



Civil Aviation Authority
INFORMATION NOTICE
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**CAA Information Bulletin on EASA Developments –
9 August – 17 November 2016**

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
Air Traffic:	All ATC, FIS and ANSPs
Airspace:	All NATMAC Members
Airworthiness:	All Airworthiness Organisations
Flight Operations:	All AOC Holders and General Aviation Pilots
Licensed/Unlicensed Personnel:	All Training Organisations, All Pilots and Maintenance Engineers

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This Information Notice provides highlights of EASA developments and CAA activities covering the period 9 August to 16 November 2016.

2 Revision of the EASA Basic Regulation

- 2.1 Negotiations in the Council Aviation Working Group (AWG) on the proposal for a revision of the EASA Basic Regulation (common rules in the field of civil aviation and establishing a European Union Aviation Safety Agency, and repealing Regulation (EC) No. 216/2008) commenced in January 2016.
- 2.2 The then Presidency (Netherlands) divided the dossier into a number of blocks (containing related areas and subjects) to ease discussions. Good progress was made during the first half of 2016 with completion of a first full review and commencement of discussions focussing on the detail in particular areas. During this period the CAA was extremely active in preparation for discussion in AWG meetings and is attending them with DfT (Department for Transport) in support of the UK Permanent Representation to the European Union (UKRep).
- 2.3 In July the Slovak Republic took over the Presidency. Work has continued apace within the Council during the summer and it is likely that AWG meetings will carry on until the end of November 2016. The CAA has been and will continue to be highly involved in support of DfT and the UKRep.

3 EASA Committee

3.1 The EASA Committee met on 26-27 October 2016. The agenda covered the following items on the first day:

i) Update on on-going Commission adoption procedures – *Information by the Commission*

The Commission briefed on the regulations proceeding through comitology and explained that since the last EASA Committee meeting there had been some delays within the Commission Legal Services arising from the need to translate all the amendments agreed in the June Committee.

ii) Implementation of Commission Regulation (EU) No. 452/2014 pertaining to Third Country Operators (TCO) – *Information by EASA (update)*

EASA provided a presentation on the progress made since the initial implementation of Regulation 452/2014 in May 2014. The presentation highlighted that by 26 November 2016 all non-EU operators must have a TCO authorisation to fly to/from the EU. Currently TCO authorisations are in place for more than 99% of all flights by non-EU carriers. More than 800 applications have been received to date. The Agency also explained that a post implementation review would now take place. The results are expected in the summer of 2017.

iii) Draft Commission Regulation as regards the revision of EU operational rules for balloons and amending Commission Regulation (EU) No. 965/2012 – *Discussion*

The Committee was provided with an update on the progress being made to develop more proportionate operating regulations for Balloons. There was a positive discussion regarding the concerns some Member States have expressed regarding the use of declaration by the Operator in place of being issued with an AOC. There was good support from the Member States for the proposal. It is now envisaged that new regulation will be voted on at the next Committee meeting in February 2017.

iv) Draft Commission Regulation amending Commission Regulation (EU) No. 748/2012 as regards embodiment of risk-based compliance verification into Part-21 – *Discussion and possible vote by written procedure*

The Committee discussed the proposed amendment to the regulation. There was strong support for the proposed change. The final draft regulation is expected to be voted on by written procedure before the next Committee meeting. EASA envisage the revised regulation will be implemented in early 2018.

v) Draft Commission Regulation amending Regulation (EU) No. 640/2015 as regards additional airworthiness specifications for a given type of operations – *Orientation discussion:*

- EASA Opinion 08/2016 Halon: Update of Part-26 to comply with ICAO Standards
- EASA Opinion 12/2016 Ageing aircraft structures

EASA explained the need to align the proposed phase out of Halon fire extinguishers in aircraft cabins with the revised timescales recently agreed at the 37th ICAO Assembly in October 2016. The Committee were supportive of the proposal which will be added together with the Agency proposal to broadly align Ageing Aircraft structure inspection requirements with those already in place in the USA. The proposed changes will be combined with previous proposed amendments to Part 26 for thermal /acoustic insulation replacement and improved seat crashworthiness (EASA Opinions 04/2016 and 02/2016). The amendment is expected to be put to the vote in February 2017.