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Paper Work North America Flight F
Future Pilots Red Tape
Cross the Border Nexus Car
eAPIS Aviation Aircraft Canada
Simple Nexus Pass Private Airca
Combined Two Agencies Wrong Two Sep
Unnecessary Avoid Duplication

COPA/AOPA cross border survey results

By Patrick Gilligan, COPA v-p of operations

While searching for cross border statistics to provide to the Canadian Border Services Agency (CBSA) regarding crossing the border in a Personal Aircraft, I could not find any recent data and decided to conduct a survey that would ask pilots' trends. This endeavor was designed in collaboration with AOPA and supported by APBQ, EAA U.S. and EAA Canada.

An unprecedented quantity of responses were received by COPA National and a total of 2,492 pilots responded to our survey on new cross border Canadian requirements (2,264 English and 228 French).

In previous articles (August 2014 COPA article

<http://www.multibriefs.com/briefs/copa/081414.html> and October 2014

<http://www.multibriefs.com/briefs/COPA/eFlight-CrossBorderRequirement.pdf>) I alerted members to the creation of an additional procedure being developed by the Canadian Border Services Agency (CBSA) for crossing the border in a Personal Aircraft.

I would like to emphasize that no changes have been made to the existing requirements. Any change to the requirements for crossing the border in a GA aircraft will, at the earliest, occur sometime in 2016.

COPA highlighted that the fundamental issue is the elimination of duplication. Since all pilots must complete the U.S. eAPIS reports for entering and exiting the U.S., it would be a relatively simple extension for the U.S. to send information to Canada for their security purposes.

This survey was advertised, fanned out and made available to Canadian and U.S. pilots.

The survey questions were:

1- When Canada implements its own "eAPIS type" of border crossing requirements for all Personal Aircraft pilots crossing to and from the U.S. and Canada, in addition to the information you already submit to U.S. CBP eAPIS, would you...

- Continue flying for vacations or recreationally cross U.S./Canada border?
- Decrease flying for vacations or recreationally cross U.S./Canada border?
- Stop because it is getting much too complicated?

Sixty eight per cent responded they would decrease or would stop flying across the U.S./Canada border. Canada's economy would further be harmed by the loss of foreign revenues.

2- Are you a U.S. or Canadian pilot?

Seventy nine point four per cent surveyed were Canadian pilots while 20% were U.S. pilots, 0.6% or 14 respondents were from another country.

3- Would you be in favor of a single portal where U.S. CBP eAPIS would share the same pilot/passenger information with Canadian Border Services Agency to comply with a new CBSA IAPI for personal aircraft pilots?

Ninety six point four per cent are in favour and 3.6% answered; ‘‘No way, for privacy reasons, I prefer to file my pilot and passengers information twice, once with U.S. CBP, eAPIS and a second time with Canadian, CBSA IAPI’’

Privacy is indeed a concern however once a pilot enters the online U.S. eAPIS the first warning that comes up on screen just below ‘‘Welcome’’ is: ‘‘*there is no expectation of privacy when you use this computer system. The use of a password or any other security measure does not establish an expectation of privacy. By using this system, you consent to the terms set forth in this notice*’’ to read this warning go to this link <https://eapis.cbp.dhs.gov/>

4- Did you decrease or cease crossing into Canada since 2009 U.S. CBP, eAPIS implementation?
Fifty eight per cent either decreased or no longer cross the U.S./Canada border with their aircraft.

5- Is internet connectivity available from your point of departure on either side of the border?
Forty per cent indicated they have reliable internet connectivity while 48% declared sometimes and 12% have no internet connectivity.

6- Approximately how much money do you spend when visiting the other side of the border?
Thirty one per cent declared they spend more than \$2,000; 47% between \$500 and \$2,000 and 22% less than \$500

The results of this survey were sent to the CBSA staff for consideration and to assist in convincing the importance of a single portal for personal aircraft to satisfy data requirements from both CBP eAPIS and CBSA IAPI.

COPA will continue to participate in the ongoing working group meetings as well as with our counterparts in the U.S. in an effort to develop a program that both meets our government’s needs and minimizes the impact on our sector of aviation.

To view the survey results go to these links below:

English pilots

http://www.copanational.org/files/COPA_IAPI_surveyE.pdf

French pilots

http://www.copanational.org/files/COPA_IAPI_surveyF.pdf