MGA
Alerts & data

Aircrew, Aircraft & Airports: Databases and validity alert tools

MGA software.com

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Active Spreadsheet Technology for the aviation sector

MGA Alerts

(for information on enabling macros within Excel see MGA-install)

Both **pilots** and **fleet** incorporate a system of visual alerts to warn when renewals are becoming due (see 'Status' screens). These are preset to show orange at 90 days and red at 30 days. Overdue validities are painted indigo. Alerts are updated by selecting 'Refresh' from the drop-down menu on the Status screen.

Data from the **pilots** and **fleet** modules are interfaced with the optional **schedule** module so that validity alerts show up on schedule's date matrix along with tasking and aircraft availability data.

Status screen   Pilots module

CREW STATUS is intended for printing and displaying in operations:

The **Status** screen shows when listed validities are becoming due by changing the cell colour for the affected validity (as below).

The Status screen of pilots displays a maximum of 36 Crew (note only 'Active' or 'Training' are listed).
Clicking the Hide/Show option on the Housekeeping drop-down toggles the display to show Type Rating data for 2 or 3 Aircraft Types as required.

Latest revisions:

4 opTypes are selectable in addition to an 'ALL' option. (v2.8)

The upper limit for crew members is increased from 50 to 60. The Status screen scrolls sideways through 5 screens of data, each displaying 12 Active or Training crew.. Click the red arrow at screen top right to cycle through the pages. The current page number is displayed at at top left.   (v3.0)

Edit Crew Data option on Housekeeping drop-down. Click to edit crew member in current cursor column. (v3.1)

CrewData screen   Pilots module

Use the CrewData screen for creating and editing pilot data

The database holds records for up to 60 pilots (v3.0). All yellow areas are editable.

Not shown above are 25 lines of notes to record dates and plain language training details, appointments etc, at screen bottom. Click the blue 'down' arrow at screen top to view.
Ratings and Validities
All items in this box are dispayed as alerts on the Status screen and also in the schedule module.

The Type-specific section records validities for up to three aircraft type ratings in three tables. Each table includes Type identifier (eg. 'C500') and 6 lines for user defined validities (eg. 'LPC, OPC, Line' etc).

The Recurrent Training section records details of recurrent courses (eg: Fire, CRM, First Aid, Wet Drill, Security etc). For each of these you can record the course place, date of course and validity.

Labels for Type-specific and Recurrent Training items are user defined on the SetUp screen

Tip: The CrewData screen can take more time to paint the screen with data when other MGA modules are open at the same time. If you notice pilots slowing up, close down any unnecessary modules.

Selecting from the drop-down (v2.9):
There is no need to click the action button after selecting an ident from the drop-down. (The button is still retained with the 'Refresh' legend). While loading data the counter on the Status Bar at screen bottom will report progress as 'x/150' and when complete, 'Editing XXX' (where 'XXX' is the crew ident).
The Refresh button becomes invisible while data is loading (v3.0).

Editing data:
If changes are made to any crew data, an 'Updated' flag will appear at top right. If you try to select another crew while this flag   is showing the logic will alert you with:

> Changes have been made to the data for XXX
> Do you want to disregard changes and load new data?
> Click OK to proceed or Cancel to exit

Navigation Arrows:
Arrows on the right assist in navigating between the upper and lower parts of the screen.

CrewData screen cont.   Pilots module

Entering pilot data on the **Crew Data** screen.

At the Ident drop-down, select 'New'. The logic will cycle to the ident input prompt.
Enter an appropriate ident (a unique 2 to 4 character alpha numeric code). Be aware that the ident selected becomes the tag for identifying the crew member within pilots, fdp-duty, roster, schedule and flightDocs modules. **Exiting out of the process at any time will recall the last selected crew data to the display.**

Then enter the pilot data (as much or as little as you wish) in the boxes provided. When finished, click 'Save Changes' to store the information.

