

1/19/2024

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

2024-4/10-1

To: FAA (AJV-A, ATM D10 TRACON)

2053244

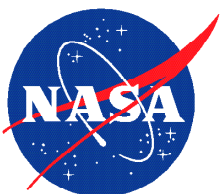
Info: FAA (AVP-1, AVP-200, AJI-144, ATM DAL Tower, ASW-600, AFS-260, AFS-200, Director of Air Traffic Operations CSA), A4A, AAAE, ALPA, AOPA, APA, ASAP, CAPA, ATSAP, ATSG, IATA, IBT, ICAO, ICASS, IFALPA, IPA, NATCA, NBAA, NTSB, RAA, SWAPA, Airport Manager, Dallas Love Field Airport (DAL), TX.

From: Becky L. Hooey, Director  
NASA Aviation Safety Reporting System

Re: Similar Fix Names - SUMLN/JALIM

We recently received ASRS reports describing a safety concern that may involve your area of operational responsibility. We do not have sufficient details to assess either the factual accuracy or possible gravity of the report. It is our policy to relay the reported information to the appropriate authority for evaluation and any necessary follow-up. We feel you should be aware of the enclosed deidentified report.

To properly assess the usefulness of our alert message service, we would appreciate it if you would take the time to give us your feedback on the value of the information that we have provided. Please contact Dr. Becky Hooey at (408) 541-2854 or email at [becky.l.hooey@nasa.gov](mailto:becky.l.hooey@nasa.gov).



Aviation Safety Reporting System  
P.O. Box 189 | Moffett Field, CA | 94035-0189



## ACN 2053244

### DATE / TIME

Date of Occurrence 202311  
Local Time Of Day 1201 to 1800

### PLACE

Locale DAL.Airport  
State TX  
Altitude - MSL 4000

### AIRCRAFT / EQUIPMENT X

ATC / Advisory - TRACON D10  
Make Model Name Commercial Fixed Wing  
Operating Under FAR Part 121

### PERSON 1

Function - Flight Crew Captain  
Function - Flight Crew Pilot Not Flying  
ASRS Report Number 2053244

### PERSON 2

Function - Flight Crew First Officer  
Function - Flight Crew Pilot Flying  
ASRS Report Number 2053252

### EVENTS

Anomaly ATC Issue - All Types  
Anomaly Deviation - Track / Heading - All Types  
Anomaly Deviation / Discrepancy - Procedural - Clearance  
Anomaly Deviation / Discrepancy - Procedural - Published  
Material / Policy  
Detector - Person Air Traffic Control  
Result - Flight Crew Returned To Clearance  
Result - Air Traffic Control Issued New Clearance

### NARRATIVE 1

During RNAV arrival to [Runway] 31R ATC apparently cleared us to IAF SUMLN, but we thought we heard the alternate IAF of JALIM which was closer to our position. We read back and proceeded to JALIM. Neither we nor ATC caught the read back error, partially due to very congested communications on that frequency. After a couple of minutes ATC queried us asking us if we were proceeding to SUMLN. We responded negatively and that we thought we heard the similar sounding JALIM. ATC then immediately cleared us to JALIM and cleared us for the RNAV to 31R. We do not believe separation from other aircraft was lost. The rest of the approach went eventually.

One of the two IAF waypoints needs to be renamed to a dissimilar sounding waypoint as the other IAF.

### NARRATIVE 2

Upon arrival via RNAV RNP 31R, ATC apparently cleared us to SUMLN IF and we read back JALIM. ATC inquired if we proceeding to SUMLIN and we again read back JALIM, which ATC then cleared us to start the approach

from. The similar sounding fixes in a radio traffic saturated area led us to proceeding to the incorrect fix assigned by ATC. The approach, landing and taxi to the gate was uneventful.

Change one of the IF names to something that is not similar in sound to the other.

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## **SYNOPSIS**

Air carrier flight crew reported a course deviation while being vectored for an approach to DAL airport. The flight crew indicated similar sounding fixes SUMLN and JALIM contributed to the event. The course was corrected and the flight continued to a safe approach.