

PROCEDURE NO. 008i Resource Ordering - Exclusive Use - Very Large Air Tanker (VLAT).

(July 2010)

- Incident Commanders (ICs) may request the use of an Exclusive Use VLAT to augment air resources. VLAT's are expensive, but are effective in certain conditions such as long continuous line construction. (See Handbook 8300).
- These aircraft are best utilized on rapidly emerging fires which are, or will be moving into the extended attack phase.
- ICs should consider using a VLAT if multiple type 1 air tanker drops are anticipated or four or more S-2T's are assigned to an incident with an anticipation of continuous use. The use of VLATs may increase availability of initial attack aircraft.
- Special ordering procedures must be adhered to due to the VLAT's size, configuration, expense, operational requirements and they may only operate from either Victorville or McClellan air bases. Normal activation reflex time for a VLAT On Contract is 20 minutes.
- VLAT's may be diverted to new incidents but are not intended to be initial attack resources.

Responsibilities and Action

ECC

1. Receives request for use of a VLAT from Incident Commander.
2. Generate requests in resource ordering system of record for:
 - a. Airtanker, Type 1; Special Needs - VLAT
 - b. Fixed Wing, Lead Plane; Special Needs – VLAT Qualified
3. Notify the Unit Duty Chief of activation (Unit Duty Chief notifies Region Duty Chief).
4. Place requests to Region OCC using normal aircraft ordering procedures.

Region OCC

1. Receive a request for a VLAT.
2. Place the request to the Region OCC in which the VLAT is currently based. (i.e. if at Victorville, place to Southern Region OCC. If based at McClelland, place to the Northern Region OCC).
3. Fill request with available VLAT from Contracts/Agreements tab (ROSS specific) using normal aircraft ordering procedures.
4. Notify responsible Unit (AEU or BDU) of VLAT base activation. Include the number of VLAT's activated (for support planning).

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