Data Parking on fdp-duty
At save time, any Crew member with a Status of 'Active' or 'Training' which is not currently in the fdp system may be copied across and 'parked' on the *FlightCrew* screen of **fdp-duty** by clicking Yes at the prompt:
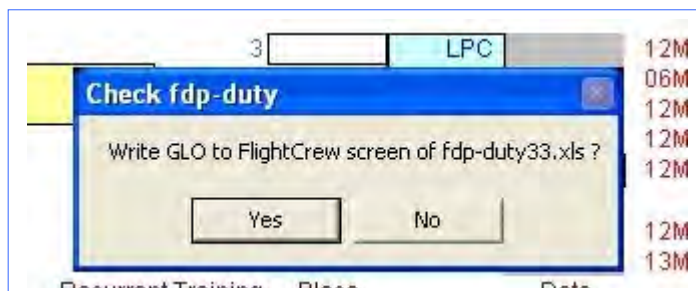
FlightCrew screen (fdp-duty33+)
Parked data is presented 'grayed out' on the FlightCrew screen with the temporary Status of '←New→'

When a Refresh is commanded (in fdp-duty), the user will be reminded of any parked data which has not been resolved (See fdp manual):

Data Labels are defined on the SetUp screen in three sections:
dataLabels
- the 13 labels under the heading recurrent training
typeLabels
- the 5 sub-categories applicable to each aircraft type
dataLabels2
2 supplementary labels

Note that frequency flags
(eg '12M') are also user-definable.

SetUp parameters (v2.8)
4 opTypes may be specified on the SetUp screen.
Display Headers. Setting 0 or 1 controls the headers on the Status screen.

Password protection (v2.9):
The SetUp screen is password protected to preclude the data labels etc. from being inadvertently changed.
To reset the password, select 'Reset Password' from the management drop-down. Enter the current password and then you will be prompted to enter the new password twice.

Default Password: The pilots module is shipped with the default password '**mga**' (case sensitive).

Management drop-down:
The Management drop-down provides access to:

Import Data	(converts earlier database versions to v3.1 standard.)
Data sheet	view database (Saving module hides this sheet)
Edit Labels	Input password and edit data labels on the SetUp screen
Reset password	Reset password.

(Cancelling out of the reset dialog will re-protect this screen without making changes).

Linked files (v2.9):
The default helpFile is MGAalerts.doc

Note the operation of the pilots module can be greatly speeded up by closing down any unnecessary modules running at the same time.

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Status screen   Fleet module

The fleet module works in a similar way to pilots, with a status screen incorporates a visual alerting facility when renewals are due, and a data screen for editing.
The **Fleet** module is interfaced with the **Schedule** module so that validity alerts are presented against the date matrix of **Schedule**.

The **Status** screen lists all validity dates and alerts when validities are becoming due by changing the cell colour for the affected validity (as below).

Due within 90 days	Due within 30 days	Overdue
19-Jan-07	19-Jan-07	19-Jan-07

The Status screen is designed for printing and displaying in operations:

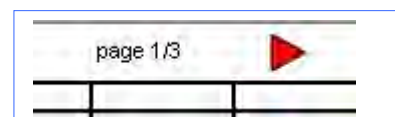Up to 36 crew can be displayed in 3 pages of 12 (version 2.8).

Select operational type to display using the drop down:

Click 'refresh' from the Housekeeping drop-down to update display with the latest info.
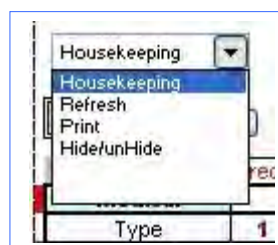
To cycle between pages click the arrow at screen top right.

AircraftData screen   Fleet module

Use the AircraftData screen for creating and editing fleet data.

Note that the Data Labels (beneath the 'Delete' button) and related frequency tags on the right hand side of the screen are user-editable.

Clicking the 'Save Changes' button saves any changes made to data labels and frequency tags along with changes to data.

Be aware that data labels and frequency tags are _not aircraft specific_; the text defined at that position will be reflected across the fleet.

Data parameters which are repeated on the Status screen are presented in the yellow shaded boxes at screen right.

Aircraft alerts are picked up in the **schedule** module.

Aircraft Data screen: version 2.0 includes two extra data parameters:

'image Filename'   The image selected is presented at screen centre.

'show in schedule'.   Select Yes or No to use this aircraft within schedule.

