

Issued: 23 May 2011

**HIGHLIGHTS OF EASA DEVELOPMENTS AND RELATED CAA
ACTIVITIES, COVERING THE PERIOD
26 MARCH – 23 MAY 2011**

This Information Notice contains information that is for guidance and/or awareness.

Recipients are asked 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 – Of interest to those aerodromes within the EASA scope of applicability
Air Traffic:	All ATC and FIS
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 26 March to 23 May 2011.

2 EASA Committee Meeting

2.1 The EASA Committee met on 11-13 May; the agenda covered the following items:

i) *EASA 2010 Annual report on standardisation*

This is an annual agenda item, giving the Committee a chance to discuss major themes outlined in the Agency's annual report for the previous year. The discussion focused on a shared desire that standardisation activity needs increasingly to focus on the safety risks and outcomes. It was agreed that a more thorough discussion is desirable on why there continues to be repeated findings on NAA resources and what relationship this might have to safety outcomes.

ii) *Objectives of a proposed revision of Commission Regulation (EC) No 736/2006 on working methods of EASA for conducting standardisation inspections*

There was an initial discussion on the objectives and scope of a proposed revision of the Commission regulation which governs standardisation, based on a Commission/Agency paper. The paper demonstrated a clear commitment to enhancing the standardising activity to make it more focused on safety, develop a

continuous monitoring approach, make better use of existing resources and be less burdensome on national authorities and industry, and provide more feedback to rulemaking activities. The intention is to amend the regulation by the end of the year.

iii) *Update on Commission proposals on aviation personnel (FCL) and on medical requirements for flight and cabin crew (MED)*

The provisions on Flight Crew Licensing and Medical (FCL and MED), already adopted by the EASA Committee, will be annexes to a Regulation on civil aviation aircrew, which when complete will also cover annexes on Cabin Crew and related authority requirements and organisation requirements as shown in the diagram attached on page 5.

The Commission intends to complete this structure by adopting before April 2012 two regulations, the second one amending the first.

The FCL-related annexes are being translated and it is expected that the text and draft cover regulation will go to European Parliament and Council for scrutiny in July. Subject to positive scrutiny, it is expected that a text will be published in the Official Journal in November 2011. At the same time it is hoped that all translations and scrutiny of the Medical provisions will also have been completed, as it is a much shorter text, so that the two can be combined into a single document and published together as the first regulation.

The intention is then to have a second package, covering the Cabin Crew provisions and the authority and organisation requirements related to aircrew, ready for publication early in 2012. The annexes will be adopted under an amendment to the first regulation on aircrew. In effect there will then be one single EU regulation governing aircrew, although it is not yet clear when the two packages will be consolidated.

Member States stressed the considerable challenge the proposed regulatory timetable set for both stakeholders and national authorities in meeting the implementation dates. The Commission and Agency were urged to set aside as soon as possible a day for a specific discussion on implementation and transition problems.

iv) *EASA Opinion on authority and organisation requirements (AR/OR) general and specific provisions to be included in Regulation regarding civil aviation personnel*

There was a complicated, detailed and long discussion on the authority and organisation proposals which was not completed by the end of the meeting. Some improvements were made to the text but, as far as could be judged in the absence of final versions of the revisions, no significant major changes were made. The CAA and the Department for Transport will examine the proposed revised text carefully as soon as it is available. The text will be finalised at the June meeting of the Committee.

v) *EASA Opinion on Cabin Crew (CC)*

Although this item was on the agenda it was not reached and will need to be discussed at the next Committee meeting scheduled for 28-30 June.

3 EASA Management Board

- 3.1 The next meeting of the EASA Management Board is to be held on 9 June. Agenda items include regular progress reports on the extension of rulemaking tasks; the European Aviation Safety Strategy, the EASA Certification Strategy; ENaCT; and some financial/administrative items, including the 2012 Work Programme; the 2012-2016 Business Plan and the 2010 Annual General Report.

