

Issued: 05 August 2015

European Regulation (EU) No. 2015/340 on ATCO Licensing and Training

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:	All ANSPs and ATC Initial Training Organisations
Airspace:	Not primarily affected
Airworthiness:	Not primarily affected
Flight Operations:	Not primarily affected
Licensed/Unlicensed Personnel:	All Student Air Traffic Controllers and Air Traffic Controllers

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This IN is one of a series to be produced to brief the industry on any implications arising from and the UK implementation plan for EU Regulation (EU) No. 2015/340.

2 Scope

- 2.1 The purpose of this IN is to provide air traffic controllers, ANSP's and Initial Training Organisations with an overview of the changes specific to ATCO licensing brought about by Commission Regulation (EU) No. 2015/340 - "Laying down technical requirements and administrative procedures relating to air traffic controllers' licences and certificates".

3 ATCO Licence

- 3.1 A replacement student or air traffic controller licence, compliant with (EU) Regulation No. 2015/340, will be issued by the UK CAA to all licence holders during the period from November 2015 to November 2016. Generally, this will be undertaken coincident with the renewal of the unit endorsements completed during this period. From 1 January 2017 all controllers must be in possession of a new format licence in order to exercise the privileges of their student/ATCO licence.
- 3.2 The new licence will comprise of eight pages contained on a single A4 sheet. It is not permitted to cut your licence as its format and layout is stipulated by EASA regulations.
- 3.3 Additionally, a new format medical certificate will be issued in due course.

- 3.4 A Student Licence will no longer have an expiry date, so will remain valid unless revoked or suspended by the UK CAA. All Student Licences must be returned to the UK CAA on successful achievement of an initial unit endorsement when they will be exchanged for a full ATCO licence.
- 3.5 Any application to the UK CAA for the issue, revalidation or renewal of a licence, rating or endorsement will be processed within an eight week period. The applicant is permitted to exercise the privileges of that licence, rating or endorsement during that eight week period. The UK CAA will develop and publish procedures to support this process.

4 Rating Endorsements and Authorisations

- 4.1 The maximum elapsed time from the completion of a rating course and the commencement of a unit endorsement course has increased from nine to twelve months.
- 4.2 Assessment's of Previous Competence shall only be conducted by UK CAA certificated Initial Training Organisations.
- 4.3 The UK national rating endorsements for Offshore (OFF) and Special Tasks (SPT) will no longer be a specialised endorsement and will be withdrawn. Under the new regulation these endorsements have been subsumed into the ACS/APS rating. Training associated with these rating endorsements will be assimilated into unit training.
- 4.4 The rating endorsement for Radar (RAD) associated with Area Control Surveillance (ACS) and Approach Control Surveillance (APS) will no longer exist under the new regulation and will cease to be included in ATCO licence. Terminal Control (TCL) and Oceanic Control (OCN) are the only rating endorsements that can be attached to the ACS rating. Precision Approach Radar (PAR), Surveillance Radar Approach (SRA) and Terminal Control (TCL) are the only rating endorsements that can be attached to APS.
- 4.5 The Examiner (EXM) endorsement is renamed as the Assessor endorsement. There is no abbreviation for this endorsement which will be written in full in the licence.
- 4.6 A new endorsement, the Synthetic Training Device Instructor (STDI) has been created for those who instruct on a simulator. Licence holders who have been awarded the On-the-Job Training Instructor (OJTI) Licence Endorsement are authorised to exercise the privileges of the STDI Licence Endorsement even though this will not be shown separately on their licence. Licence holders who are not OJTIs but wish to be authorised to instruct on simulators, must undergo an approved training course to hold an STDI Endorsement.
- 4.7 Two new categories of temporary authorisations, the Temporary On-the-Job Instructor Authorisation and the Temporary Assessor Authorisation, have been created. It is expected that they will be used in association with the establishment of a new ATC unit or a new rating or endorsement being introduced at an established unit.
- 4.8 The language proficiency endorsement for Level 6 English will now be valid for nine years. The nine year validity period for Level 6 English shall be counted from the date of issue of the new licence or from the date of the assessment. A Revalidation procedure will not be required for a number of years however, it is the intention of the UK CAA to develop this process in due course.
- 4.9 The UK national rating endorsement for OCN, associated with an ACS rating, is now recognised under the new regulation 2015/340. This will not affect an Oceanic controller's current rating or privileges.