

STATEMENT: NOT ELIGIBLE FOR ADOPTION - FAA AD No: 2023-11-07



Background

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has released Airworthiness Directive (AD) 2023-11-07 applicable to “all helicopters, certificated in any category, equipped with a radio (also known as radar) altimeter”. This AD requires certain helicopters to revise the Rotorcraft Flight Manual (RFM) to incorporate limitations prohibiting certain operations requiring radio altimeter data when operating in contiguous USA airspace. Consequently, the FAA has identified that the risks associated with the potential for radio altimeter interference from 5G transmissions in their airspace results in an unsafe condition.

The roll-out of 5G transmitters in the UK to date has not identified any confirmed instances where 5G interference has resulted in aircraft system malfunction or unexpected behaviour which could be associated to 5G interference. The CAA continues to work closely with other National Aviation Authorities (NAAs) to evaluate the potential threat relating to 5G interference and to date have not identified an Unsafe Condition relating to 5G interference for operations in the UK.

Reason

The Applicability of AD 2023-11-07 identifies a list of affected helicopter types (not exhaustive – “but not limited to”) which includes types for which the USA do not represent the State of Design. Consequently, this AD is considered as a State of Registry AD.

Decision

Considering the reasons described above, the position of the CAA is that FAA AD 2023-11-07 is not eligible for adoption for UK registered helicopters.

Comments

Enquiries regarding this decision should be referred to:

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