



EASA Safety Information Bulletin

SIB No.: 2014-15
Issued: 23 May 2014

- Subject:** **Controller Pilot Data Link Communications (CPDLC) - Data Link : Instruction to turn a specified number of degrees left or right (UM 215)**
- Ref. Publication:** Annex 10 to the Convention on International Civil Aviation, International Civil Aviation Organization
- Applicability:** All Air Navigation Service Providers operating CPDLC; and all operators of aircraft equipped with CPDLC
- Description:** The CPDCL Uplink Message 215 (UM215) instructs to turn right/left by a specified number of degrees. Standard ICAO phraseology uses only the necessary number of digits for the specified number of degrees. It has been observed that the human-machine interface of some avionics always displays three digits for the number of degrees, like it is in standard ICAO phraseology for headings. Therefore some flight crews misinterpreted the turn left/right instruction of UM215 as instruction to turn to the heading indicated by the number of degrees instead of turning by the indicated number of degrees. This could lead to aircraft reacting in a manner different from the instructed intent. To avoid this situation, some Air Navigation Service Providers have ceased the use of UM215.
 At this time, the situation described in this SIB is not considered to be an unsafe condition that would warrant Airworthiness Directive (AD) action under EU 748/2012, Part 21A.3B.
- Recommendation(s):** Air Navigation Service Providers should consider that some avionics display the number of degrees to turn in UM215 in a way different from standard ICAO phraseology, and therefore aircraft could react in a manner different from the instructed intent.
 Operators should consider in the training of the flight crews and in their operational procedures that some avionics display the number of degrees to turn in UM215 in a way different from standard ICAO phraseology.

This is information only. Recommendations are not mandatory.

Contact(s): For further information contact the Safety Information Section, Executive Directorate, EASA. E-mail: ADs@easa.europa.eu.
To obtain a copy of ICAO Annex 10, contact the ICAO Customer Services Unit, telephone +1 514-954-8022, facsimile +1 514-954-6769, or by e-mail request to sales@icao.int.

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