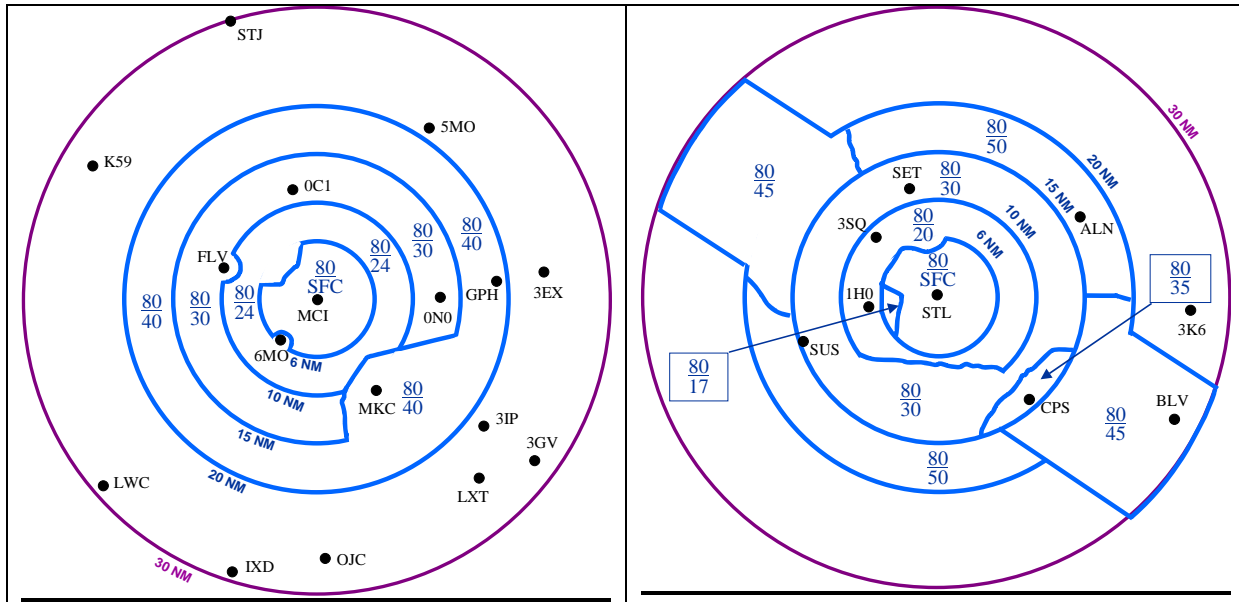


Airspace Analysis



Kansas City Class B Airspace

St. Louis Class B Airspace

Client Name: Wilbur Smith Associates

Date Started: January 2003

Date Completed: April 2003

As part of the Missouri State Airport System Plan, TransSolutions was contracted by Wilbur Smith Associates to inventory the airspace procedures of the Kansas City and St. Louis Metropolitan areas and evaluate the ability to accommodate new approaches.

Generally, all military, cargo, and passenger carrier flights conduct operations using an Instrument Flight Rules (IFR) flight plan. During Visual Flight Rules (VFR) conditions, these aircraft often cancel the IFR flight plan after being established on the final approach segment. Students and licensed pilots repeatedly conduct practice instrument approaches at individual airports in preparation for the flight exam or check ride. The availability of an instrument approach procedure allows air traffic control to provide separation between sequential arrivals, monitor departure procedures, and otherwise maximize the available airspace capacity.

In order to determine the most appropriate location of introducing new instrument approach procedures, it was necessary to analyze the surrounding airspace to determine any potential conflicts that could arise from an additional procedure. One method of encouraging GA traffic growth is by offering precision IFR approaches or less frequently published approaches. These approaches attract student pilots as well as those licensed pilots maintaining instrument-rating currency.

Two airports were identified in the Kansas City area that could provide adequate clearance from Kansas City International Airport traffic if a new precision approach were installed. Similarly, three airports were identified for new procedures that could provide adequate clearance from St. Louis Lambert International Airport traffic.