

12 aprile 2022

*(English text at the bottom)*

## IFALPA SB – IDENTIFYING WAYPOINTS

Gentili Colleghi,  
di seguito un Safety Bulletin di IFALPA che mette in guardia sui rischi connessi con il crescente numero di waypoints con nominativi simili, soprattutto in occasione dell'ingresso nelle rotte oceaniche in direzione del continente nord americano.  
Buona lettura.

ANPAC – Dipartimento Tecnico  
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[English Version](#)

## IFALPA SB – IDENTIFYING WAYPOINTS

Dear Colleagues,  
below is attached an IFALPA Safety Bulletin that warns about the risks associated with the growing number of waypoints with similar names, especially when entering oceanic airspace in the direction of the North American continent.  
Enjoy the reading.

ANPAC – Dipartimento Tecnico  
[dt@anpac.it](mailto:dt@anpac.it)

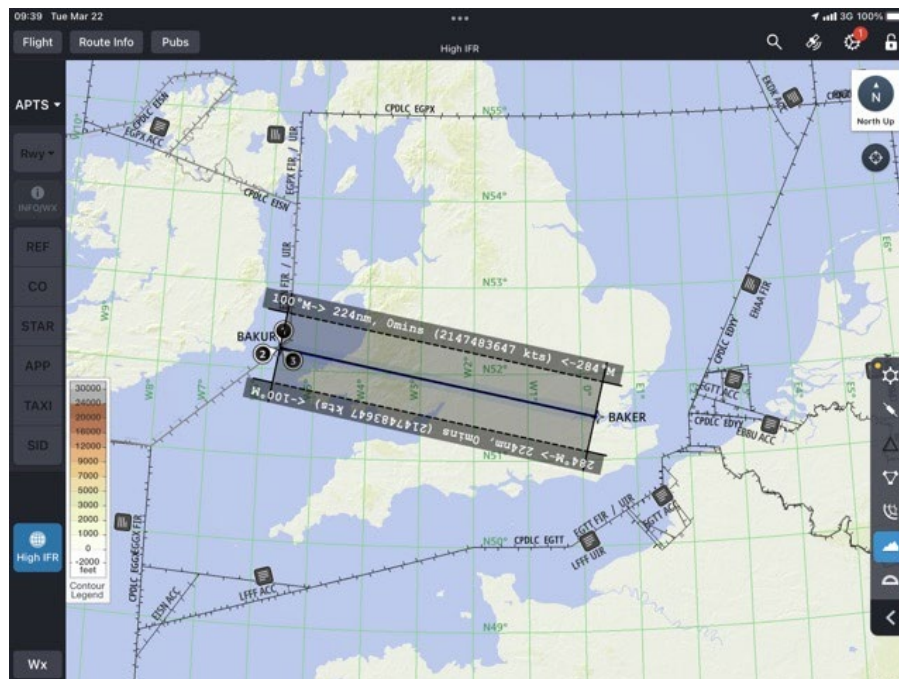
# Identifying Waypoints

Recently, an IFALPA pilot experienced what could have resulted in a navigational error after exiting the North Atlantic Oceanic airspace, headed eastbound.

Pilots should maintain awareness that occasionally there may be Waypoints (WPs), intersections, fixes that are pronounced similarly, but spelled differently.

When receiving a voice clearance to a fix that is not already loaded in the Flight Management System (FMS), be aware that to avoid entering the incorrect fix, a phonetic spelling of the fix may be the most prudent practice.

The attached screenshot shows BAKUR and BAKER Waypoints, both pronounced the same but clearly spelled differently and only 226 NM apart.



Manual Waypoint entry to the FMS requires the highest flight crew coordination and discipline to prevent navigational errors. Pilots should consider requesting a phonetic spelling of a Waypoint from ATC, that is not already loaded in the FMS.