

Issued: 29 February 2012

**EASA CAA INFORMATION BULLETIN
HIGHLIGHTS OF EASA DEVELOPMENTS AND RELATED CAA
ACTIVITIES, COVERING THE PERIOD
23 DECEMBER 2011 – 29 FEBRUARY 2012**

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 and Ground Handling Organisations
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 23 December 2011 to 29 February 2012.

2 EASA Committee Meeting

2.1 The EASA Committee met on 14-16 February; the agenda included the following items:

i) Update on ongoing Commission adoption procedures

Aircrew Regulation: The amending regulation incorporating annexes on Cabin Crew, Authority and Organisation Requirements is due to be adopted by the end of March, with publication in the Official Journal in early April.

Commercial air transport operations and special approvals: Formal agreement of the EASA Committee was completed in December, through written procedure; a small number of consistency and typographical changes were accepted. The draft regulation should be sent to the Council and the European Parliament by 24 May for a three-month scrutiny period; final adoption and publication in the Official Journal is unlikely to be completed before October.

Recast of regulation (EC) 1702/2003 should be completed and adopted in June and *Amendment to Regulation (EC) 2042/2003* should be adopted before June.

Revision of Fees and Charges Regulation: Specific references to fees for Third Country Operators' authorisations were removed from the amendment; wording will be incorporated providing the possibility for the Agency to be able to establish fees after the regulation laying down implementing rules for such authorisations is adopted.

Revision of Standardisation Regulation: On 2 February [Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) No 90/2012](#) was published, amending Regulation (EC) No 736/2006. This amendment encompasses the new areas of EASA competency for conducting standardisation - air operations, ramp inspections, aircrew, air traffic controllers as well as air traffic management and air navigation services – in addition to initial and continuing airworthiness.

ii) Exchange of information among Member States on the implementation of new Regulations on aircrew and of the related opt outs – Information and discussion

EASA Committee members agreed that Member States needed to share with each other their intentions and planning for the transition due to the complexity of the opt-out options; stakeholders also needed to understand how the jigsaw would fit together. The Agency were planning to assist NAAs (National Aviation Authorities) and industry in sharing information, providing answers to Frequently Asked Questions, local briefings for authorities and stakeholders and training etc. The Commission would prepare advice on questions of mutual recognition during the transitional period.

iii) EASA Opinion 01/2012 on non commercial air operations (NCC (with complex motor-powered aeroplanes and helicopters) and NCO (with other than complex motor powered aircraft (aeroplanes, helicopters, sailplanes and balloons)) – Review

The technical annexes on NCC and NCO were reviewed as well as amendments to the AR (Authority Requirements), OR (Organisation Requirements) and SPO (specialised operations (commercial and non-commercial) with aeroplanes, helicopters, sailplanes, balloons) annexes necessary to bring NCC and NCO operations into their scope. The UK and a number of other States stressed the need for more flexibility and proportionality in the rules. Few amendments were agreed during the meeting but written comments would be accepted to a tight timetable to allow the Commission to prepare its proposal for detailed review at the next Committee meeting, in May.

iv) EASA CRD to NPA 2010/14 on Flight Time Limitations (FTL) – Orientation discussion

A number of Committee members congratulated the Agency on the considerable effort it had made to produce the CRD (published 18 January 2012), which many thought a significant improvement on the NPA. Since the CRD response period does not close until 19 March, Committee members were not ready to discuss the proposals in depth.

v) Draft Commission Proposal on Fines – Review

The Committee reviewed an amended text of a draft regulation setting out a process for fines that could be imposed on holders of certificates issued by the Agency, as provided for in Article 25 of the Basic EASA Regulation. A few further refinements were suggested; the text will be circulated soon for formal agreement by written procedure.

vi) EASA CRD to NPA 2011/05 on Third Country Operators (TCO) – Orientation discussion

The CRD was published on 26 January 2012 and remains open for comment until 26 March. The Committee held a wide ranging discussion covering a range of topics: whether the proposed procedures were over-bureaucratic and burdensome; whether there were unacceptable risks of retaliation against European operators; the relationship with SAFA (Safety Assessment of Foreign Aircraft) inspections and the work on the Commission's safety list which would continue; proposed fees. More

discussions would be held between the Commission and the Agency, taking into account responses to the CRD; it was unclear when the Opinion might be issued.

