



Miscellaneous

No: 1070

Regulation (EU) No. 923/2012

Publication date: 9 December 2014

General Permission

---

**Standardised European Rules of the Air – Visual Flight Rules (VFR) and Special VFR Minima for Search and Rescue Flights**

- 1) The Civil Aviation Authority ('the CAA'), on behalf of the United Kingdom (UK), permits the operator and Commander of any helicopter registered in the UK and flying for the purpose of a Search and Rescue (SAR) operational flight in accordance with the terms of an air operator's certificate and under the requirements of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No. 923/2012 ('the Standardised European Rules of the Air' (SERA)) to fly in the circumstances specified in paragraph 2, subject to the conditions set out in paragraph 3.
- 2) The circumstances specified in paragraph 1 are that, pursuant to:
  - a) SERA.5001, Table S5-1, Note (\*\*\*) , subparagraph (b) (VMC), the helicopter may be operated with a flight visibility of less than 800 m;
  - b) SERA.5005(c)(4) (Visual Flight Rules), the helicopter may be operated with cloud ceiling, visibility and distance from cloud lower than those specified in SERA.5005(c)(3); and
  - c) SERA.5010(a)(2) (Special VFR), the pilot may operate the helicopter with a flight visibility of less than 800 m.
- 3) The conditions specified in paragraph 1 and applicable to paragraph 2 are:
  - a) operations shall be conducted in accordance with procedures specified in the operator's SAR operations manual;
  - b) the Commander of any helicopter referred to in paragraph 1 shall only depart from the specified requirements of SERA.5001, SERA.5005(c)(3) or SERA.5010(a)(2) to the extent necessary to achieve the purpose of the flight and in circumstances that render such departure necessary in the interests of safety; and
  - c) throughout all flights pursuant to this permission no persons shall be carried other than the flight crew members, SAR Technical Crew Member, CAA authorised persons and other persons directly involved in the SAR flight and whom it is necessary to carry for that purpose.
- 4) In this permission:
  - a) 'authorised person' and 'Commander' have the same meaning as in Article 255(1) of the Air Navigation Order 2009;
  - b) 'pilot' has the same meaning as 'Commander';

---

The latest version of this document is available in electronic format at [www.caa.co.uk/publications](http://www.caa.co.uk/publications), where you may also register for e-mail notification of amendments.

- c) 'flight crew member' has the same meaning as in SERA; and
  - d) 'SAR Technical Crew member' means a member of the SAR crew other than flight crew who is assigned to a helicopter SAR flight for the purpose of operating specific aircraft and role equipment, assisting the flight crew during the mission and attending to any person in need of medical assistance.
- 5) This permission has effect from 10 December 2014 until it is revoked.

Mark Swan

for the Civil Aviation Authority

9 December 2014