

Regulation of aeronautical information management services

CAP 779

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Contents

Contents	3
Revision history	5
Issue 1 April 2008	5
Issue 2 April 2010	5
Issue 3 July 2020	5
Foreword	6
Scope of the document	8
General	8
References	8
Glossary of definitions and abbreviations	10
Definitions	10
Abbreviations	13
Chapter 1	15
The Regulatory Framework	15
Introduction	15
State obligations	15
ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices and European Union Implementing Rules	16
Single European Sky Legislation	16
Single European Sky Certification (Air Navigation Service Provider)	17
The Regulatory Framework and Organisation of the UK Aeronautical Information Service	18
Coordination between UK Civil AIM and UK Military AIM	19
Organisation of the UK Aeronautical Information Service	20
Data Providers	21
Third-Party Service Providers	21

Chapter 2	23
Aeronautical Information Management in the United Kingdom	23
Introduction	23
Availability of Aeronautical Information	23
Products and Services	24
Aeronautical Data Quality	25
Management System/Quality Management System	27
Safety Management	28
UK Airspace Modernisation Strategy	30
 Chapter 3	 31
Regulation Policy	31
Introduction	31
Regulatory Oversight Mechanism	31
Ongoing Compliance with EU Regulations	31
Regulatory Oversight of Aeronautical Information Management	32
Performance Based Regulation	33
Regulatory Oversight Audits	33
CAA/NATS Quarterly Regulation Meetings	34
AIM Stakeholder engagement	34
UK Aeronautical Information Service User Forum	35
Stakeholder/User feedback	35
 Appendix A	 36
Regulatory Oversight Audit Scope	36
Introduction	36
Aeronautical Information Management - Regulated Areas	36

Revision history

Issue 1 April 2008

CAP 779 is introduced to meet the requirement for the Directorate of Airspace Policy (DAP) to carry out the CAA's functions given by the Secretary of State under Section 66(1) of the Transport Act 2000, in respect of AIS provision, and how the Aeronautical Information Management Regulation Section (ARIMR) undertakes this function on behalf of DAP.

Issue 2 April 2010

CAP 779 is revised to reflect the transfer of the aeronautical chart production and data management tasks from within the Directorate of Airspace Policy of the CAA to NATS/AIM. Other minor amendments are also included.

Issue 3 July 2020

CAP 779 is revised to reflect current regulatory references and to highlight the requirement for Management Systems, Change Management Procedures and Formal Arrangements. Other minor amendments and clarifications are also included.

Foreword

Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) Civil Aviation Publications (CAPs) are based upon national and European Union (EU) legislation and non-legislative regulatory material, such as ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices. They are published in order to provide UK industry with:

- a) guidance and clarification on the means of achieving compliance with global, UK and European regulatory requirements, and where applicable:
- b) details of United Kingdom (UK) 'Alternative Means of Compliance', and
- c) details of any additional national requirements, including CAA administrative procedures.

Details of appropriate supporting administrative procedures are also included where necessary.

In publishing CAPs, the CAA satisfies the obligations placed upon it by the Transport Act 2000¹, Chapter 1 Article 2 'CAA's general duty', which in paragraph 2(a) requires the CAA to exercise its functions under the Act in the manner it thinks best calculated, to further the interests of operators and owners of aircraft, owners and managers of aerodromes, persons travelling in aircraft and persons with rights in property carried in them. The only interests to be considered under subsection (2)(a) are interests regarding the range, availability, continuity, cost and quality of air traffic services.

Publication of CAPs additionally satisfies the requirements set out by the Civil Aviation Authority (Chicago Convention) Directions 2007² to ensure that it acts consistently with the obligations placed on the UK under the Chicago Convention. The CAA is obliged to consider whether it is necessary to amend United Kingdom aviation legislation to ensure appropriate implementation of an ICAO provision.

Where (a) the CAA considers it inappropriate to transpose an ICAO provision into domestic legislation and (b) the CAA has discretionary power to enforce the requirements of such a provision through a certificate, licence, or other means of approval, the Civil Aviation Authority (Chicago Convention) Directions 2007 obliges the CAA to develop and publish such requirements as are necessary to implement the ICAO provision and shall ensure that it is able to verify adherence to those requirements.