              (The **fleet** module can have a max of 10 aircraft, **schedule** a max of 6)

Not shown above are the 25 lines of notes to record Aircraft milestones with Date, plain language details and Total Time hours etc, at screen bottom.

Behind the scenes, the database of **fleet** version 2.0 has been revised to provide more robust system. A conversion program converts the earlier database to the new standard when Import Data is used.

AircraftData screen   Fleet module

Left: Select aircraft from drop down menu.

The database holds records for up to 10 aircraft.

SetUp screen

SetUp screen:
The 'show in schedule' parameter is added to the abbreviated 'acList' list on the SetUp screen and the information displayed is available to schedule version 3.7 to facilitate integration between these modules. (Within schedule, only those aircraft with a positive 'show' flag will be listed on the SetUp screen).

Fleet module

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Airports database   aga module

The aga module started life as an airports directory, hence the abbreviation 'aga' borrowed from UK Air Pilot. It has grown to include databases for countries, nation/province variations (Zones), Daylight Saving Time (DST), currency Exchange Rates plus a hidden onboard variation database, These databases are employed for various tasks – for example when an airport is manually edited or added to the database, the country, zone and variation data is consulted to provide the necessary information. Other modules access **aga** for information eg:-
flightDocs to get the Local time for a place and date or a list of Handling Agents for an airport
schedule   to generate a list of airport/ICAO./IATA codes for use when selecting airports on the Day Plan dialog.

<u>Aga has 4 user screens</u>   See page
aga   The main airports database (see below)   12
countries   The countries database.   13
Agents   User Handling Agents Directory
SetUp   User parameters. Airfield Categorisation management.   14

Additionally there are 3 screens which are not normally accessible
zones   Provincial variations qualifying country data.
agaData   temporary input page for web airport update information.
                            (The above may be viewed by clicking the chequered button on the SetUp screen. They are
                            automatically hidden whenever the module is saved).
variation   Not user accessible.

aga: The main editing/viewing screen

aga30 features various improvements to the database. For each airport on the aga screen, columns X,Y and Z now contain respectively 'Time' (UTC Time Offset), 'DST' (Daylight Saving Time scheme) and 'Zone' (Province or State within Nation). Previously time offsets were recorded by country code (the icao prefix), but for many entries the time offset is specific to a zone within the national entity.

DST (Daylight Saving Time) schemes.
Each airport has a 2 digit code itemising the DST scheme in operation. The codes are prefixed 'N' or 'S' dependant on hemisphere. Northern schemes are coded N1 to N9 and then NA, NB etc. (ie. 'hex' format). Southern schemes are coded with the prefix S. The End date for Southerly DST schemes is in the year following the start date.
(Note the great majority of DST schemes are set by the country but variations can exist within regions).
DST schemes are itemized on the SetUp screen of aga30.

Zones
Aga30 has a hidden 'zones' sheet which contains data for provinces and states within nations.

Airports database   Aga module

The edit dialog (click the blue 'Edit' button)

Summary of data inputs

Col	Label	Details
B	ICAO	4 character ICAO designator (Master airport identifier)
C	Name	Plain Language Name
D	Iata	3 character IATA code.
E	Elev	Elevation in feet
F	Rwy	Longest Runway orientation.
G	Len Ft	Longest Runway Length in feet
H	Len m	*Automatic conversion to metres*
I	Op	Op Code (this is a redundant historic parameter)
J	CI	Cost Index (default = 100)
K	Lat	Latitude is (eg) N5511.5 degrees and decimal minutes
L	Lng	Longitude as (eg) W00130.3 degrees and decimal minutes
M	Var	Magnetic Variation as (eg) 0.6E decimal degrees. On board variation database to process (click 'var' button in edit dialog)
N	aka	Also-Known-As: Alternative name
O	notes	Plain language notes
P	infoDate	Applied by MGA to records with all fields validated at the given date.
Q	userFlag	The text 'user' indicates a user updated record which will not be automatically overwritten during updates.
R-W	acType1-6	Label=ICAO Aircraft Type. Airport Categorisation Codes. These columns are hidden and are updated from the SetUp screen in conjunction with ops manual data.
X	Time	UTC Time offset
Y	DST	Daylight Saving Time scheme. (Blank= No DST)
Z	Zone	Province within a country (used to qualify UTC offsets and DST)

Be aware that minimal validations are performed on the data inputs to this page. For instance, the logic may not correctly interpret Latitude or Longitude inputs unless the syntax is as above.

