

SAFER IFR OPERATIONS FOR HELICOPTERS Point-in-Space (PinS) and Low-Level Routes

In the last years, the experts of the Austro Control Instrument Flight Procedures (IFP) Team have gathered substantial knowledge in the field of RNP approaches proceeding the implementation of numerous challenging approaches in Austria. They have also specialized in the development of innovative PinS (Point-in-Space) procedures and low-level routes to enable **safe IFR helicopter operations.**



What is PinS?

PinS procedures are IFR approaches and departures based on satellite navigation, specifically designed for helicopters. Each procedure consists of an instrument and a visual segment. For a PinS approach, the instrument segment is aligned with a reference point (PinS) from which the pilot can manoeuver to land in adequate visual conditions or initiate the missed approach if the visual conditions are insufficient. For a PinS departure the visual segment precedes the instrument segment. PinS procedures can be connected through low-level routes which are also specifically adapted for helicopter operations. PinS procedures allow for minimums as low as 250 ft depending on the obstacle environment.

Helicopter PinS Approach Chart Helipad Oberwart, Austria

PinS procedures increase the probability to safely land and/or take-off to/from landing sites under adverse weather conditions. This is particularly relevant for landing sites located in areas with a known record of low clouds or fog. The implementation of PinS procedures at these landing sites can have a tremendous benefit on the accessibility rates. Helicopters properly equipped to fly this type of procedure can thereby take full advantage of their IFR instruments and sensors.



The PinS flight procedure is also possible from and to heliports.

The Austro Control IFP Team has already successfully implemented several PinS Procedures in Austria. Customers involved in the provision of public critical services such as the Austrian Military, the Austrian Airborne Police and several Austrian Helicopter Emergency Medical Services (HEMS) operators, have already benefited from Austro Control IFP team's expertise in the field of the IFR procedures for helicopters. More projects are already planned for the upcoming years as more and more operators want to profit from these procedures.

Austro Control offers:

- On-site Evaluation
- Customized IFP procedures for helicopters
- Project management
- Flight validation management
- PinS Training
- Periodic review

Your benefits:

- Improved accessibility to landing sites even in adverse weather conditions
- Customized flight procedures
- No investments for new ground-based navigation aids needed (PinS leverages free-of-charge satellite navigation services)
- High precision approaches with three-dimensional flight guidance (ILS look-alike)
- Improvement of safety levels

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