CAPs are subject to periodic revision to take account of changes to source regulatory material, feedback from industry, and recognised best practice. CAP 779 provides

¹ <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/38/contents> or <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/38/data.pdf>

² [https://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20100422174722/http://www.caa.co.uk/docs/286/CAA\(ChicagoConvention\)Directions2007\(asamended\).pdf](https://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20100422174722/http://www.caa.co.uk/docs/286/CAA(ChicagoConvention)Directions2007(asamended).pdf)

applicable guidance and clarification relating to the regulation of aeronautical information management services and is to be read in conjunction with - the regulatory material referenced in the Scope section of this document. ***Non-inclusion of source regulatory material within this CAP does not preclude the end user from either the need to be aware of, or the need to comply with, the requirements contained within the source regulatory materials unless otherwise exempted from those requirements.***

It is the policy of the UK government that, unless a Difference (from an ICAO requirement) or 'Alternative Means of Compliance' (AltMoc) (related to an EASA 'Acceptable Means of Compliance' (AMC)) has been established, compliance with relevant international (i.e. ICAO and applicable equivalents such as International Telecommunications Union) and European regulatory material is required to the extent mandated in law. Additionally, compliance with national requirements that are not addressed by international or EU regulations is also required.

The words 'must', 'shall' and 'will' indicate that compliance with applicable regulatory requirements is necessary. In the case of AMC, the word 'should' indicates that compliance is required, unless complying with an approved AltMoC.

Scope of the document

General

CAP 779 describes UK and International regulatory requirements applicable to the regulation of Aeronautical Information Management (AIM) and the provision of the Aeronautical Information Service (AIS) and those elements of the European Commission certification process that fall under the CAA AIM Regulator's responsibilities.

The document defines the scope of services provided by the regulated State AIS provider and explains how regulation of the AIS is implemented.

References

The following references are provided for convenience and are not exhaustive, and in view of the timescales involved in updating a Civil Aviation Publication (CAP), may not be up to date. It is therefore advised that readers take note of all applicable Regulations and of any amendments to the Regulations listed below that are implemented after publication of this document.

- Civil Aviation Act 1982
- Transport Act 2000
- The Civil Aviation Authority (Air Navigation) Directions 2001
- The Civil Aviation Authority (Chicago Convention) Directions 2007
- The NATS (En Route) plc (NERL) Licence
- NATS Operational Specifications (as detailed in the UK AIS Operating Specification):
 - UK AIP Template Specification
 - UK Aeronautical Chart Specification
 - Unmanned Aircraft System Flight Restriction Zone Requirement and Chart Specification
- CAP1054 Aeronautical Information Management
- CAP1074 Safety and Airspace Regulation Enforcement Guidance
- ICAO Annex 15 – Aeronautical Information Service
- ICAO Annex 4 – Aeronautical Charts

- ICAO Document 10066 – PANS Aeronautical Information Management
- ICAO Document 8126 - Aeronautical Information Services Manual
- ICAO Document 8697 – Aeronautical Chart Manual
- EU Regulation 2018/1139 – The Basic Regulation
- IR (EC) No.550/2004 on the provision of air navigation services (the Service Provision Regulation)
- IR (EU) No. 2017/373 laying down common requirements for providers of air traffic management/air navigation services and their oversight
- IR (EU) No.73/2010 (&EU 1029/2014)³ laying down requirements on the quality of aeronautical data and aeronautical information
- IR (EC) No.552/2004⁴ on the interoperability of the European Air Traffic Management network
- IR (EU) No.376/2014 on the Reporting, Analysis and Follow-Up of Occurrences in Civil Aviation
- IR (EU) No.391/2013 laying down a common charging scheme for air navigation services

³ To be replaced in January 2022 by the Data and Data Quality requirements which will be included in EU 2017/373 and EU 139/2014

⁴ Was replaced by Regulation (EU) 2018/1139 the Basic Regulation from 11 September 2018. However, certain articles and annexes of 552/2004 continue to apply until the date of application of the relevant delegated acts covering the subject matter of the relevant provisions of Regulation (EC) No 552/2004, and in any case not later than 12 September 2023.

