

Issued: 19 May 2014

Commercial Air Transport 'A to A', Balloon, Sailplane and Specialised Operations

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:	Not primarily affected
Air Traffic:	Not primarily affected
Airspace:	Not primarily affected
Airworthiness:	Not primarily affected
Flight Operations:	All AOC Holders, General Aviation Pilots, Aerial Work Operators and Business Aviation Operators
Licensed/Unlicensed Personnel:	All Pilots, Approved Training Organisations and Registered Training Facilities

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This Information Notice should be read in conjunction with [IN-2013/087](#) and [IN-2013/143](#), which describe the rulemaking process which has led to the introduction of European implementing rules affecting various categories of aircraft operations.
- 1.2 The purpose of this Information Notice is to provide a further update on the progress of rule development.

2 Rule Development

- 2.1 The European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) rulemaking process has led to the publication of a Cover Regulation for Air Operations and associated implementing rules which encompass most commercial air transport operations as well as non-commercial operations with both complex and non-complex aircraft ([Regulation \(EU\) No. 965/2012](#) as amended by Regulations No. 800/2013, No. 71/2014 and No. 83/2014). The remaining elements of the rulemaking process, those covering commercial air transport with balloons, with sailplanes and 'A to A' operations, as well as Specialised Operations, are now complete.
- 2.2 'Specialised Operation' means any operation other than commercial air transport where the aircraft is used for specialised activities such as agriculture, construction, photography, surveying, observation and patrol, aerial advertisement. This encompasses much of what has been considered as Aerial Work both private and commercial.

- 2.3 An amending **Regulation (EU) No. 379/2014** has been published and will apply from 1 July 2014. The Regulation also provides that Member States may derogate (opt out) from applying the new rules until 21 April 2017. The United Kingdom intends to use the full extent of the opt-out and will be notifying the European Commission accordingly.

3 Implementation

- 3.1 The UK CAA will put in place measures for the introduction of those new requirements brought about by the amendment. A transition programme will be developed and further Information Notices will be published to assist the implementation of the new rules by 21 April 2017.
- 3.2 In the meantime, operators and owner/pilots of aircraft affected by the amendment should consider making themselves familiar with the contents of the future implementing rules which may be found on the **EASA website**. It should be noted that Commission **Regulation (EU) No. 965/2012** (Air Operations) has been amended by three previous amendments and all should be read in conjunction as there is not a consolidated version available as yet.
- 3.3 Those conducting commercial air transport with balloons, with sailplanes and 'A to A' operations should read the regulations as well as their Annexes II, III and IV.
- 3.4 Those conducting Specialised Operations should read the regulations as well as their Annexes II, III, VII and VIII.
- 3.5 However, as mentioned above, the new rules will not apply in the UK until the end of the opt-out period.

4 Recommendations

- 4.1 It is recommended that those operators conducting 'A to A' operations, balloon operations and (future) Specialised Operations under a current AOC should continue to liaise with their assigned CAA Inspector.
- 4.2 Those operators conducting Specialised Operations without an AOC should consider registering their details now with the CAA (if they have not done so already) so that further information can be shared with them directly during transition to the implementing rules. Details can be registered by e-mailing **FOD.Admin@caa.co.uk** and including the following information:
- Name;
 - E-mail address;
 - Aircraft registration(s); and
 - Types of SPO operation.

5 Queries

- 5.1 Any queries or requests for further guidance as a result of this communication should be sent to **FOD.Admin@caa.co.uk**.

6 Cancellation

- 6.1 This Information Notice will remain in force until 21 April 2017.