



Miscellaneous

No: 1277

Air Navigation Order 2016

Publication date: 17 August 2018

General Permission

Small Unmanned Aircraft – Night Operations and Operations within Congested Areas by SUA Operators holding Permissions issued prior to 30 July 2018

1) The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), in exercise of its powers under articles 94(5) and 95(2)(a) of the Air Navigation Order 2016 ('the Order') as amended, permits any SUA operator who holds a permission issued by the CAA prior to 30 July 2018, to operate:

- a) at night; and/or
- b) over or within 150 metres of a congested area

subject to the conditions set out in paragraphs 2 to 6 below.

- 2) This permission is only applicable to operating permissions issued by the CAA under articles 94(5) (commercial operations) and 95(2)(a) (operations over or within 150 metres of a congested area), more commonly known as a 'standard permission'. It replaces any statement within those permissions that limits operations to 'daylight hours'. In addition, for permissions relating to the operation of small unmanned aircraft with a mass greater than 7kg, it replaces any statement that prevents operations within congested areas.
- 3) This permission does not apply to operating permissions issued by the CAA which have been subject to the assessment of an Operating Safety Case (OSC), such as for operations within 150 metres of organised open-air assemblies or for operations within 50 metres of uninvolved people or properties. Similarly, it does not apply to any exemption issued by the CAA. In these cases, the conditions of the original permission or exemption will still apply.
- 4) Procedures relating to night operations must be included within the SUA operator's operations manual and flights at night shall only be conducted in accordance with those procedures. Prior to flying operations, a daylight reconnaissance and site safety assessment including aircraft flight-paths within the surrounding area, shall be undertaken to identify, address and record any hazards, restrictions and obstacles. The launch site shall be provided with adequate illumination and the aircraft shall be equipped with adequate conspicuity lighting. Flights shall only commence when the weather conditions are suitable for continuous VLOS operations.
- 5) 'Night' has the meaning assigned to it in Schedule 1 of the Order.

- 6) A copy of this permission is to be retained with the SUA operator's original permission.
- 7) This permission has effect from the date it is signed until 29 July 2019, both dates inclusive, unless previously revoked.

S L O'Sullivan

for the Civil Aviation Authority

17 August 2018