Glossary of definitions and abbreviations

Definitions

1. In CAP779, where a term is used, which is defined by ICAO in a relevant Annex or PANS document, that definition will apply unless:
 - the contrary is indicated; or
 - there is a different definition in the Air Navigation Order or European Regulations.
2. The terms in the table below have been listed for convenience or have been defined to avoid ambiguity or misunderstanding, or to provide definition of words or phrases which have specific meanings within this document. In some cases, they may be slight modifications of definitions in other documents.

Term	Definition
Aeronautical Information	information resulting from the assemble, analysis and formatting of aeronautical data
Aeronautical Information Management	the dynamic, integrated management of aeronautical information through the provision and exchange of quality-assured digital aeronautical data in collaboration with all parties.
Aeronautical Information Product	aeronautical data and aeronautical information provided either as digital data sets or as a standardized presentation in paper or electronic media. Aeronautical information products include: — Aeronautical Information Publication (AIP), including Amendments and Supplements; — Aeronautical Information Circulars (AIC); — aeronautical charts; — NOTAM; and — digital data sets. <i>Note. Aeronautical information products are intended primarily to satisfy international</i>

Term	Definition
	<i>requirements for the exchange of aeronautical information.</i>
Aeronautical Information Publication	A publication issued by or with the authority of a State and containing aeronautical information of a lasting character essential to air navigation.
Aeronautical Information Service	a service established within the defined area of coverage responsible for the provision of aeronautical data and aeronautical information necessary for the safety, regularity and efficiency of air navigation.
UK Aeronautical Information Service Provider	the Air Navigation Service Provider (NATS (En Route) plc) certified by the CAA to provide the UK Aeronautical Information Service.
Air Navigation Services	Air traffic services; communication, navigation and surveillance services; meteorological services for air navigation; and aeronautical information services.
Air Navigation Service Provider	An organisation or entity certified under EU Law to provide air navigation services.
Authoritative source	a State Authority or an organisation formally recognised by the State authority to originate and/or publish data which meets the data quality requirements (DQRs) as specified by that State
Certified aircraft application	a software application approved by EASA as part of the aircraft
National Competent Authority (National Aviation Authority/National Supervisory Authority)	appointed by European Member States under applicable EU Regulations and having the necessary powers and allocated responsibilities for performing the tasks related to certification, oversight and enforcement in accordance with EU regulations (In the UK the CAA has been appointed as the National Competent Authority/National Aviation Authority/National Supervisory Authority)
Data Quality	a degree or level of confidence that the provided data meets the user's data requirements in terms of accuracy, resolution, integrity (or equivalent

Term	Definition
	assurance level), traceability, timeliness, completeness, and format
Data Quality Requirements	a specification of the characteristics of data (i.e. accuracy, resolution, integrity (or equivalent assurance level), traceability, timeliness, completeness and format) to ensure that the data is compatible with its intended use
Functional system	a combination of procedures, human resources and equipment, including hardware and software, organised to perform a function within the context of ATM/ANS and other ATM network functions
NATS Aeronautical Information Management (AIM)	The entity that provides the UK Aeronautical Information Service (NATS (Services) Ltd) under contract established with the certified Aeronautical Information Service Provider.
Quality	degree to which a set of inherent characteristics fulfils requirements (ISO 9000*)
Quality Assurance	part of quality management focused on providing confidence that quality requirements will be fulfilled (ISO 9000*)
Quality Management	coordinated activities to direct and control an organization with regard to quality (ISO 9000*)
Risk	the combination of the overall probability or frequency of occurrence of a harmful effect induced by a hazard and the severity of that effect
Safety assessment	all the activities required to produce a safety case (relating to the use of services for flight navigation and control directly by pilots or indirectly via air traffic services providers)
Safety case	a structured documented argument, supported by a body of evidence that provides a compelling, comprehensible and valid justification that a change to the functional system is and will be acceptably safe for a given application in a given operating context.