

# NOTICE

## U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

N 8400.63

3/29/04

Cancellation  
Date: 3/29/05

### **SUBJ: REVISION TO THE SPECIAL PILOT-IN-COMMAND QUALIFICATION AIRPORT LIST**

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**1. PURPOSE.** This notice informs all principal operations inspectors (POI) and Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) part 119 certificate holders of a change to the Special Pilot-In-Command (PIC) Qualification Airport List.

**2. DISTRIBUTION.** This notice is distributed to the division level in the Flight Standards Service in Washington headquarters; to the branch level in the regional Flight Standards divisions; to the Flight Standards District Offices, and to the Regulatory Standards Division at the Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center. This notice is also distributed electronically to the division level in the Flight Standards Service in Washington headquarters and to all regional Flight Standards divisions and district offices. This information is also available on the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) Web site at:  
<http://www.faa.gov/avr/afs/notices/8400/N8400-63.doc>.

**3. BACKGROUND.** This is part of the new process for updating and maintaining a current Special PIC Qualification Airport List; additionally, notification to the certificate holders is in development.

**a.** Advisory Circular 121.445-1D, Pilot-in-Command Qualifications for Special Area/Routes and Airports, dated June 20, 1990, was cancelled and Operations Specification (OpSpec) C050 was put into place.

**b.** A request was submitted that Thule Air Base, Greenland, a military airport, be added to the Special PIC Qualification Airport List.

**c.** The FAA has determined that it is appropriate to add Thule Air Base, Greenland, to the Special PIC Qualification Airport List.

#### **4. DISCUSSION.**

**a.** The current airport list is maintained in the Operations Specifications Subsystem (OPSS) guidance subsystem in association with OpSpec C050. The list is also maintained on the public Web site at <http://www.opspecs.com>.

**b.** Thule Air Base, Greenland, has been added to the Special PIC Qualification Airport List.

(1) Navigation and approach facilities are oriented to True North while the en route environment is oriented to Magnetic North.

(2) Operators using the global positioning system as the primary means without inertial platforms may not be approved to use the Thule Air Base as a destination or as an alternate.

(3) In addition to the mountainous terrain surrounding the airport, there is a runway gradient that pilots need to be aware of when landing.

**5. ACTION.** POIs affected by this notice should provide a copy of this notice to their respective certificate holders.

**6. DISPOSITION.** This notice will not be incorporated into Order 8400.10, Air Transportation Operations Inspector's Handbook. Questions concerning this notice should be directed to the Program Management Branch, AFS-260, at (202) 267-3232.

/s/ John M. Allen for  
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Director, Flight Standards Service