



LAX Community Noise Roundtable

Aviation Noise News Update

January 13, 2016

Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2016



- **On December 18, 2015, President Obama signed into law the bipartisan Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2016**
- **The Act is a \$1.15 trillion omnibus spending bill that funds numerous federal agencies and their related programs through September 30, 2016**
- **The Act provides \$16.3 billion in funding to the FAA including:**
 - **\$9.9 billion for operations**
 - **\$3.35 billion for the Airport Improvement Program**
 - **\$2.9 billion for NextGen implementation**
 - **\$31 million for the Airport Cooperative Research Program**
- **The Act did not include an increase in the passenger facility charge (PFC) cap as requested by airport operators**
- **The Act also did not address the privatization of FAA's air traffic control function, which was supported by several airlines**

Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2016 (cont.)



- **The Act also includes a provision requiring the FAA to improve its approach to involving communities and airports in the implementation of NextGen Performance-based Navigation (PBN) procedures**
- **The Act directs the FAA Administrator to “complete and implement a plan which enhances community involvement techniques and proactively addresses concerns associated with” PBN procedures**
- **The Act also requires the FAA to update its Community Involvement Manual within 60 days of the Act’s passage**
- **The updated Community Involvement Manual must be transmitted to several House and Senate committees within 180 days of the Act’s enactment**

Plan to Spread Nighttime Noise at O'Hare



- **The City of Chicago unveiled plans to rotate nighttime runway use at Chicago-O'Hare International Airport**
- **The 52-week schedule would rotate arrival and departure runways during the period from 10 pm to 6 am and would not repeat the same runway combinations for eight weeks “to the extent possible”**
- **The City’s plan also includes early turns designed to place aircraft over the least populated areas by using PBN technology**
- **The plan will be submitted to the O'Hare Noise Commission for approval prior to the City submitting it to the FAA**
- **No timetable has been set for implementing the plan**

Silent Skies Act Reintroduced



- **On December 3, 2015, Representative Joe Crowley (D-Queens) reintroduced The Silent Skies Act (H.R. 4171)**
- **The bill directs the FAA to issue regulations prior to December 31, 2016 requiring all U.S commercial aircraft to meet Stage 4 noise standards**
- **The Act would require the phase out of aircraft that do not meet the Stage 4 standards by 2037 by phasing out 25 percent of these aircraft every five years**
- **The Act would also require that beginning in 2017 all newly manufactured aircraft must meet ICAO's Chapter 14 standards**
- **Under the Act, a partnership grant program would develop new, noise-reducing technologies with a portion of the sales of those technologies feeding back into the program**
- **Crowley said, "Through fleet replacement and investment in new technologies, quieter airplanes are an achievable goal."**

Boeing Rolls Out the First 737 MAX 8



- On December 8, 2015, Boeing Aircraft Corporation rolled out the first 737 MAX 8 from its Renton, Washington plant
- Boeing stated that the 737 MAX 8 program is exactly on the schedule that was set over four years ago with the first flight of the aircraft is planned in early 2016
- The 737 MAX 8 features several new technologies including the CFM International LEAP-1B engines and a new type of winglets
- The 737 MAX 8 has a 40% smaller noise footprint than the 737-800
- Sixty customers have ordered 3,000 of the MAX family aircraft
- Southwest Airlines has 200 737 MAX aircraft on order with an additional 191 options



Photo Credit: Boeing

Boeing Delivers Record Number of Aircraft in 2015



- **Boeing delivered a record 762 airplanes in 2015, which exceeded its 2014 mark by 39 aircraft**
- **The delivery of these aircraft continues the airlines' trend of "up gauging;" replacing older aircraft with quieter aircraft with greater seat capacity**
- **Boeing had net orders for 768 aircraft in 2015, which brings its total unfilled orders to 5,795 aircraft**
- **"We had a solid year of orders in 2015, maintaining a strong, balanced backlog that will help ensure a steady stream of deliveries for years to come," said Boeing Commercial Airplanes CEO Ray Conner.**

Learjet Hushkits Meet Stage 3 Standards



- **On January 1, 2016 all aircraft weighing less than 75,000 pounds were required to meet the FAA’s Stage 3 noise certification requirements**
- **On December 28, 2015, Avcon Industries, a subsidiary of Butler Aviation, announced that it added the Learjet 20 series with the XR wing modification to its hushkit supplemental type certificate**
- **Avcon stated that now all models of the Learjet 24 and 25 can comply with the Stage 3 noise requirements**
- **“The Learjet 20 series were one of the first business jets,” said Avcon CEO Clark Stewart. “The mandate to comply with Stage 3 noise restrictions would have effectively grounded the entire fleet.”**
- **The article noted that “More than 700 Learjet 20 series were manufactured, and many are still flying.”**