Satcom Direct’s FlightDeck Freedom® (FDF) datalink service gives aircraft operators and pilots the freedom to choose their preferred Trip Planning provider. Our partners are the leaders in Domestic and International flight planning services, and together we provide the best datalink solution for business and military aviation worldwide with FlightDeck Freedom®. Aircraft operators that utilize Satcom Direct’s cabin services and FDF will receive additional savings and value-added services—ensuring that pilots, passengers and VIPs experience reliable communications from nose to tail.

**FDF Trip Planners**

- Honeywell
- FlightDeck Freedom
- Collins
- Presidian
- Jeppesen
- Rockwell
- Flight Management Computer (FMC)
- Text & graphical weather
- Flight plan & winds upload to FMC
- Text messaging via email, wireless devices, or fax
- Cabin systems monitoring available exclusively with FDF
- Secure communications via Inmarsat & Iridium
- Integrated datalink & trip planning packages with Rockwell Collins AscendTM & Jeppesen
- FANS (CPDLC & ADS-C) Air Traffic Services (ATS) messaging
- FDF Mobile app & SD Flight Tracker app available

**FDF Portal Features**

- Manage distribution lists for messages from aircraft, takeoff/landing reports, CAS/CMC reports & engine trend reports
- Set up short codes to simplify sending of messages from the aircraft
- Designate who is authorized to send messages & emails to the aircraft
- Select unique service features including automatic Pre-Departure Clearance uplink, automatic receipt of service advisories, & other aircraft-specific features

Get 1 year of FDF free with the installation of Universal’s Unilink system.
**FLIGHTDECK FREEDOM® FAQs**

Q: **What is FlightDeck Freedom?**

A: FlightDeck Freedom® is the cockpitdatalink (also known as ACARS) service created by Satcom Direct®. FlightDeck Freedom® utilizes Inmarsat, Iridium, and SITA’s VHF network for communications and gives customers the ability to upload flight plans from and communicate with fifteen different trip planners. FlightDeck Freedom® also gives flight crews direct access to cabin communications systems’ status and usage data, and a direct link to Satcom Direct® support team.

Q: **What information does FlightDeck Freedom provide?**

A: FlightDeck Freedom® gives flight crews access to Digital ATIS, airport weather, enroute winds, graphical weather, flight plan uploads, pre-departure clearances, oceanic clearances, and email messaging to/from the aircraft. Crews have direct access to cabin communications systems’ information which allows them to troubleshoot issues in real time. And dispatchers and ground personnel can track aircraft anywhere in the world via takeoff/landing reports, diversion reports, ETA updates, position reports, and Satcom Direct® global flight tracker, SD Flight Tracker.

Q: **What datalink avionics does FlightDeck Freedom support?**

A: FlightDeck Freedom® supports all business aviation avionics including Airbus ATSU, Honeywell AFIS, MARK II CMU, MARK III CMU, and Primus Epic® platforms, Dassault EASy, Gulfstream PlaneView®, Rockwell Collins CMLI/RIU, Teledyne Controls TeleLink®, and Universal Avionics UniLink®.

Q: **What are the main differences between FlightDeck Freedom and similar services offered by other providers?**

A: FlightDeck Freedom® gives customers the freedom to upload flight plans from their preferred trip planner(s). Satcom Direct® has interfaces with fifteen different trip planners, and is the only service provider able to uplink FitPlan.com flight plans. FlightDeck Freedom® also provides flexibility in using SITA VHF, Inmarsat, and Iridium for datalink communications, without paying a premium for use of satellite communications. Crews have direct access to cabin communications systems’ information which allows them to troubleshoot issues in real time. And Satcom Direct® is the only service provider to offer global redundancy for Inmarsat satellite communications.

Q: **Which trip planners can I upload flight plans with?**


Q: **How is FlightDeck Freedom charged?**

A: FlightDeck Freedom® is offered as an annual subscription which provides unlimited messaging to and from the aircraft over Inmarsat, Iridium, and SITA VHF. There are no hidden or additional fees associated with FlightDeck Freedom®.

Q: **Can I track my aircraft via FlightDeck Freedom?**

A: Yes, all FlightDeck Freedom® aircraft can be tracked via Satcom Direct®’s web-based, global flight tracker, via Satcom Direct®’s SD Flight Tracker mobile application or via email using Satcom Direct®’s exclusive Tracker Mail service.

Q: **Are datalink communications via Inmarsat and Iridium more secure than VHF?**

A: Yes, Inmarsat and Iridium satellite datalink communications cannot be monitored or intercepted by unauthorized individuals and are therefore more secure. VHF datalink communications are regularly monitored by hobbyists and messages are often posted on the Internet. Satcom Direct® encourages use of Inmarsat and Iridium over VHF to prevent unauthorized access to datalink messages.

Q: **How reliable are datalink communications via Inmarsat?**

A: Satcom Direct® is the only service provider to offer global redundancy for satellite communications. FlightDeck Freedom® communications are provided through every Inmarsat aeronautical ground earth station worldwide, providing a level of redundancy that ensures all datalink messages are delivered.

Q: **Are FANS/ADS/CPDLC safety services available via FlightDeck Freedom?**

A: Yes, FlightDeck Freedom® supports FANS (Future Air Navigation System), ADS-C (Automatic Dependent Surveillance-Contract), and CPDLC (Controller-Pilot Datalink Communications). Aircraft must be equipped to support these advanced Air Traffic Control safety services, and each operator must have an LOA (or equivalent) to utilize them. Satcom Direct® works directly with Air Navigation Service Providers around the world to further the approval of safety services via datalink in additional regions.

*Experience FlightDeck Freedom®*