

Data line: 800-767-9989

Tech support: 800-345-3828 press number 4 after operator

Internet Telnet: duats.gtefsd.com

Internet Web: <http://isd.gte.com/gtefsd/aviation/>

Enter 3 to 42 characters and optional 2-character State ID for desired airport, navaid, weather location or city information. If a state ID is specified, it must be preceded by a comma.

Note: Cirrus performs similar functions without logging on to DUATS. For more information, see Searching for Waypoints, and Viewing Waypoint Information. To keep your Cirrus data up-to-date, see “Updates to Cirrus Airports and Navaids Database” in the June 1998 issue of the DUATS Flyer.

Press the HOME key at any time to return to the DUATS main menu.

When you are finished, return to the main menu by pressing HOME, type Q (Quit), and press RETURN. This logs you off of DUATS and returns program control to you.



To insure that Cirrus has saved the interactive session you must click on the “Hang Up” Icon, or select “Hangup” from the “DUATS” pull down menu.



Updating Profiles

The FAA has recently added the aircraft equipment type “I”. “I” is now RNAV and “R” is now the new FAA designator RNP (Required Navigation performance). Please refer to FDC NOTAM 8/2186 for additional information.

With the recent changes in aircraft designators and equipment type, it is very important that you update aircraft type and special equipment in your personal profile and aircraft database files in Cirrus. Remember that you can change any of your profiles by accessing DUATS through the interactive tool bar in your Cirrus software. From the DUATS Main Menu, to update your flight plan and planner profile select #2; select #5 to modify personal profile (i.e., address, aircraft type, password, etc.)

Amending a Flight Plan

Accessing DUATS Interactively provides you with several features that are not available directly through Cirrus. **Example:** Under the menu selection Flight Plan and Planner you have access to Amend a Flight Plan. This feature provides you with the opportunity to amend or modify any flight plan you have submitted through DUATS, as long as the flight plan is still in the DUATS system.

Any time you submit a flight plan through DUATS, the system will provide you with the facility where the flight plan will be filed and the time DUATS will transmit the flight plan. The time of transmission is very important if you want to amend the plan. Currently, all VFR flight plans are transmitted one hour prior to departure time. All other flight plans are transmitted based on requirements determined by the receiving FAA facility.

Example: Atlanta Center may want all flight plans transmitted from DUATS 2 hours prior to departure. Washington Center may want all flight plans transmitted from DUATS 4 hours prior to departure.

Periodically a center may require DUATS to change the transmission time. For this reason you should note the time your flight plan will be delivered by DUATS. Use this time to determine if you can modify the flight plan from DUATS.

The following is an example of the statement provided by DUATS each time you file a flight plan.

Logging on to DUATS Interactively



Occasionally, you may need to log on to DUATS without using an automated script and navigate through the menus yourself.

Example: When you need to access a DUATS function not supported by Cirrus.

Choose Interactive Logon from the DUATS menu. Cirrus is still connects to DUATS and will automatically enter your access number and password for you. In the Terminal Window, you will see the opening text flash by, stopping with the message “press RETURN to continue”.

Press RETURN to get to the DUATS main menu. At this point, you can navigate through the menus using the keyboard. The mouse is not available here.

Type a question mark and press ENTER at any prompt to get help for that menu or function.

“Flight plan accepted by GTE DUATS service and will be filed with DCA on Thu June 25 19:14 (UTC).”

Discovered an Error or Problem in GTE DUATS??

If you find an error or a problem in GTE DUATS, please call the Help Desk at 800-345-3828 (toll free) and report it. It is through your diligence that GTE is able to correct programming and database problems. Try as we may, when working with over 200 million bytes of information, some things slip by undetected. Join in a partnership with us to make GTE DUATS the very best.

Future Articles

View Flight Plan
Close VFR Flight Plan/Modify Flight Planner Profile
Aircraft Profiles
Show Current Profile
Default Routing Choice

Output Format
Lat/Lon Output Format
Intermediate Intersections
Output Page Mode
Flight Planner Users Guide.