

# Safety Net SARTIME management

Managing Search and Rescue times (SARTIME) and cancelling them at the end of a safe flight is a critical responsibility of pilots in command. It ensures that Airservices and emergency response authorities such as AusSAR (Australian Search and Rescue) or the police know that you've arrived safely. It also prevents unnecessary search and rescue operations – a highly resource intensive, and at times costly, process.

## Have I cancelled my SARTIME?

Remember at the end of your flight to confirm your safe arrival. Always use the phrase "cancel SARTIME". Make sure you get the acknowledgement "SARTIME cancelled" to confirm this.

## Flying in uncontrolled airspace

When planning a flight that does not enter controlled airspace ensure you give us information about your aircraft type, flight plan, number of persons on board and your nominated SARTIME.

## Holding a SARTIME

As an alternative to a SARTIME, any responsible person nominated by you – a spouse, trusted friend, your company or flying school - can hold a watch on your arrival.

The person you nominate may need to provide emergency services with accurate information about you and your flight, so ensure they have:

- a description of the aircraft you are flying
- the details of your flight
- all your relevant contact details.

Alternatively, a SARTIME can be held by Airservices on your behalf and managed in a centralised database - CENSAR.

## Nominating a SARTIME

When nominating your SARTIME ensure it:

- is long enough to cover the duration of your flight
- allows enough time for you to access communication facilities to cancel it

## How to notify, change and cancel your SARTIME

**Phone:** The best way to notify, change and cancel a SARTIME held by us is by phoning the Airservices Flight Information Centre (AusFIC) on 1800 814 931.

**Internet:** You can lodge your SARTIME over the internet. NAIPS provides automatic confirmation of successful flight notification, however check your completed notification to make sure the SARTIME was correctly submitted.

**Radio:** If the other preferred methods are not available you can nominate, modify and cancel a SARTIME by radio (VHF or HF). Remember that when using radio there may be some delays due to controller workload or HF interference.

## SARTIME phraseology for radio

When nominating or modifying SARTIME details over the radio always begin your transmission with the phrase "SARTIME details...". Then wait for the operator to ask you to go ahead.

At the end of your flight use the phrase "cancel SARTIME". Other phrases such as "cancel SAR" do not clearly distinguish between VFR and IFR flights and may confuse air traffic services operators.

## If you don't cancel your SARTIME

If a SARTIME held by us is not cancelled before expiry:

1. Attempts will be made to contact you
2. If these attempts fail an emergency Uncertainty Phase will be declared
3. AusSAR will be notified of the expired SARTIME and take over responsibility for the response.

AusSAR has extensive resources and the expertise to locate you and confirm your safe arrival or to begin emergency assistance.

For more information on SARTIME management contact:

**Safety Programs and Promotions**

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