Airports database   aga module

countries screen

	Icao	Country	GMT=1200	Mil	Civ	aka	Notes	Tel	Symb.	£1=	info date	Currency Name	DST scheme	2008 From	End To	2009 From	
31	LA	Albania	+1	1300	A	CET			355	ALL			Albanian Lek	N1	30-Mar-08	26-Oct-08	29-Mar-09	25-
2	LB	Bulgaria	+2	1400	B	EET			359	BGN	2.21	18-Feb-09	Bulgarian Lev	N1	30-Mar-08	26-Oct-08	29-Mar-09	25-
3	LC	Cyprus	+2	1400	B	EET			357	EUR	1.13	18-Feb-09	Euro	N1	30-Mar-08	26-Oct-08	29-Mar-09	25-
4	LD	Croatia	+1	1300	A	CET			385	HRK	8.44	18-Feb-09	Croatian Kuna	N1	30-Mar-08	26-Oct-08	29-Mar-09	25-
5	LE	Spain	+1	1300	A	CET			34	EUR	1.13	18-Feb-09	Euro	N1	30-Mar-08	26-Oct-08	29-Mar-09	25-
6	LF	France	+1	1300	A	CET			33	EUR	1.13	18-Feb-09	Euro	N1	30-Mar-08	26-Oct-08	29-Mar-09	25-
7	LG	Greece	+2	1400	B	EET			30	EUR	1.13	18-Feb-09	Euro	N1	30-Mar-08	26-Oct-08	29-Mar-09	25-
8	LH	Hungary	+1	1300	A	CET			36	HUF	347.02	18-Feb-09	Hungarian Forint	N1	30-Mar-08	26-Oct-08	29-Mar-09	25-
9	LI	Italy	+1	1300	A	CET			39	EUR	1.13	18-Feb-09	Euro	N1	30-Mar-08	26-Oct-08	29-Mar-09	25-
10	LJ	Slovenia	+1	1300	A	CET			386	EUR	1.13	18-Feb-09	Euro	N1	30-Mar-08	26-Oct-08	29-Mar-09	25-
31	LK	Czech Republic	+1	1300	A	CET			420	CZK	39.04	01-Nov-07	Czech Koruna	N1	30-Mar-08	26-Oct-08	29-Mar-09	25-
12	LL	Israel	+2	1400	B	EET			972	ILS	5.90	18-Feb-09	Israeli New Shekel	N7	28-Mar-08	05-Oct-08	27-Mar-09	27-
13	LM	Malta	+1	1300	A	CET			356	MTL	4.20	18-Feb-09	Maltese Lira	N1	30-Mar-08	26-Oct-08	29-Mar-09	25-
14	LN	Monaco	+1	1300	A	CET			377	EUR	1.13	18-Feb-09	Euro	N1	30-Mar-08	26-Oct-08	29-Mar-09	25-
15	LO	Austria	+1	1300	A	CET			43	EUR	1.13	18-Feb-09	Euro	N1	30-Mar-08	26-Oct-08	29-Mar-09	25-
16	LP	Portugal	+0	1200	Z	GMT		Azores -1	351	EUR	1.13	18-Feb-09	Euro	N1	30-Mar-08	26-Oct-08	29-Mar-09	25-
17	LQ	Bosnia	+1	1300	A	CET			387	BAM			Bosnia and Herzegovina Convertible Mark	N1	30-Mar-08	26-Oct-08	29-Mar-09	25-
18	LR	Romania	+2	1400	B	EET			40	RON	4.86	18-Feb-09	Romanian Leu	N1	30-Mar-08	26-Oct-08	29-Mar-09	25-
19	LS	Switzerland	+1	1300	A	CET	Liechtenstein		41	CHF	1.67	18-Feb-09	Swiss Franc	N1	30-Mar-08	26-Oct-08	29-Mar-09	25-
10	LT	Turkey	+2	1400	B	EET			90	TRY	2.40	18-Feb-09	Turkish Lira	N1	30-Mar-08	26-Oct-08	29-Mar-09	25-
01	LU	Moldova	+2	1400	B	EET			373	MDL			Moldovan Leu	N1	30-Mar-08	26-Oct-08	29-Mar-09	25-
12	LV	Palestine	+2	1400	B	EET	Gaza Strip		970			10-Feb-09		N5	18-Apr-08	17-Oct-08	17-Apr-09	16-
13	LW	Macedonia	+1	1300	A	CET			389	MKD			Macedonia, Denar	N1	30-Mar-08	26-Oct-08	29-Mar-09	25-
14	LX	Gibraltar	+1	1300	A	CET			350	GIP			Gibraltar Pound	N1	30-Mar-08	26-Oct-08	29-Mar-09	25-
15	LY	Serbia & Montenegro	+1	1300	A	CET	Yugoslavia		381	RSD			Serbian Dinar	N1	30-Mar-08	26-Oct-08	29-Mar-09	25-
16	LZ	Slovak Republic	+1	1300	A	CET	Slovakia		421	SKK			Slovakian Koruna	N1	30-Mar-08	26-Oct-08	29-Mar-09	25-
17	MB	Turks & Caicos Islands	-5	0700	R				1649	USD	1.43	18-Feb-09	American Dollar					
18	MD	Dominican Rebublic	-4	0800					1809	DOP			Dominican Republic Peso					
19	MG	Guatemala	-6	0600					502	GTQ			Guatemalan Quetzal					
10	MH	Honduras	-6	0600					504	HNL			Honduras Lempira					

