

Issued: 27 July 2015

CAA Information Bulletin on EASA Developments – 18 June to 24 July 2015

This Information Notice contains information that is for guidance and/or awareness.

Recipients are asked to ensure that this Information Notice is copied to all members of their staff who may have an interest in the information (including any 'in-house' or contracted maintenance organisations and relevant outside contractors).

| Applicability: | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Aerodromes: | All Aerodrome Licence Holders |
| Air Traffic: | All ATC, FIS and ANSPs |
| Airspace: | All NATMAC Members |
| Airworthiness: | All Airworthiness Organisations |
| Flight Operations: | All AOC Holders and General Aviation Pilots |
| Licensed/Unlicensed Personnel: | All Training Organisations, All Pilots and Maintenance Engineers |

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This Information Notice provides highlights of EASA developments and CAA activities covering the period 18 June to 24 July 2015.

2 EASA Committee

- 2.1 The EASA Committee met on 8-9 July. The agenda covered the following items on the first day:
- i) Update on on-going Commission adoption procedures – *Information by the Commission*:
 - **Commission Regulation amending Regulation (EU) No. 748/2012 as regards flight testing** was adopted on 30 June, and became applicable on 21 July.
 - **Commission Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No. 2042/2003 [recast] as regards alignment of rules for continuing airworthiness with Regulation (EC) No. 216/2008, critical maintenance tasks and aircraft continuing airworthiness, and draft Commission Regulation amending Regulation (EU) No. 965/2012 as regards operations by EU air carriers of aircraft registered in a third country** will be adopted in July, and become applicable on 25 August 2016.
 - **Commission Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No. 2042/2003 as regards alleviations for maintenance procedures for General Aviation aircraft** was adopted on 3 July, and became applicable on 23 July.

- **Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No. 2015/1018 laying down a list classifying occurrences in civil aviation to be mandatorily reported according to Regulation (EU) No. 376/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council** was adopted on 29 June, and will become applicable on 15 November 2015.
 - **Commission Decision on refusing permission to the Federal Republic of Germany to grant exemptions from certain substantive requirements laid down in Commission Regulation (EU) No. 1178/2011** was adopted on 29 May and positively voted on 19 June, so will not be repealed.
- ii) Amendment of Commission Regulations (EU) No. 965/2012 as regards requirements for flight recorders, underwater locating devices and aircraft tracking systems:
- Review of ICAO State Letters: Update on the State letter of 15 February 2015 on normal flight tracking and review of the draft EU recommendation on ICAO State Letter of 15 May 2015 on flight recorders and location of an airplane in distress – *Information by the Commission*.
 - Draft implementing rule on aircraft tracking systems – *Discussion and vote*.
- The two items were taken together at the meeting. As the text has been discussed several times previously at the EASA Committee and the European position is considered to be mature, the discussions at this meeting focussed mainly on timing and whether Europe should take a position in advance of ICAO or wait for the outcome of the ICAO consultation on the State Letters. In any case, it will take around 3 years for new rules to come into force, so the Committee took the decision on the current European proposals which were voted in unanimously, with some minor amendments. The Commission will advise ICAO of this position.
- iii) Drones: update – *Information by EASA*:
- There were presentations from the Commission and EASA giving updates on drones. Member States highlighted a number of known issues, including identification and enforcement.
- iv) Draft Commission Regulation on implementation of CAEP/9 amendments. Draft Commission Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No. 216/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council; draft Commission Regulation amending Commission Regulation (EU) No. 748/2012 – *Discussion and vote*:
- This item was covered very briefly as the text presented to the Committee in January received no amendments from Member States. The Commission text was subsequently voted in unanimously.
- v) Bundled amendments to Commission Regulation (EU) No. 965/2012, stemming from the Single European Sky (SES) Committee, incorporating:
- a. Lower end NCC operators
 - b. EASA Opinion 02/2015; EASA Opinion 03/2015; EASA Opinion 04/2015
 - c. Oxygen for NCO operators
 - d. ACAS II
 - e. Opt-outs for Balloons and Sailplanes

The Commission presented a bundle of amendments which included proposals relating to aeronautical and airspace data provision, approval for offshore helicopter operations and specific amendments related to lower end NCC operators, ACAS II, oxygen for NCO operators, and opt outs for balloons and sailplanes. The UK raised some GA-related proportionality points, which were accepted. Additionally, we raised several safety issues resulting from the offshore helicopter review which were not captured in the EASA text, which will be submitted in writing for further consideration.

