

No. 2825

Non-Unique Identifier Information

ATTENTION FLIGHT CREW

Application:

This Service Letter (SL) applies to UASC Flight Management Systems (FMS) and Multi-Mission Management Systems (MMMS) containing Software Control Number (SCN) 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 101 thru 304, 320, 340, 40X/50X, 60X/70X, 80X/90X and 1000/1100. This is all currently supported UASC FMSs.

Description:

The navigation database contains a number of non-unique or “duplicate” identifiers, that is, multiple items using the same identifier. These may include enroute and terminal waypoints, intersections, VORs, VOR/DMEs, NDBs, TACANs, airports, localizers and ILSs.

If there are two or more items with the same identifier, multiple pages will be displayed next to the identifier in X/Y format. The value 1/ 1, if displayed, indicates the item is unique, such as **KTUS 1/ 1**. If the database contains an identifier used more than once, such as “R” which is used 31 times in the navigation database, it will be shown as **R 1/ 31**. The items are ranked in order of distance from present position or distance from a preceding waypoint in a flight plan or route, where 1/ 31 is closest and 31/ 31 is furthest. Navigate between pages on the Control Display Unit (CDU) to view remaining items on the list by pressing <NEXT> or <PREV>.

Aircrews should use caution to make sure they are selecting the desired item. For example, if flying direct from LAX (Los Angeles CA) to ITH (Ithaca NY), a distance of 2025 NM, there are six “ITH” identifiers as shown on the display below. The closer Thompson ILS/DME and VOR/DME items are listed on the CDU as item 1/6 and 2/6 before the desired Ithaca VOR/DME waypoint, 3/6 in this example. Inadvertently selecting one of the other five would take you well off course.



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VORs and NDBs often occur with the same identifier at the same or nearly the same location. If the NDB is selected, using <LIST><AIRWAYS> will not show any airways based on the VOR because the NDB is not part of the airway structure, and vice versa.

Airports and enroute waypoints sometimes occur with the same identifier at the same location as shown in the following example: **YBTR** (Blackwater Australia) airport and **YBTR** enroute waypoint which is used in seven airways. Using <LIST><AIRWAYS> from the YBTR (airport) will yield no results because the airport is not part of the airway structure. Attempting to link an approach to the flight plan using <MENU><ARRIVE> based on the YBTR enroute waypoint may cause incorrect courses to be displayed on the CDU.



In summary, the Nav Database contains numerous duplicate identifiers. The crew has the ultimate responsibility of properly identifying their selected item to ensure it is the one they intended to use.

NOTE: The user's FMS screen layout and page content may differ from the examples used in this SL.

Contact Universal Avionics Systems Corp for information:

Universal Avionics Systems Corporation
3260 E. Universal Way
Tucson, AZ 85756-5097
Ph: (800) 595-5906
(520) 573-7627
Fax: (520) 295-2384