The **countries** screen contains a register of country information for use throughout the AOC system. The data is grouped according to ICAU prefix and includes: Basic TimeZone data ('101' if variations exist within ICAO area), the military and civil classification conventions in use, 'aka' (also-known-as) country name, International telephone Dial code, Exchange rate data (updated via web), Daylight Saving Time (DST) scheme in operation, plus a breakdown of the next 3 fiscal DST periods.
Click the 'Exchange Rates' button to obtain the latest values viz. £ sterling. (Base Rate to be selectable in future release).
No other editing is provided for. The **countries** screen data is for information only.

Agents screen

	ICAO	Name	Handling agent 1	Tel. No.	Fax. No.	Handling agent 2	Tel. No.	Fax. No.
8	BIAR	Akureyri	Air Iceland	+354 460 7000	+354 460 7010			
199	BIKF	Keflavik	Southair Iceland	+3544250520	+3544250521			
315	BIRK	Reyjavik	birk Flight Services	+3545521611	+3545529221			
25	EBAW	Antwerp	Aviapartner Executive	+32 3 285 6690	+32 3 218 6825	Flying group	+32 3 285 3476	+32 3 218 6825
77	EBBR	Brussels	Abelag Handling	+32 2 720 5880	+32 2 721 2288			
97	EBCI	Charleroi	Signature Flight Support	+3271251934	+3271251129			
208	EBKT	Kortrijk	Abelag Handling	+3256431066	+3256404208			
283	EBLG	Liege	Signature LGG	+3242358864	+3242358874	AviaPartner LGG	+3242348535	+3242348436
288	EBOS	Ostend	Aviapartner Executive	+3259563711	+325970012			
18	EDAC	Altenburg	Flugplatz Altenburg-Nobits	+49 3447 590 150	+49 3447 590 151			
175	EDAH	Heringsdorf	Flughafen Heringsdorf	+49383762500	+493837625033			
46	EDDB	Berlin (schonefeld)	Feras SXF	+49 30 60914604	+49 30 8875 4602			
125	EDDC	Dresden	AHS Aviation Handling Services	+49 351 881 4181	+49 351 881 4186	Lufthansa Airport services	+49 351 881 4010	+49 351 881 40
137	EDDE	Erfurt	Erfurt Airport	+49 361 6560	+49 361 656 2201			
148	EDDF	Frankfurt-Main	FAS Frankfurt Aviation Service	+49 69 690 20399	+49 69 690 58043			
269	EDDG	Munster	FMO Airport Services	+492571943010	+492571943019			
169	EDDH	Hamburg	Air Hamburg HAM	+4940707088917		Acciona HAM	+494050753570	+494050753720
48	EDDI	Berlin (Tempelhof)	Private Wings Aircraft Services	+49 700 0328 0328	+49 30 60918201	VP Aviation	+49 30 6951 3880	+49 30 6951 38
102	EDDK	Colgne/Bonn	Air Evex	+49 2203 95514 0	+49 2203 95514 28	CAS Cologne Aviation	+49 2203 955 1520	+49 2203 955 1
130	EDDL	Dusseldorf	Air Evex	+49 211 421 6660	+49 211 454 1902	DAS DUS	+49 211 5160 4050	+49 211 5160 40

