



Miscellaneous

No: 1392

Regulation (EU) No. 923/2012

Publication date: 01 June 2020

General Exemption E 5090

**Standardised European Rules of the Air – Operations in Accordance with a Helicopter
Emergency Medical Service Specific Approval**

- 1) The Civil Aviation Authority, on behalf of the United Kingdom and pursuant to article 4 of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No. 923/2012 ('the Standardised European Rules of the Air' (SERA)), exempts the operator and pilot in command of any helicopter flying on a Helicopter Emergency Medical Service (HEMS) flight in accordance with Commission Regulation (EU) No. 965/2012 ('the Air Operations Regulation') from the requirements of SERA specified in paragraph 2 and subject to the conditions in paragraph 3.
- 2) The specified requirements of SERA in paragraph 1 are:
 - a) SERA.3105 (Minimum heights);
 - b) SERA.5005(c)(5) (Visual Flight Rules); and
 - c) SERA.5005(f) (Visual Flight Rules).
- 3) On any flight pursuant to this exemption, the following conditions apply:
 - a) except when necessary for take-off or landing, the helicopter must not be flown closer than 500 feet to any person, vessel, vehicle or structure;
 - b) the operator shall record the time at which the helicopter takes off or lands within a congested area together with details of the exact location by map grid reference;
 - c) the operator shall retain any record required to be made under (b) for 12 months and shall, within a reasonable time of being demanded by an authorised person, produce the record to that authorised person;
 - d) no persons shall be carried other than flight crew, HEMS crew members, medical passengers, authorised persons, patients and other persons directly involved in the HEMS flight and whom it is necessary to carry for that purpose;
 - e) subject to paragraph 3(f), each flight crew member, HEMS crew member and medical passenger shall wear a helmet which will provide substantial head protection in the event of an accident; and
 - f) paragraph 3(e) does not apply to a HEMS crew member or medical passenger required to wear full personal protective equipment (PPE) when transporting a patient who is suspected or confirmed to be infected by the COVID-19 virus. In these circumstances, a helmet may be replaced by a suitable headset allowing communication within the aircraft. Before use of this alleviation, the operator is to conduct a Risk Assessment (RA) and

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submit an amendment to their operations manual for acceptance by their assigned CAA Flight Operations Inspector (FOI).

- 4) In this exemption:
 - a) 'authorised person' has the same meaning as in Schedule 1 of the Air Navigation Order 2016;
 - b) 'flight crew member' has the same meaning as in Article 2 of SERA; and
 - c) 'pilot in command', 'HEMS crew members', 'HEMS flight' and 'medical passenger' have the same meanings as in Annex 1 of the Air Operations Regulation.
- 5) This exemption supersedes Official Record Series 4 No. 1063, which is revoked.
- 6) This exemption has effect from 01 June 2020 and remains in force until it is revoked.

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for the Civil Aviation Authority

01 June 2020