

AERONAUTICAL INFORMATION CIRCULAR 9/08

CHANGE IN ATC PHRASEOLOGY—LINE UP/LINE UP AND WAIT

Introduction

The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) publishes standard aviation terms and phrases for use worldwide in the *Procedures for Air Navigation Services—Air Traffic Management* (PANS-ATM), Document 4444. For the most part, the use of standard terms and phraseology in North America is consistent with those published by ICAO; however, certain specific air traffic control (ATC) phraseology used in Canada differs from the phraseology published by ICAO.

Predominantly, controllers of ICAO member States use the ICAO-recommended phraseology “LINE UP” or “LINE UP AND WAIT” when instructing an aircraft to enter the runway intended for take off.

In Canada, controllers currently use the phraseology “TAXI TO POSITION” or “TAXI TO POSITION AND WAIT” when instructing an aircraft to enter the departure runway.

As part of the continuing effort by NAV CANADA to conform with international best practices, procedures will be implemented in the near future to adopt the ICAO-recommended phraseology “LINE UP” or “LINE UP AND WAIT” when controllers instruct an aircraft to enter the runway intended for take off.

Intention of Circular

The intention of this circular is to give operators advance notice of the change in phraseology that controllers in Canada will use when instructing aircraft to enter a runway in preparation for take off.

Current Phraseology

“TAXI TO POSITION” or “TAXI TO POSITION AND WAIT”

New Phraseology

“LINE UP” or “LINE UP AND WAIT”

United States Differences

The US Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), while studying the possibility of adopting the “LINE UP” phraseology, will not do so at this time.

Pilots are therefore urged to remain alert to the different phraseologies that may be encountered when operating near runway thresholds in various locations. The table below is provided to acquaint pilots with the different phraseologies that will be in use once the change to Canadian phraseology is implemented.

ICAO	CANADA	United States (FAA)
TAXI VIA (taxiway routing) TO HOLDING POINT RUNWAY (number)	RUNWAY (number), TAXI VIA (taxiway routing)	TAXI TO RUNWAY (number) VIA
LINE UP	LINE UP	RUNWAY (number), POSITION AND HOLD
LINE UP AND WAIT	LINE UP AND WAIT (reason)	RUNWAY (number), POSITION AND HOLD

Date of Implementation

This change in phraseology will be implemented effective 10 April 2008 and the Transport Canada *Aeronautical Information Manual (AIM)* will be amended to reflect this information in a future revision.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Kellar', is positioned above the printed name and title.

Rudy Kellar
Vice President, Operations