Updating Airspace and Airport Data in an Oudie

<u>Introduction</u>

Airspace and airport information changes more frequently than you may imagine. You'll want to update the airspace map and turnpoint database in your Oudie regularly to make sure it isn't out of date. These instructions are for SeeYou Mobile version 6.5 or later and SeeYou Desktop version 8.1 or later. Older versions are similar, but the instructions might not describe the process perfectly.

The procedure below isn't really as bad as it might look. There are 12 steps, and many of them can be skipped if you aren't worried about backing up the existing airspace and turnpoint data on our Oudie or on your PC.

In overview, the process goes like this: if you have a custom turnpoint /task file on your Oudie, you will upload it to the www.soaringdata.info website, which will update the US airport information in it as well as provide current airspace data in a separate companion file. Alternatively, you can just get brand new data from the website without uploading a turnpoint file. You will then use the desktop version of SeeYou to download the updated turnpoint and airspace data back into your Oudie. Along the way, you'll (optionally) make backup copies of the current data in your Oudie and your PC, so that you can recover if something goes wrong.

Stuff you will need

- A Windows PC;
- A USB Cable;
- Your Oudie; and
- A basic knowledge of Windows, including copying files, installing programs and the like; if you don't have this, it might be best to ask someone to help you.

Updating the Database in your Oudie

- 1. If you haven't already done so, download and install the SeeYou Desktop on your PC. Note that it isn't necessary to purchase SeeYou Desktop; all of the functions required below are available for free in the evaluation version. SeeYou can be downloaded at http://www.naviter.si. The very first time you start SeeYou, you will be presented with a turnpoint import wizard, which you can just cancel, and then skip to step #3.
- 2. Start Desktop SeeYou on your PC. If you don't need to save a copy of your current Desktop airspace settings, you can skip to step #3. Otherwise:
 - a. From the Tools menu, select "Airspace".
 - b. Write down the name of any files that are checked in the "Loaded data" section. You can skip any you don't care about restoring later.
 - c. Close the dialogue.
- 3. Make the connection:
 - a. Minimize SeeYou for now, so that you can see the desktop on your PC.
 - b. Start with the Oudie turned off. Connect the Oudie to the PC with a USB cable.
 - c. Turn your Oudie on, and wait for it to start up. If SeeYou Mobile starts up automatically, exit (by selecting Menu -> Exit).
 - d. If a screen appears with two pictures on it, select the picture of the USB drive (not the battery) that appears on the Oudie.
 - e. Close any auto-run dialog that might appear on your PC asking if you want to download pictures or music from your Oudie.

- 4. (Optionally) save the existing turnpoint file on your Oudie. If you haven't created custom turnpoints or tasks, or if you keep your turnpoint file in Desktop SeeYou, you can skip this entire step. Otherwise:
 - a. Go to the Windows Start menu, and select "Computer" or "My Computer".
 - b. You should see a list of storage devices connected to your computer. One of these is the Oudie built-in flash, which is named "TFAT". Open that storage device by double-clicking.
 - c. Double-click on "Airfields and Airspace".
 - d. If you are using a custom file, you probably recognize it by name in the current folder, and you can skip to step. If you are using the default file that comes with the Oudie, double-click on "USA".
 - e. Inside that folder, you will find airspace files that end with ".cub" and turnpoint files that end with ".cup". Look just at the turnpoint files the ones that end in ".cup". If you have modified your turnpoint file, you probably recognize it by name. If you modified the original Naviter file without renaming it, it will be named for the area of the country in which you fly. Find the turnpoint file you currently use. Again, be careful to get the .cup file, as in "cup of coffee", not the .cub file.
 - f. Right-click your turnpoint file, and select "Copy". Click on your desktop, right-click, and select "Paste". Your turnpoint file will be copied to your desktop. You can now close or minimize the "USA" folder window.
- 5. (Optional.) If you wish to easily revert to your old turnpoints and airspace on your Oudie, you may wish to create a new profile for the new data. Skip this step if you aren't worried about switching back and forth between your old and new data.
 - a. Start SeeYou Mobile on the Oudie. In order to do this, you may need to disconnect the cable or click the power icon in the upper right of the screen.
 - b. Go to Menu > Settings > Misc, and click the "Mange Profiles..." button.
 - c. Choose the profile you wish to clone, and press the "Copy..." button. Enter an appropriate name for the new profile. Some combination of the name and the year often works well, such as "Utah 2016".
 - d. Exit SeeYou Mobile (Menu > Exit).
 - e. Reconnect the Oudie to the PC by following the steps listed in #3 above.
- 6. Get the latest data from soaringdata.info:
 - a. Open a browser (such as Internet Explorer or FireFox), and go to http://www.soaringdata.info/. Select the link that takes you to Airport Information. If you have never been on the site before, please review the Terms and Conditions of Use, and the Getting Started links.
 - b. Specify bounding information. Start with the three- or four-character IATA identifier of your home airport, just as it appears on the sectional chart. Don't add a "K" to the front of it. Select "Maximum Radius" instead of "Maximum waypoint count", and enter in the radius of your flight area or area of interest. Oudies can hold a lot of information, so you can afford to greatly overestimate here.
 - c. If you saved a turnpoint file in step #4f, press the Browse button, navigate to your desktop, and select it. If you have a custom turnpoint file from somewhere else, navigate to and select it instead. If you don't use a custom turnpoint file, you can skip this step. IMPORTANT NOTE: soaringdata.info only supports input turnpoint files in .cup, .stx, or .dat (Cambridge) formats. Don't try to load something else.
 - d. Select your preferred comment detail level. Most Mobile SeeYou pilots like Medium or Short.
 - e. Select the checkbox next to any output format in which you are interested. You will definitely want to select Airspace (in Tim Newport-Peace format).
 - f. Type "Soar" into the provided text box, and press "Submit". It normally takes a minute or two to generate the data.
 - g. Save the resulting zipped data file to some location on your computer where it can be stored indefinitely.

