

Miscellaneous

No: 1124

Regulation (EU) No. 923/2012

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General Permissions

Standardised European Rules of the Air – Exceptions to the Minimum Height Requirements

1) Definition

In these permissions:

- a) 'SERA' means the Annex to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No. 923/2012 ('the Standardised European Rules of the Air' (and references to SERA followed by a number mean the corresponding provision of SERA)).
- b) 'Licensed aerodrome' means an aerodrome licensed under the Air Navigation Order 2009 or an aerodrome certificated under Commission Regulation (EU) No. 139/2014 of 12 February 2014.
- c) 'Government aerodrome' means any aerodrome in the United Kingdom which is in the occupation of any Government Department or visiting force (as defined in article 255(1) of the Air Navigation Order 2009).
- d) 'Notified' has the same meaning as in article 255(1) of the Air Navigation Order 2009.

2) General (SERA.5005(f)(2))

- a) The Civil Aviation Authority ('the CAA') permits, under SERA.3105 and SERA.5005(f), subject to the condition set out in subparagraph (b), an aircraft to fly elsewhere than as specified in SERA.5005(f)(1) at a height of:
 - i) less than 150 metres (500 feet) above the ground or water; or
 - ii) less than 150 metres (500) above the highest obstacle within a radius of 150 metres (500 feet) from the aircraft.
- b) The aircraft must not be flown closer than 150 metres (500 feet) to any person, vessel, vehicle or structure except with the permission of the CAA.

3) Approaches to Landing or Forced Landings

The Civil Aviation Authority permits, under SERA.3105, SERA.5005(f) and SERA.5015(b), an aircraft to fly below the heights specified in SERA.5005(f) and SERA.5015(b) if it is flying in accordance with normal aviation practice and:

- a) practising approaches to land at or checking navigational aids or procedures at an aerodrome;

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- b) practising approaches to forced landings other than at an aerodrome if it is not flown closer than 150 metres (500 feet) to any person, vessel, vehicle or structure; or
- c) flying in accordance with a notified procedure or when specifically authorised by the CAA in accordance with SERA.5015.

4) **Flying Displays, Air Races and Contests**

The Civil Aviation Authority permits, under SERA.3105 and SERA.5005(f), an aircraft taking part in a flying display, air race or contest to fly below 150 metres (500 feet) above the ground or water or closer than 150 metres (500 feet) to any person, vessel, vehicle or structure if it is within a horizontal distance of 1,000 metres of the gathering of persons assembled to witness the event.

5) **Glider Hill-Soaring**

The Civil Aviation Authority permits, under SERA.3105 and SERA.5005(f), a glider to fly below 150 metres (500 feet) above the ground or water or closer than 150 metres (500 feet) to any person, vessel, vehicle or structure if it is hill-soaring.

6) **Picking Up and Dropping at an Aerodrome**

The Civil Aviation Authority permits, under SERA.3105 and SERA.5005(f), an aircraft picking up or dropping tow ropes, banners or similar articles at an aerodrome to fly below 150 metres (500 feet) above the ground or water or closer than 150 metres (500 feet) to any person, vessel, vehicle or structure.

7) **Manoeuvring Helicopters**

- a) The Civil Aviation Authority permits, under SERA.3105 and SERA.5005(f), a helicopter to fly below 150 metres (500 feet) above the ground or water or closer than 150 metres (500 feet) to any person, vessel, vehicle or structure if it is conducting manoeuvres, in accordance with normal aviation practice, within the boundaries of an aerodrome, permitted sites detailed at subparagraph (c) or, if the operator or pilot-in-command of the aircraft has the written permission of the CAA, at other sites, subject to subparagraph (b).
- b) When flying in accordance with this permission the helicopter must not be operated closer than 60 metres to any persons, vessels, vehicles or structures located outside the aerodrome or site.
- c) Permitted sites:
 - i) North Denes Aerodrome, Great Yarmouth.
 - ii) Any helicopter landing site which is the main operating base of a PAOC or AOC operator.
 - iii) Any helicopter landing site used by an AOC operator for a helicopter A-to-A operation in accordance with the provisions of the operator's operations manual.
 - iv) Any helicopter landing site located at the premises of a CAA-approved aircraft maintenance organisation.
- d) In subparagraph (c):
 - i) 'AOC operator' means a person holding a valid air operator certificate issued by the CAA under Part 2 of the Air Navigation Order 2009 (other than a PAOC operator) or under Commission Regulation (EU) No. 965/2012 of 5 October 2012;