The 'Agents' screen contains user data for airport Handling Agents. This may be written from the edit dialogue on the aga screen or else directly into the Agents screen.

Airports database   aga module

SetUp screen:

The DST grid contains details for Daylight Saving Time schemes in use worldwide. Schemes are identified by a code with the prefix 'N' or 'S' dependant on hemisphere. Note that the End date for a Southerly DST scheme is in the year following the start date. The DST scheme database is supplied and updated by MGA web update service.

Providing the host computer is connected to the web, you can obtain remote updates of:
Currency Exchange Rates
Airports Data
DST schemes

Exchange Rate data is acquired from a proprietary source. Airports and Daylight Saving Time data is supplied by MGA. (the distribution of update files will be promulgated by stopPress bulletins). At the head of each MGA web update (htm) file is a note of what changes have been made in the current update cycle. Click in the link box above ('http:' etc) to see the source data and read the revision notes.
Click the Update button alongside the link box to import the data from the web into this module.

Update Currency data will prompt you to first change to the countries screen. To update click the 'Exchange Rates' button

Update Airports data Click OK at the prompt to import the latest data from the web and cycle to the hidden **agaData** sheet. (Click Cancel for the option to view the current contents of **agaData** without importing data. From the **agaData** sheet, Click 'Update aga database' to transfer the contents to the **aga** database.

Update DST data Click OK at the prompt to refresh the DST schemes data grid in this screen. Then click the button labeled 'update on-board countries DST data' to transfer the data and make it available for use on the countries screen.

Local Time check
aga30 now reports Local Time correctly when half-hour time differences are involved (eg India).

Import Data
Click Import Data, Enter the filename of the target aga file and then choose between importing Airport data OR Handling agents data.

(Note the **schedule**, **flightDocs** and **fdp-calc** modules all require the aga module to fully work).

Notes

Versions & upgrades
MGAsoftware.com will alert you whenever a substantive revision of your software is available for release

To implement an upgrade:

1. Make a safety back up of your existing file using Windows Explorer.
2 Copy your downloaded or emailed software into your MGA folder
3 Run the updated software and:
4 Go to the **SetUp** screen and click the **Import Data** button.
5 At the prompt: 'Import data from filename:' enter the name of your previous version of the software and click **Okay**.

   The Import routine will copy your previously existing data into your updated module.

All modules have 'cross-folder support' which allows linked filenames to be specified using a relative or absolute folder spec. (absolute being those beginning eg: 'C:\'). Note that in a network system, relative folder protocols do not always work reliably.

Modules give the Application's plain language description of any file errors which occur when the program attempts to open linked files

MGA Software has a version number appended to the module name in the form of a two digit number (eg: '21' = version 2.1). Your current software version number can be checked on the SetUp screen of the module you use.

Any linked files (ie. those used by the module) are accessible from the SetUp screen under the legend 'Linked data files.' Be aware when an updated module is installed, any module linking to it must have its 'Linked Files' entry edited in order to communicate correctly.

Depending on the version of Excel, MGA software may cause error flags to display in certain cells. These can be safely disregarded. To switch them off go to Tools > Options, select the Error Checking Tab and uncheck 'Evaluates to Error Value'. MGA programs work under any version of Microsoft Excel from Excel 97 upwards.

Disclaimer: Some MGA demonstration modules may be distributed with time-related validities (details will be published on the SetUp page). If the validity of your software is time related, MGA Software is not responsible for any consequences arising from the use of its software after expiry date.

If your organisation has any requirement for specialised software we will be pleased to investigate the feasibility of providing a bespoke solution to your specifics.
If it's possible for a job to be automated then we can do it!

For all technical queries contact MGA
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