

**AERONAUTICAL
INFORMATION
CIRCULAR (AIC)****H52/24****Effective: 202411150000 UTC**

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NEW YEAR'S EVE MELBOURNE CITY ORBITS

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This AIC notifies industry of requirements and procedures associated with New Year's Eve Melbourne city orbits, effective 15 November 2024.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Previous to 2023, city orbits on New Year's Eve were conducted on an unannounced and ad-hoc basis.
- 2.2 For enhanced safety in 2023, new measures were put into place for managing the traffic performing sightseeing orbits.
- 2.3 Based on feedback from 2023, the following measures will be implemented for 2024:
- a) A mandatory pilot briefing prior to New Year's Eve.
 - b) A cap on the number of aircraft per orbit and in total.
 - c) Grouping of similar performance aircraft at the same levels.
 - d) A requirement of submitting Flight Plans to enable the allocation of discrete SSR codes and the capture of pilot contact details.
 - e) Slots for participation will be at the discretion of ATC should the available slots be over-subscribed.

3. OPERATIONAL INFORMATION

- 3.1 The pre-New Year's Eve pilot briefing is scheduled for 1900 Local time on 17 December 2024 and will be held via Teams call. The briefing is mandatory for pilots who intend to participate and only to those who have a confirmed slot using the Airwork Booking System. Details for joining the Teams meeting will be sent to the contact information provided at the time of your booking.
- 3.2 Participants should be aware that there will be various pyrotechnics and lighting displays on the night that may impact their operations. A detailed explanation will be given at the pilot briefing.
- 3.3 The minimum operating altitude is 2,100FT. A maximum of five (5) aircraft per 500-foot level is permitted, with a total limit of fifteen (15) aircraft operating at any given time. This will be regulated by the booking system.
- 3.4 Similar performance aircraft will be assigned to operate at the same levels, as determined by the booking system or by Air Traffic Control (ATC) on the night.
- 3.5 Operators must submit Flight Plans three (3) hours before the intended operation to enable the allocation of discrete SSR codes.
- 3.6 Access the Airwork Booking System at www.vic.bookawk.com, and navigate to the NYE Melbourne City Fireworks page top left. Ensure an email address is provided. The booking system will be open for bookings from 1200 Eastern Summer Time on 01 December 2024 for two (2) weeks.

4. CANCELLATION

- 4.1 This AIC self-cancels at 202501010000 UTC.

5. DISTRIBUTION

- 5.1 Airservices Australia website only.