



SD/STAR Filing Using DUATS

Filing departure and arrivals are becoming more of a challenge today than ever before. As we all know most of these procedures have more than one transition and the specifics are published in the Terminal Procedures documents and updated every 56 days. There are several things you need to be aware of when filing a departure or arrival.

1. Make sure you know if the transition FIX/NAVAID is in the Jet, Victor, both or an RNAV/GPS fix. This is important to ensure you are transitioning to the desired air space environment.
2. Normally, transitions on the Jet and Victor airways are simple and by selecting them you will insure you end up on the airway you want.
3. RNAV/GPS transitions are not on either Jet or Victor airways and to file these transitions, you need to enter a FIX/NAVAID on the airway of choice as the first element after the transition. Doing this will put you on the desired airway. Also consider using these transitions to fly RNAV or GPS direct.
4. Each procedure is named, such as the "GARLAND TWO DEPARTURE", and then is assigned a short name GARL2.TTT. Note in the "Departure Route Description" of the Terminal Procedures manual, some procedures do not have the assigned short name described as a transition. Center does not want you file the short name of the procedure unless there is a corresponding description. After selecting a described transition enter the short name with the "DOT" i.e., GARL2.GGG followed by the Jet or Victor airway. In the case of a RNAV/GPS transition, if an airway is desired, you must file to a FIX/NAVAID on that airway.
5. If there is a procedure that does not have a short name and descriptive transition you can't file it. You can request these enroute or in remarks when filing, but will normally only be assigned by Center in-flight.
6. Also, be aware there are transitions that are not published that may be assigned by Center. DUATS is not provided with this data.
7. There are SD's and STARS that are not adapted in the Center HOST Computer even though they are published. This means the HOST will reject the flight plan. In these cases DUATS personnel will enter the procedure's FIXES and NAVAIDS manually and you will have a FRC when you open your flight plan. If you know certain procedures will not be accepted, you can enter your request in remarks.

Cancel/Amend/Close Flight Plans

These are three DUATS features/functions that can be accomplished within the limits specified by the FAA.

When filing a flight plan in DUATS, your intended departure time needs to be within 24 hours of the current DUATS time. For example, if you intend to depart at 0100 UTC tomorrow and the current time is 0030 UTC today, you must wait until 0100 UTC today to file the plan for tomorrow. If you do not, the plan will be accepted and be filled immediately, as the system will assume you wanted to depart 30 minutes from the current time.

Once a flight plan has been accepted by DUATS it can be canceled or amended as long as the plan has not been transmitted to an FAA facility. As a general rule, the FAA requires IFR flight plans to be transmitted by DUATS 2 hours prior to departure, and VFR flight plans 1 hour prior to departure (however, the FAA does occasionally request different delivery times). Therefore, when you file your flight plan with DUATS, the system will notify you of the FAA Facility that the flight plan will be sent to and the time it will be sent. This time stamp is when you will no longer be able to cancel or amend using DUATS. After the time specified in this message you should contact Flight Service and make your request. Prior to the time specified you can amend or cancel flight plan(s) filed in DUATS.

Cancel and Close are sometimes used interchangeably especially when inflight, but should not be confused when using them in DUATS. Canceling a flight plan in DUATS means that you have no intention of using that flight plan as filed and you have canceled it prior to it being delivered to the FAA by DUATS. Closing a flight plan is the final process of completing a VFR flight and informs the FAA that you have landed. Make sure you fill in all the information requested in the DUATS Closure form. Don't use "Close a Flight Plan" form to Cancel. If you do, Flight Service will get the closure message and think you have landed but, will not be able to match it to any filed flight. This only creates confusion for Flight Service and for us at DUATS.

Please retain your DUATS Newsletters for future reference.

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The Golden Eagle FlightPrep® Planning Chart

With the Golden Eagle FlightPrep (GEFP) Flight Planning Chart you can plan your routes automatically or manually. GEFP displays the current route in the Route of Flight Panel to the left of the chart, while showing the route graphically on the chart.

Zooming the Chart

You can zoom in and out of the chart by using the plus and minus icons on the tool bar. Not only do you zoom but the chart will be centered around where you point and click.

If you wish to zoom in on a specific region, select the chart "Router Mode" icon on the tool bar (the arrow to the right of the "hand" icon). You can then create a box of a desired region by pressing and holding down the mouse button on the upper-left corner of the area you wish to zoom to and dragging the mouse pointer to the lower-right corner of that area. Let go of the mouse button and the chart will zoom in. To zoom back out, click the right mouse button.

Zoom can also be accomplished by selecting a zoom level from the "Level 1 through 8" drop down list.

Panning the Chart

Use the scroll bars in the Chart window to move up, down, or side-ways on the chart. Or, select the "hand" icon on the tool bar. Then left click and hold the mouse anywhere on the chart. You can now drag the chart in any direction.

Manual Routing on Chart

The GEFP graphic user interface makes building a route intuitive, and easy. Just zoom the chart to the area in which you wish to plan your flight. Make sure the mouse is set to "Router Mode" (the arrow icon) and select a sequence of airports, NAVAIDS, and waypoints using a mouse click. Navigational symbols are the same as you would find on a Sectional. If you are having trouble locating a specific element enter the name or ID in "Chart/Search" located in the pull down under "Chart."

Deleting Waypoints

Using the Route of Flight Panel, select by clicking and highlighting any number of waypoints and press the DELETE key. The waypoints disappear from the route list and the route display will automatically change.

Adding Waypoints

Rubber Banding - With the "Router Mode" icon you can insert a waypoint into a route by grabbing the route line by pressing the left button and dragging it over the symbol of the element you wish to insert, then release the mouse button.

Or, you can insert a waypoint before or after a specific route element by right clicking on an element in the Route of Flight Panel and selecting before or after. Then click on the symbol of the element you wish to insert.

Changing a Waypoint in a Route

To change an existing waypoint, you use this same dragging technique, but you grab and drag the waypoint.

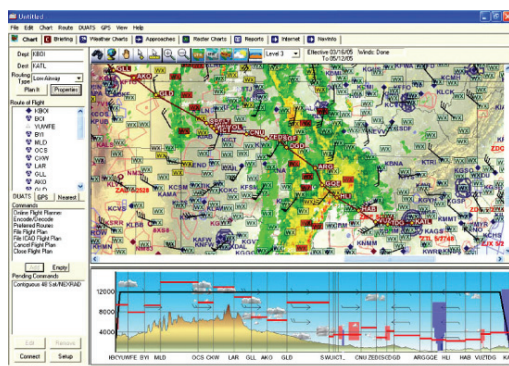
Getting Information about Airports

When right clicking on the airport on the chart, GEFP opens an information window. Another way to get this information is to right click on an airport in the Route of Flight Panel.

Golden Eagle Update Reminder

Make sure when doing your GoldenEagle Updates that the program and all other windows are closed before running the installation from your desktop. If the program is not closed you may run into problems when trying to use the software. For the full article on this please reference the June 2006 Issue No.62 Article.

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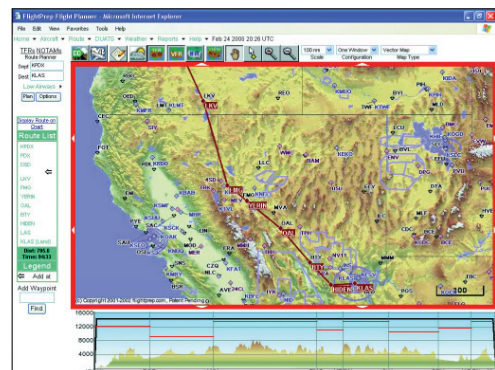
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