

# Segment Five – Progress in Emerging Weather Issues:

## Volcanic Ash

Presented: Friends/Partners in Aviation Weather

By: Steven R. Albersheim

Date: September 27, 2007



Federal Aviation  
Administration



# Issue

- **Provision of a timely and concise message of volcanic ash hazard to pilots, controllers, and dispatchers**



# Recent Progress - Domestically

- **Issuance of the National VA Operations Plan for Aviation**
  - Identifies agencies roles and responsibilities
    - FAA, NOAA/NWS/NESDIS, USGS, DoD, NASA, & Smithsonian
  - Identifies practices and procedures
  - Provides examples of products
    - URL: <http://www.ofcm.gov/homepage/text/pubs.htm>

# Recent progress - Internationally

- **Updates to Documents issued by the ICAO International Airways Volcano Watch Operations Group\***
  - Handbook on IAVW Operational Procedures (2004)
    - Provides contact points
    - Provides examples of NOTAM and ASHTAMS
    - Provides guidance on procedures
      - URL: <http://www.icao.int/anb/iavwopsg/>

**\*Note changes are made electronically and posted on ICAO Web page**

# Challenges for near term

- **Communication**

- Improve coordination among agencies for issuance of warning messages in the shortest time period possible
- Graphics
  - Graphical SIGMET under development
  - Value of a four panel Volcanic Ash Graphic (VAG) in the cockpit

- **Feedback**

- Airlines should ensure that pilots provide a Volcanic Ash Report (VAR) to assist the MWO and VAAC.