



Issued: 20 April 2012

FLIGHT CREW LICENSING - ADVANCE NOTICE OF A REDUCTION IN THE SCOPE OF THE 'R' (REVALIDATION) EXAMINER AUTHORISATION AND THE REVALIDATION PRIVILEGE OF THE 'GR' GROUND EXAMINER AUTHORISATION.

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:	
Air Traffic:	
Airspace:	
Airworthiness:	
Flight Operations:	
Licensed/Unlicensed Personnel:	All Pilots, All Flying Training Schools, including TRTO's and Registered Facilities

1. Introduction

1.1 The European Regulation for pilot licensing, the 'EASA Aircrew Regulation' (Regulation EU 1178/2011), will come into effect on 8 April 2012. As previously announced the UK will be applying the requirements of Part-FCL with effect from 1 July 2012. Currently, in the UK, we have persons who are authorised by the CAA as 'R' (Revalidation) Examiners or 'GR' (Ground) Examiners, who are authorised to sign the revalidation pages of pilot licences for single pilot aeroplane ratings when satisfied that the licence holder has met the requirements for revalidation by experience. (This is the only circumstance where the holders of these authorisations are authorised to revalidate a rating).

2. The effect of the EASA Aircrew Regulation on 'R' and 'GR' Examiners

2.1 The 'R' Examiner and 'GR' Examiner authorisations do not exist in the "EASA Aircrew Regulation" and so such persons cannot be authorised to revalidate any rating in EASA Part-FCL licences - (including JAR-FCL licences that become Part-FCL licences with effect from 8 April 2012).

2.2 The UK will be applying Part-FCL with effect from 1 July 2012 and the licence revalidation privileges of the 'R' and 'GR' Examiners become invalid for JAR-FCL and Part-FCL licences at that time. The 'R' and 'GR' revalidation privileges will remain in place for non-EASA licences. The holders of 'R' and 'GR' authorisations will be notified of these changes.

2.3 The United Kingdom Air Navigation Order will make EASA examiner qualifications issued under the EASA Aircrew Regulation valid for UK national licensing purposes, and so all holders of FE, TRE, and CRE, etc. held with UK, JAR-FCL or Part-FCL licences will continue to be able to sign the revalidation pages of UK national aeroplane pilot licences for single pilot

aeroplane ratings when satisfied that the licence holder has met the requirements for revalidation by experience.

- 2.4 The changes to legislation have no effect on the privileges of 'GR' examiners to conduct theoretical knowledge examinations.
- 2.5 'GR' examiners should note that the CAA fee payable for the 'GR' authorisation is for the privilege to conduct theoretical knowledge examinations. There is currently no fee payable for the issue or re-issue of an 'R' examiner authorisation or equivalent privilege held by a 'GR' examiner. Therefore, there will not be a reduction in the fee for the 'GR' authorisation resulting from this change.
- 2.6 For the new European Light Aircraft Pilot Licence (LAPL) maintaining recency for categories, classes and types of aircraft will be the responsibility of the licence holder and there will be no requirement for independent sign-off by an examiner. (The LAPL will include a revalidation page to cater for particular qualifications that do require revalidation)
- 2.7 An Aeronautical Information Circular containing the text of this IN is also being published to further publicise awareness of these changes.

3 Summary

- 3.1 The effect of EU legislation is that the 'R'/'GR' revalidation privileges will cease for JAR-FCL and Part-FCL licences with effect from 1 July 2012. Consistent with this, the scope of the 'R'/'GR' will be reduced to revalidation by experience of ratings included in UK non-JAA, non-Part-FCL licences.
- 3.2 The privilege to conduct theoretical knowledge examinations under the 'GR' authorisation is not affected.

4. Queries

- 4.1 Any queries or further guidance required as a result of this communication should be addressed to: fclweb@caa.co.uk

5. Cancellation

- 5.1 This Information Notice shall remain in force until 1 July 2014 unless cancelled.