Slot request for GA/BA flight (GCR)   Including Military flights

As a result of the continuous rise in demand for airport slots for general aviation at coordinated airports and the assumption that there will be a further increase in this traffic segment, an internationally valid format, known as the GCR (General aviation Clearance Request), to apply for slots has been developed. This format is described in detail below.

1. GCR standard format
The GCR standard request consists of 3 main components.

```
GCR
/FLT                    1. Message Header
EKCH
N TVS064J 20MAY 000C680 0730LKTB D / RE.OKUGJ/       2. Flight detail line(s)
NTVS065J 22MAY 000C680 LKTB1100 D / RE.OKUGJ/
SI IF NOT AVBL PLS CFM NEXT LATER POSS              3. Footnote (s)
GI BRGDS ........
```

1.1. Header
GCR   Type of request: GCR - General aviation Clearance Request
/FLT   Message type for operation using flight designator plus flight number or the aircraft registration
       FLT = Slot request using flight number
       REG = Slot request using aircraft registration
EFHK
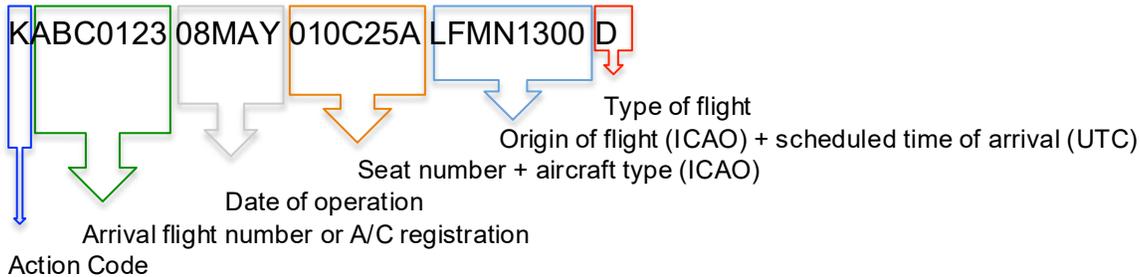Airport at which slots are being requested: ICAO code

Example:
GCR   GCR
/FL T   /REG
EKCH   EKCH
NPVT1234 17MAY 003C25B LATI1500 D   NSEABC 05MAY 010C208 LZKZ0200 D
N PVT1234 17MAY 003C25B 1545LKKU D   N SEABC 05MAY 010C208 0230LZKZ D
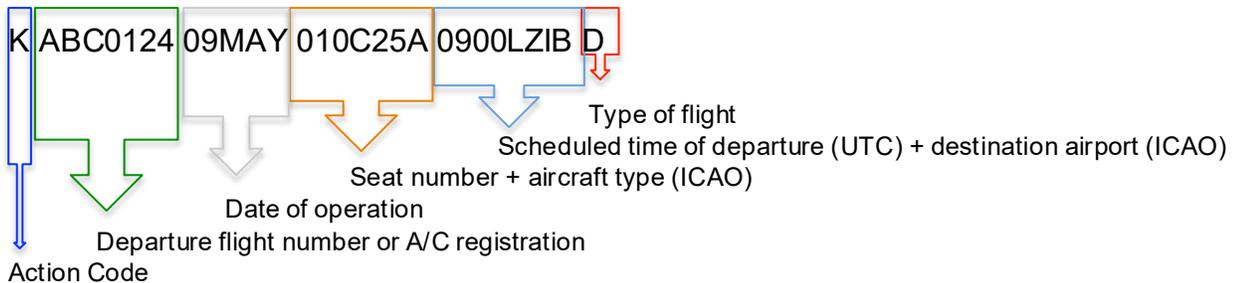
1.2. Flight details lines

The flight detail lines contain all of the necessary schedule information needed to request an airport slot. The following examples show the different format required to request either an arrival or departure slot.

1.2.1. Arrival slot Format

K ABC0123 08MAY 010C25A LFMN1300 D

- Type of flight
- Origin of flight (ICAO) + scheduled time of arrival (UTC)
- Seat number + aircraft type (ICAO)
- Date of operation
- Arrival flight number or A/C registration
- Action Code

For an arrival, there is NO blank between action code and flight number.
The scheduled time of arrival (STA) is stated without a blank after the airport of origin.

1.2.2. Departure slot Format

K ABC0124 09MAY 010C25A 0900LZIB D

- Type of flight
- Scheduled time of departure (UTC) + destination airport (ICAO)
- Seat number + aircraft type (ICAO)
- Date of operation
- Departure flight number or A/C registration
- Action Code

For a departure slot, there is a blank between the action code and the flight number.
The destination airport is stated without a blank after the scheduled time of departure (STD).

Action Code

The action code defines the exact intention of the GCR sender and is always at the beginning of the line. Depending on the sender, following codes are possible in the GCR format.

GCR Action Codes	
Owner / Operator	**Airport - Coordinator**
N New schedule **D** Delete schedule **C** Schedule to be changed **R** Revised schedule	**K** Confirmation **X** Cancellation **H** Holding **U** Refusal / Unable **W** Wrong

Flight number / Registration

Both flight number and registration are possible.(Reference is made in the corresponding message header).A flight number combines a maximum of 7 letters and digits (2-3 letters followed by 1-4 digits with an optional letter as a suffix).

Date of operation

The date of operation refers to the scheduled UTC departure and arrival times at the airport to be coordinated.

Aircraft Type

Information referring to the type of aircraft being used consists of:
- Number of seats (3 digits)
- Aircraft type in ICAO format (4 letters)
Numbers of seats and aircraft type are entered without a space in between.