- h. Close or hide your browser window, navigate to the downloaded file, and unzip it. On Windows 7 or Vista this is done by right-clicking the file, and selecting "Extract All...". On XP, right-click the file and select "Extract to (your download directory)\airports".
- 7. Import the downloaded airport/turnpoint data:
 - a. Now go back into desktop SeeYou. From the File menu, select "Open...". Navigate to the downloaded data you unzipped in step 6h, and open the .cup file.
 - b. A dialog will appear asking what you want to do with the data. Select "Open <filename> in a new window".
 - c. You may be asked if you wish to include an airport that is close to another. Select "Yes to All".
- 8. Import the airspace data:
 - a. From the File menu, select "Open..." again. This time, select the ".sua" file.
 - b. The Airspace dialog will appear, showing that the downloaded airspace data has been added. Uncheck all the checkboxes next to any other airspace files listed in the "Loaded Data" area. If you don't do this, you will get duplicate airspace entries later on.
 - c. Press "OK" to finish the Airspace dialog.
- 9. (Optionally) remove entries for closed airports from the waypoint list. If you didn't upload an input turnpoint file back in step 6c, you can skip this. Unfortunately, dozens of airports close every year. Airports that previously appeared in the turnpoint file aren't automatically deleted if they are closed and removed from the FAA database. Instead, the style attribute for such airports will change to "Unknown". You may wish to delete these entirely:
 - a. From the View menu, select "Waypoint Details".
 - b. Click at the top of the Style column. This will sort all of the closed airports together.
 - c. Click on the first entry that has Unknown style to select it. Scroll down until you can see the last entry with Unknown style. Hold the shift key down, and select that entry. All of the Unknown entries will now be selected.
 - d. Press the Delete key on the keyboard, and press the Yes button on the warning dialog. All of the closed airports will be deleted.
- 10. (Optionally) remove entries for airports outside the United States. Again, you can skip this if you didn't upload a turnpoint file in step 6c. The original files that come with the Oudie contain airports in Canada and Mexico. Interestingly, these are all commented as simply "Flugplatz". Data for these airports is not maintained or updated on the soaringdata.info website. You may wish to remove them entirely:
 - a. From the View menu, select "Waypoint Details".
 - b. Click at the top of the Country column. This will sort all of the airports by country.
 - c. Click on the first entry that is outside the US to select it. Scroll down until you can see the last entry that is outside the US. Hold the shift key down, and select that entry. All of these will now be selected.
 - d. Press the Delete key on the keyboard, and press the Yes button on the warning dialog. All of the selected airports will be deleted.
- 11. You are now FINALLY ready to load the new data in your Oudie. Here is how to do it:
 - a. In desktop SeeYou, select "Mobile Wizard" from the File Menu.
 - b. Check at least the "Waypoints and tasks" and "Airspace" checkboxes on the ensuing Options dialog. If any other boxes are checked, you will need to have a good internet connection. Press the Next button.
 - c. Enter a descriptive name in the "Files basename" textbox in the Destination dialog. Some combination of the location name and date works nicely.
 - d. Select "Copy to Oudie".

- e. Select the profiles you want to associate with the new data. Change the drop-down menu from Don't assign to a profile by selecting all of the profiles with which you will wish to use the new data. If you created a new profile in step 5 above, check it. Make sure you check the boxes, not just click the names.
- f. Press the Next button.
- g. Drag the rectangle so that all of the waypoints are included inside it.
- h. Press "Next". The airport and data will be copied to the Oudie. Press "Finished".
- i. On the Windows Start Menu, select "Computer" or "My Computer". Find the "TFAT" drive; right-click it and choose "Eject". It is now safe to disconnect the Oudie USB cable from the PC.
- 12. (Optional.) You may wish to restore your old airspace settings if you saved them in step 2 above. Here's how:
 - a. From the Tools menu, select "Airspace".
 - b. Referencing the list you write in step 2b above, check the checkbox next to any airspace file you wish to restore. Uncheck the checkbox next to any file you added, and don't wish to keep.
 - c. Close the dialogue.