


OPERATIONS ADVISORY NOTICE (OAN)		 Transport Malta Civil Aviation Directorate Flight Operations Inspectorate Transport Malta Centre Triq Pantar Lija LJA 2021 Malta
OAN Number: 03/25 Rev. 1	Issue Date: 17th June 2025	
Subject: CPDLC - incorrect filing of ICAO Flight Plan		

EU IR 2023/1770 establishes requirements for aircraft equipment in the Single European Sky, mandating that all aircraft intending to operate above FL285 must be capable of performing CPDLC over ATN/VDL Mode 2 (CPDLC/ATN equipped), with few exemptions based on the date of the individual certificate of airworthiness, seating capacity, MTOM, special situations and explicitly specified aircraft models.

In accordance with the provisions of the ICAO Procedures for Air Navigation Services (PANS) - Air Traffic Management (Doc 4444) 16th Edition, 2016 as transposed by the Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/1772 of 12 September 2023, if the aircraft has ATN VDL Mode 2 CPDLC capability and the crew are appropriately trained, the Operator shall enter the **J1** designator in **Item 10a** of the ICAO Flight Plan.

If the aircraft does not have the ATN CPDLC capability, but it is exempted from the obligation, **DAT/CPDLCX** should be included in **Field 18**.

Note: Operators should not file J1 and DAT/CPDLCX together.

It is important to understand that the ATC can only be aware of an aircraft's capability or exemption through the flight plan; however, it appears that several operators are not filing the correct flight plan details, failing to indicate J1 capability in the equipment field or DAT/CPDLCX if an exemption applies.

Kindly note that failure to provide the correct information in the ICAO Flight Plan will result in aircraft being restricted to operating below FL285.

Please be guided accordingly.

Capt. Stefano Banti
Head of Operations

Flight Operations Inspectorate