The operational rules for balloons were chosen as a pilot project within the GA Road Map. This includes a fast-track rulemaking deviating from the 'classical' Agency's rulemaking procedure, e.g. by replacing the Notice of Proposed Amendment and the Comment Response Document by a workshop. A similar approach is proposed for sailplanes. To minimise the administrative burden to Member States (namely, not to implement the rules twice) it was proposed by the Commission to extend the opt-out periods for balloon and sailplanes. The Commission will proceed with legal scrutiny on these amendments and they will come back to the EASA Committee in October for the vote.

- vi) Draft Commission Regulation Amending Regulation 1332/2011 of 16 December 2011 laying down common airspace usage requirements and operating procedures for airborne collision avoidance – *Discussion*.

The Commission presented the draft regulation which came from Opinion 04/2014 SERA Part C. There were no substantive points raised at the meeting and it will likely come back for further discussion in October.

- vii) Draft Commission Regulation amending Commission Regulation (EU) No. 1178/2011 as regard pilot training and periodic checking for Performance Based Navigation (PBN) – *Discussion*.

This was the second discussion of this subject at EASA Committee. The UK delegation raised concerns about the need for additional testing or training – this was supported by some other Member States and EASA will review the possibility of deleting this new requirement. The UK also proposed changes to a couple of definitions. Several other proportionality issues were raised by Member States, which EASA will take away and consider further.

- viii) Update on the Commission proposal to amend Regulation (EU) No. 646/2012 as regards fines and periodic penalty payments – *Information by the Commission*.

The Commission is still reviewing the text with their Legal service and plans to come back with new text to the October meeting.

2.2 The following agenda items were covered on the second day:

- ix) Update on the Implementation of Commission Regulation (EU) No. 452/2014 pertaining to Third Country Operators, including specifics on Commission Regulation (EU) No. 1332/2011 (ACAS) - *Information by Commission and presentation by EASA*.

EASA provided a comprehensive update of their process. They have issued 22 approvals already (from 2 July) out of the 700 applications from third country operators. EASA will only accept ICAO differences if they have been notified to ICAO and EASA is satisfied that an equivalent level of safety is achieved.

The discussion also covered non-compliance with ACAS 7.1 after 1 December 2015 and the Commission stressed the need for Member States to ensure that their operators were compliant by that date and advised that this would be a category 3 item under the SAFA programme.

- x) EASA Opinion No 05/2015 for a Commission Regulation on B2L and L Part-66 aircraft maintenance licences – *Presentation by EASA*.

EASA explained the recently published Opinion, which is considered to be a light and proportionate approach.

- xi) Revision of the EASP (European Aviation Safety Programme) and update of the EASp (European Aviation Safety Plan) process – *Information by the Commission and EASA*.

The Commission and EASA presented plans for the EASP and EASp, including projected timescales. EASA plans to align the Annual Safety Review with the EASp to ensure a data driven process for safety actions in future, as well as establishing a safety risks portfolio and an internal Safety Risks Panel.

- xii) Any other business (AOB):

The substantive AOB items were as follows:

- Update on the Draft amendment of the Regulation (EU) No. 319/2014 on the fees and charges levied by the European Aviation Safety Agency, and repealing Regulation (EC) No. 593/2007 – *Information by the Commission*

The Commission has decided not to adopt this amendment at this point in time, on the basis that EASA reserves can cover the fees and charges.

- EU-US BASA (Bilateral Aviation Safety Agreement) – *Update*

The technical work to update the BASA on PPL (Private Pilot Licence) conversions has been completed so now the signature process can start.

- Safety over Risk Conflict Zone – *Information by the Commission*

EASA and the Commission have produced a letter detailing the process for publishing Safety Information Bulletins about flights over conflict zones.