Routing and Time of flight

Routing information consists of the origin or destination airport (ICAO Code, 4 digits) in regard to the airport being coordinated.
The requested arrival or departure time at the airport being coordinated, is stated in UTC.
Routing information and the requested timing are not separated by a blank.

Type of flight

The following service type codes can be used to define the flight:

- " D " or " N "   for General Aviation / Business Aviation / Air taxi
- " E "   for Government Charter
- " I "   for State/Diplomatic
- " U "   for Ambulance flights (defined in SI)
- " P "   for Positioning, Ferry, Delivery, Demo
- " T "   for Technical test flights

1.3. Footnote

SI = Special Information (eg. Ambulance flight)
GI = General Information (eg. BRGDS Jon)
GCR Examples

Airport Slot Request

Example N1 : Slot request for a departure flight using a registration (Action code "N")

Airport being coordinated :   ESSA
Type of Aircraft :   Piper 42 Cheyenne III, Registration OKPIP
Flight details :   Departure: ESSA 1240utc / 10MAY
                Arrival: ENGM 1400utc / 10MAY

GCR
/REG
ESSA
N OKPIP 10MAY 006PAY3 1240ENGM D
GI BRGDS ......

Possible replies from coordinator:

GCR
/REG
ESSA
K OKPIP 10MAY 006PAY3 1240ENGM D
GI BRGDS ……

Or if slot is not available

> GCR
> /REG
> ESSA
> U OKPIP 10MAY 006PAY3 1240ENGM D
> K OKPIP 10MAY 006PAY3 1250ENGM D
> GI BRGDS ……

Example N2: Slot request for a departure using flight number or a call sign (Action code "N")

Airport being coordinated: ESSA
Type of Aircraft :   Piper 42 Cheyenne III, Registration OYPIP
Flight details :   Departure: ESSA 1240utc / 10MAY
                Arrival: ENGM 1400utc / 10MAY

GCR
/FLT
ESSA
N PVT123 10MAY 006PAY3 1240ENGM D / RE.OYPIP/
GI BRGDS ......

Possible reply from coordinator:

GCR
/FLT
ESSA
K PVT123 10MAY 006PAY3 1240ENGM D / RE.OYPIP/
GI BRGDS ......

The coordinator's replies are also in the GCR standard format as described above. The only difference is in the use of the "action code."

Example N3: Slot request for an arrival and departure with different flight numbers or call signs (Action code "N")

Airport being coordinated: EKCH
Type of Aircraft: Gulfstream G-159, Registration N125GA
Flight details: Flight number: PVT123
          Departure: BIKF 0800utc / 10MAY
          Arrival: EKCH 1100utc / 10MAY
                     Flight number: PVT456
          Departure: EKCH 1200utc / 10MAY
          Arrival: EFHK 1345utc / 10MAY

GCR
/FL T
EKCH
NPVT123 10MAY 009G159 BIKF1100 D / RE.N125GA/
N PVT456 10MAY 009G159 1200EFHK D / RE.N125GA/
GI BRGDS ....

Possible replies from the Coordinator

GCR
/FL T
EKCH
KPVT123 10MAY 009G159 BIKF1100 D / RE.N125GA/
K PVT456 10MAY 009G159 1200EFHK D / RE.N125GA/
GI BRGDS ....

Or if the requested airport slots are not available. (Action code "U")
The nearest available slots have been allocated.

GCR
/FL T
EKCH
UPVT123 10MAY 009G159 BIKF1100 D
KPVT123 10MAY 009G159 BIKF1050 D / RE.N125GA RA.1100 CA.UA/
U PVT456 10MAY 009G159 1200EFHK D
K PVT456 10MAY 009G159 1205EFHK D / RE.N125GA RD.1200 CA.UA/
GI BRGDS ....

Cancellation of cleared slots

If a cleared slot is to be cancelled, it is important to make sure that the flight details are identical with the originally cleared airport slot. If this is not the case, the cancellation request can not be processed.

GCR
/FL T
EKCH
DPVT123 10MAY 009G159 BIKF1050 D / RE.N125GA/
D PVT456 10MAY 009G159 1205EFHK D / RE.N125GA/
GI BRGDS ....

Possible reply from the Coordinator

GCR
/FL T
EKCH
XPVT123 10MAY 009G159 BIKF1050 D / RE.N125GA/
X PVT456 10MAY 009G159 1205EFHK D / RE.N125GA/
GI BRGDS ....

Changing a cleared slot

(registration→registration or Flt. Number → Flt. Number)

Flight details can be changed by using a combination of
the action codes "C" and "R".
The C line defines the existing slot clearance originally
allocated by the coordinator and the "R"
line defines the new slots details requiring slot clearance.
It is important to make sure that the flight details in the C line
are identical with the originally allocated and confirmed airport slot.

Example: Change in time with flight nbr.

GCR
/FLT
EKCH
CPVT123 10MAY 009G159 BKIF1050 D
RPVT123 10MAY 009G159 BKIF1205 D
C PVT456 10MAY 009G159 1250BKIF D
R PVT456 10MAY 009G159 1405BKIF D
GI BRGDS …………….

Example: Change in time with registration

GCR
/REG
EKCH
COYABC 10MAY 009G159 BKIF1050 D
ROYABC 10MAY 009G159 BKIF1205 D
C OYABC 10MAY 009G159 1250BKIF D
R OYABC 10MAY 009G159 1405BKIF D
GI BRGDS …………….