Federal Aviation Administration

Memorandum

Date: OCT 21 2010

To: All Directors, En Route and Oceanic Operation Service Areas

From: [redacted], Acting Director, Safety and Operation Support, AJE-3

Subject: Interpretation, FAA Order 7100.65, Air Traffic Control, Chapter 2, General Control, Paragraph 2-4-17, Number Usage, Paragraph k. Speed

This is in response to a request for interpretation submitted by the Eastern Service Area on behalf of Miami Air Route Traffic Control Center regarding phraseology for issuing speed restrictions. The following questions were asked:

"It says to use the word knots in all the examples, except the one example that is highlighted above. Is that a typo or mistake? Does the controller need to use the word knots?

There is no typo or mistake. Whenever you use the word "Speed" to assign a speed, you do not have to say "Knots". When you issue a clearance that reduces speed by a number of knots, you must use both words, "Speed" and "Knots".

If you have any questions about this request please direct them to [redacted], En Route Operations Standards [redacted]