3 Other Rulemaking Topics

- 3.1 *Assessment of changes to functional systems by service providers and the oversight of these changes by competent authorities.*

The Agency published [Issue 2 of CRD 2014-13](#) 'Assessment of changes to functional systems by service providers and the oversight of these changes by competent authorities' on 13 July. Issue 2 is an amended version of the CRD published on 12 December 2014. The amended version contains the analysis of and responses to all comments, including those related to the AMC/GM.

- 3.2 *Certification Specifications for Standard Changes and Repairs (CS-STAN)*

The Agency published [CRD 2014-24](#) and [Decision 2015/016/R](#) for CS-STAN on 8-9 July 2015.

- 3.3 *Part M Light*

[NPA 2015-08](#) Part M Light was published on the EASA website on 9 July. The consultation closes on 9 October 2015.

3.4 *Rescue and Fire Fighting Services (RFFS) at Aerodromes*

NPA 2015-09 RFFS at Aerodromes was published on the EASA website on 9 July. The consultation closes on 9 October 2015.

3.5 *Single European Sky (SES)*

Progress on all SES activities is covered in the SES Bulletin published periodically on the following webpage: www.caa.co.uk/SES.

3.6 *Technical and Operational Requirements for Remote Tower Operations*

EASA published **CRD 2015-04** on Technical and Operational requirements for remote tower operations on 3 July. The following related Decisions were published at the same time:

- **Decision 2015/014/R** Guidance Material on the implementation of the remote tower concept for single mode of operation; and
- **Decision 2015/015/R** Requirements on Air Traffic Controller licensing regarding remote tower operations.

4 **CAA Responses to NPAs and CRDs**

4.1 The consultation deadline for NPA 2015-05, Non-commercial operations of aircraft limited in the operations specifications (Ops Specs) by an AOC holder, closed on 30 June. The CAA had no comments.

4.2 **CAA responses on NPA and CRD consultations** can be viewed on the CAA website.

5 **Opinions**

5.1 Opinion **05/2015**, on B2L and L Part-66 Maintenance Licences was published on the EASA website on 22 June. The related **CRD 2012-15** was published at the same time.

6 **Commonly used Abbreviations in EASA Bulletin**

6.1 A list of commonly used abbreviations used in our EASA Bulletins and their meanings are provided as an **Annex** to this Information Notice. The Annex also includes a link to the standard list of terms used to describe the high-level EASA regulations.

7 **Queries**

7.1 Any queries as a result of this communication should be addressed to the European.Affairs@caa.co.uk e-mail address.

8 **Cancellation**

8.1 This Information Notice will remain in force until 22 January 2016.

Annex Commonly used Abbreviations in CAA EASA Information Bulletin

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| ACAS | Airborne Collision Avoidance System |
| AMC/GM | Acceptable Means of Compliance / Guidance Material |
| ANS | Air Navigation Services |
| AR/OR | Authority Requirements / Organisation Requirements |
| ATCO | Air Traffic Control Officer |
| ATM | Air Traffic Management |
| CC | Cabin Crew |
| CRD | Comment Response Document |
| EAB | EASA Advisory Board |
| EASP EASp | EASA Aviation Safety Programme EASA Aviation Safety Plan |
| FABS | Finance and Business Services |
| FCL | Flight Crew Licensing |
| FTL | Flight Time Limitations |
| GA | General Aviation |
| IMC | Instrument Meteorological Conditions |
| IR | Implementing Rule |
| MED | Medical |
| NAA | National Aviation Authority |
| NPA | Notice of Proposed Amendment |
| NSA | National Supervisory Authority |
| OJEU | Official Journal of the European Union |
| OPS-NCO/NCC | Operations - non-commercial operations with other than complex motor-powered aircraft / non-commercial operations with complex motor-powered aircraft |
| OPS-SPO/CAT (S+B) | Operations - specialised operations / commercial air transport operations for sailplanes and balloons |
| OPS-CAT/SPA | Operations - Commercial air transport operations and specific approvals |
| OSD | Operational Suitability Data |
| RAG | Rulemaking Advisory Group |
| SERA | Standardised European Rules of the Air |
| SES | Single European Sky |
| SSCC | Safety Standards Consultative Committee |
| TAG | Thematic Advisory Group |
| TCO | Third Country Operators |

Note: A further list of standard terms used to describe the EASA Regulations can be found at: [EASA Terminology](#).