- vii) [EASA Opinion 07/2011 on Operational Suitability Data](#) – Orientation discussion

The Committee in general supported the concepts set out in the Agency's Opinion, published on 13 December 2011, recognising the potential safety benefits, and welcomed the significant changes made to the proposals since the NPA stage. A number of detailed questions were raised which would require further clarification. The Agency is planning a workshop on the subject in May, after which the Commission would formalise its proposal.

- 2.2 A joint meeting with the Single Sky Committee took place on the third day and covered the following:

- i) Update on ACAS (Airborne Collision Avoidance System) Regulation – Information;
- ii) Regulatory Roadmap for ATM (Air Traffic Management) – Information and discussion.

A report will be included in the next CAA SES (Single European Sky) Bulletin, a link to the relevant webpage can be found at paragraph 4.4.

3 EASA Management Board

- 3.1 The next EASA Management Board is scheduled for 13 March. The agenda includes updates on progress on implementation of the rulemaking review and on ATM rulemaking (medium term strategy items), further discussion on 2013 Planning Documents and discussions on EASA's Research programme and on the Regulation of General Aviation.

An update will be provided following the meeting.

4 Other Rulemaking Topics

4.1 Aerodromes

The closing date for comments on [NPA 2011-20](#), Authority, Organisation and Operations Requirements for Aerodromes, was extended by the Agency to 30 April 2012. In February, the CAA held three seminars with the aerodrome industry and a specific meeting with rescue and fire-fighting personnel to discuss the content of the NPA.

EASA is organising a conference on the proposed set of Aerodromes rules to take place on 21-22 May. A [pre-notification](#) is published on the Agency's website which provides further details.

- 4.2 *OPS – SPO/CAT (S+B) (specialised operations/commercial air transport operations for sailplanes and balloons)*

The CAA submitted comments on CRD to NPA 2009-02b. A link to the comments can be found under paragraph 5.2 below.

- 4.3 *ATM / Standardised European Rules of the Air (SERA Part B) Requirements regarding services in Air Navigation*

ATM rulemaking remains ongoing in 2012, including work on AMC (Acceptable Means of Compliance) and GM (Guidance Material) for ATCO (Air Traffic Control Officers) licensing.

Work continues on the Standardised European Rules of the Air (SERA), with a vote on Parts A and B expected at the March meeting of the Single Sky Committee. Launch of an NPA concerning SERA Part A/B AMC and GM is believed to be imminent, and a co-ordinated UK response will be developed accordingly. SERA Part C drafting/development work is under way and commencement of Part C NPA activity in the second half of this year is anticipated.

4.4 *Single European Sky (SES)*

Progress on all SES activities is covered in the SES Bulletin published periodically on the following webpage www.caa.co.uk/SES.

5 **CAA Responses to NPAs and CRDs**

5.1 The CAA submitted comments on the following EASA consultations since the previous update (Information Notice 2011/148) was published:

CRD 2009-02b	Part-SPO and Part-CAT for sailplanes and balloons (OPS III)
CRD 2009-04	Airworthiness Approval and Operational Criteria for on-board equipment related to Area Navigation for Global Navigation Satellite system approach operation to Localiser Performance with vertical guidance minima using a Satellite Based Augmentation System
CRD 1 2010-10	Alignment of Regulation (EC) No. 2042/2003 with Regulation (EC) No. 216.2008 and with ICAO Annex 6 requirement for human factor principles to be observed in the design and application of the aircraft maintenance programme

5.2 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>

6 **Queries**

6.1 Any queries related to this Information Notice should be sent to European.Affairs@caa.co.uk.

7 **Cancellation**

7.1 This Information Notice will remain in force until 29 August 2012.