

sound information

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Port of Seattle Commission

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IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Sea-Tac Noise Information and Complaint Line (206) 433-5393 or 1-800-826-1147

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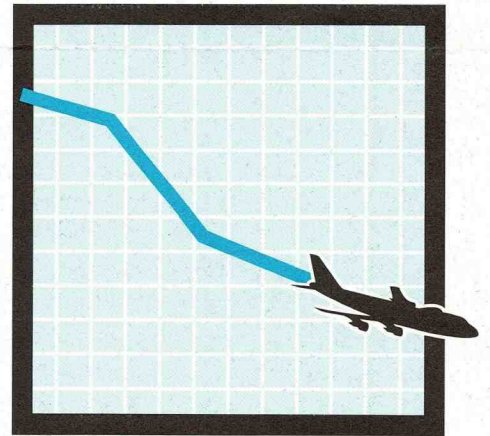
Community Relations 433-4645

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Aircraft Noise Levels Continue to Decline

Secretary of Transportation Rodney Slater has reported that U.S. airlines are ahead of schedule for a fifth consecutive year in the transition to a quieter aircraft fleet. The Airport Noise and Capacity Act of 1990 requires that all airplanes meet quieter Stage 3 noise levels by the year 2000.

A report recently submitted to Congress by Secretary Slater shows that operators were ahead of last year's Dec. 31 interim compliance requirements to either reduce the number of noisier Stage 2 airplanes by 50 percent or have 65 percent quieter Stage 3 airplanes in their fleets. As of December last year, 75.5 percent of the airplanes operating in the United States are Stage 3. In the past year, 370 noisier Stage 2 aircraft have been removed from service while 230 quieter Stage 3 aircraft have entered service in the United States. Currently, Sea-Tac Airport operates 87% Stage 3 aircraft.



Stage 2 airplanes include Boeing models 727-200, 737-200 and McDonnell Douglas model DC-9. Stage 3 airplanes include Boeing models 737-300, 757, 777 and McDonnell Douglas model MD-90.

Some operators are complying with the Stage 2 airplane phaseout by installing FAA certified Stage 3 noise level hushkits to their Stage 2 fleet. Many airline operators already have met the criteria for the next interim compliance date, which is December 31, 1998. ■

Upcoming Events

Sea-Tac Noise Advisory Committee meets in Sea-Tac Airport's large conference room at 6:30 p.m. on the following dates:

January 15, 1998

March 19, 1998

June 18, 1998



Part 150 Study Initiated

The Port is beginning a part 150 Noise Study to review the effectiveness of existing programs and examine the need for additional measures to further minimize noise impacts. If you would like more information about this study or be added to the part 150 mailing list, please call 206-433-5393 and leave a message. ■

Alaska Airlines Installs Hush Kits on Stage 2 Jets

Alaska Airlines has completed installation of hush kits on eight of its Boeing 737-200 jets and now operates an all Stage 3 fleet. These eight 737-200s are specialized aircraft that can be easily reconfigured to carry varying combinations of passengers and cargo, and are primarily used for flights to Alaska.

After installation of the hush kits, the aircraft's engines are

thoroughly tested at high power settings to ensure they are safe before flying. Due to Alaska Airline's schedule, two of the eight tests have occurred on weekend mornings. These hour-long run-ups have generated a number of questions and noise complaints from citizens living near the airport. In response to these concerns, the Port has worked with Alaska Airlines to avoid early morning and evening time frames for the remaining two tests.

Two of Alaska's flights have been operating out of Boeing Field at night, due to restrictions on nighttime Stage 2 flights at Sea-Tac Airport. Alaska representatives say they plan to move those flights back to Sea-Tac within the next month.

Alaska Airlines is two years ahead of the federal mandate that requires all commercial carriers operating in the U.S. to meet quieter Stage 3 standards by the year 2000. ■

Quarterly Report Summary

2nd Quarter 1997

Fleet Mix - 86.5 percent Stage 3 aircraft.

Noise Budget - All airlines allocated a noise "budget" operated under their noise allocation.

Nighttime Limitations - An average of less than one Stage 2 aircraft was flown per night during the restricted hours of the second quarter. Of the 12,415 flights monitored during the restricted hours, 99.8 percent were Stage 3. On occasion, a Stage 2 will operate at night due to weather or mechanical delays. During the 2nd quarter .2% of the flights were Stage 2, of those, 3 flights were in violation of the program and were sent admonishments.

Flight Procedures - Initial departure procedure monitoring showed success rates of 97.6 percent for north flow and 96.1 percent for south flow.

Noise Remedy - 255 homes were insulated during the 2nd quarter for a program total of 5,536. To date there have been 7,146 homeowners initiated into the program.

Noise Information On The Internet

Information about the Port of Seattle Noise Abatement and Noise Remedy Programs can now be found on the World Wide Web. To access the site, enter the Port of Seattle home web page at <http://www.portseattle.org>. Go to "Sea-Tac Airport" then "Community Issues". On the next page double click onto "Aircraft Noise Reduction". The following page will contain an overview of the Noise Abate-

ment and Noise Remedy Programs.

The Noise Abatement Office can also be reached directly through this web page. In the section titled noise information line, simply double click the highlighted "Report Aircraft Noise" this will allow you to type in information regarding aircraft noise complaints or information requests. We welcome any feedback that you may have through this Internet page.

Noise Information and Complaint Line

There were 775 calls by 380 individuals. The most calls for the second quarter came from Des Moines, Burien/Normandy Park, and Madrona/Leschi.

Ground Noise - There were 133 engine maintenance run-ups during the second quarter. Of those, 10 were conducted during the nighttime hours of 10 p.m. to 7 a.m. There were no violations to the run-up regulations this quarter.

3rd Quarter 1997

Fleet Mix - 87.1 percent Stage 3 aircraft.

Noise Budget - All airlines allocated a

noise "budget" operated under their noise allocation.

Nighttime Limitations - An average of less than one Stage 2 aircraft was flown per night during the restricted hours of the third quarter. Of the 14,985 flights monitored during the restricted hours, 99.7% were Stage 3. On occasion, a Stage 2 will operate at night due to weather or mechanical delays. During the 3rd quarter .3% of the flights were Stage 2, of those, 2 flights were in violation of the program and were sent admonishments.

Flight Procedures - Initial departure procedure monitoring showed success rates of 97.1 percent for north flow and 97.0 percent for south flow.

Noise Remedy - 230 homes were insulated during the third quarter for a program total of 5,916. To date there have been 7,422 homeowners initiated into the program.

Noise Information and Complaint Line There were 1249 calls by 703 individuals. The most calls for the third quarter came from Des Moines, Burien/Normandy Park, and Riverton Heights.

Ground Noise - There were 109 engine maintenance run-ups during the third quarter. Of those, 19 were conducted during the nighttime hours of 10 p.m. to 7 a.m. There were no violations to the program regulations during the third quarter.

Invitation to visit the Noise Abatement Office:

Visitors to the Noise Abatement Office are always welcome! The office is conveniently located in the Airport Main Terminal, on the Mezzanine Level, directly above the TWA ticket counter. Recent visitors include local elected officials gathering information they can pass on to constituents, Boeing engineers and test pilots, high school and college students on class field trips, and potential homeowners researching the airport noise impact in various neighborhoods of interest. We can provide briefings on noise reduction programs and demonstrations of our aircraft flight tracking computer software for groups or individuals. If you are interested in setting up an appointment to visit the Noise Abatement Office call Lynae Jacobson at 248-6891.

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