

Issued: 08 August 2014

Training of Rescue and Firefighting Service (RFFS) Personnel

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:	All Aerodrome Licence Holders All Aerodrome Operators RFFS Approved Training Providers (ATPs)
Air Traffic:	Not primarily affected
Airspace:	Not primarily affected
Airworthiness:	Not primarily affected
Flight Operations:	Not primarily affected
Licensed/Unlicensed Personnel:	Not primarily affected

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this communication is to advise industry of some potential changes to the regulatory requirements for the training of Aerodrome RFFS personnel.
- 1.2 **CAP 168** requires RFFS personnel to hold a valid certificate of competence appropriate to their task and role as detailed in **CAP 699**. A number of training providers (ATPs) are approved by the CAA to deliver Structured Learning Programmes (SLPs) that lead to the issue of such certificates.

2 European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) Rules

- 2.1 The **EU Aerodrome Regulation (Commission Regulation (EU) No.139/2014)** (The EU Rules) does not make provision for the approval and/or oversight of RFFS training providers by the CAA.
- 2.2 EU rules place the responsibility for ensuring that RFFS personnel are properly trained, equipped and qualified to operate in the aerodrome environment, and for the establishment and implementation of a training programme, on the Aerodrome Operator. However, the rules allow for the Aerodrome Operator to contract a third party to deliver the training on their behalf.

- 2.3 It is recognised that the current RFFS training framework is well embedded and understood, and could be seen as a means of compliance with the EASA rules.

3 Consultation

- 3.1 As a result of the transition to EU rules, we intend to consult with Aerodrome Operators, representative associations, and currently approved RFFS training providers, in order to understand how industry would like to provide for RFFS training following transition to the EU rules.
- 3.2 Any future RFFS training framework should meet the regulatory needs of all licensed and certificated aerodromes and, to manage the changes required, we foresee that the transition to the EU rules requires two separate work streams:
- a) Review of all relevant guidance material (GM) and, if agreed as suitable, **CAP 699** to ensure it is fit for purpose.
 - b) Review the training provider framework to identify the industry's appetite to retain the framework as an acceptable means of compliance (AMC).
- 3.3 We would like your views and invite you to comment on the changes by completing the online survey, which can be found at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com>.
- 3.4 The survey will close on Friday, 31 October 2014.

4 Terms of Reference

- 4.1 The Terms of Reference (TORs) for the development of RFFS training standards have been delegated to the Airport Operators Association (AOA) RFFS working group and it is anticipated that the same group will lead the consultation and review.
- 4.2 It is anticipated that the consultation and review process will be completed early 2015.

5 Queries

- 5.1 Any queries or requests for further guidance as a result of this communication should be addressed to:

Airspace, ATM and Aerodromes
Safety and Airspace Regulation Group
Civil Aviation Authority
1NE Aviation House
Gatwick Airport South
RH6 0YR

E-mail: aerodromes@caa.co.uk

6 Cancellation

- 6.1 This Information Notice will remain in force until further notice.