4 EASA Rulemaking Review Group

- 4.1 An update on the meeting held in March was provided in Information Notice 18/2011, published on 25 March 2011. The next meeting is due to take place in July.

5 Other Rulemaking Topics:

5.1 *Aerodromes*

The aerodrome rulemaking process continues, with formal meetings held on 15-17 March and 16-18 May in Cologne. With the main rule-drafting process scheduled to be completed by the end of July, efforts are now being concentrated on the certification basis for aerodromes and the conversion process for those aerodromes likely to be in the EASA scope to be granted an EU certificate under the new system. EASA intends to publish the three Notices of Proposed Amendment (aerodrome design; aerodrome operations; authority and aerodrome operator requirements) in December 2011. The CAA is planning a series of industry days later this year, for the affected aerodrome operators, in order to provide further briefings on EASA developments – more details to follow in due course.

In the meantime, EASA has published some FAQs on aerodrome regulation, which can be found at the following website link:

<http://www.easa.europa.eu/atm/faq.html>

5.2 *Flight Time Limitations*

EASA have commenced the comments review process in conjunction with the OPS.055 rulemaking advisory group.

5.3 *OPS – CAT/SPA (commercial air transport operations and operations requiring specific approval)*

The Agency is scheduled to publish its Opinion in May in which case a discussion on the proposals is likely at the June EASA Committee meeting.

5.4 *OPS – NCO/NCC (non-commercial operations with other than complex motor-powered aircraft, non-commercial operations with complex motor-powered aircraft)*

According to the latest information the Agency Comment Response Document covering these areas is due for publication in the third quarter of 2011.

5.5 *OPS - SPO/CAT (light) (specialised operations / commercial air transport with light aircraft)*

Publication of a Comment Response Document covering these areas is unlikely until early 2012.

5.6 *Operational Suitability Certificate/Safety Directive*

The Agency published on 13 May Comment Response Document 2009-01 on “Operational Suitability Certificates and Safety Directives”. The closing date for responses is 13 July 2011.

5.7 *Single European Sky (SES)*

Progress on SES activities is covered in the SES Bulletin which can be found via the following link: www.caa.co.uk/in201130

The CAA submitted its response to EASA NPA 2011-02, Standardised European Rules of the Air (SERA) Part B which is published on the CAA website, please see paragraph 6 below for link.

5.8 *Third Country Operators*

EASA has issued a NPA for consultation on Third Country Operators, which can be found on the Agency's website via the following link: <http://easa.europa.eu/rulemaking/notices-of-proposed-amendment-NPA.php>. The closing date for comments is 1 July 2011.

6 **CAA Responses to NPAs and CRDs**

6.1 The CAA submitted comments on one NPA consultation since the last communication (Information Notice 2011-18) was published:

NPA 2011-02 Standardised European Rules of the Air (SERA) Part B

6.2 The CAA had no comments on the following EASA consultations since the last communication was published:

NPA 2011-01 Free Gas Balloons and Hot Air Balloons

CRD 2009-12 Avionics

6.3 CAA responses on NPA and CRD consultations can be viewed via the following webpage:

<http://www.caa.co.uk/default.aspx?catid=620&pagetype=90&pageid=11403>

7 **Recently published Opinions**

7.1 EASA recently published the following Opinions which can be viewed via the Agency's website at: <http://www.easa.eu.int/agency-measures/opinions.php>

Opinion 01/2011 ELA process and standard changes and repairs

Opinion 02/2011 Implementing Rules for the qualification of cabin crew involved in commercial operations

Opinion 03/2011 Authority Requirements and Organisation Requirements

8 **Queries**

8.1 Any queries specifically related to the SERA consultation covered under paragraph 6 should be sent to Dave.Drake@caa.co.uk. Queries related to any other part of this Information Notice should be sent to European.Affairs@caa.co.uk.

9 **Cancellation**

9.1 This Information Notice will remain in force until further notice.

ATTACHMENT

