

Miscellaneous

No: 1615

UK Regulation (EU) 2018/1139

Publication date: 5 December 2024

General Exemption E 6244

Airbus Helicopters H175 and Leonardo Helicopters AW139/169/189 Helicopter Offshore Operations – Helicopter Terrain Awareness and Warning System (HTAWS)

Background

- 1) Certain Airbus Helicopters H175 helicopters and Leonardo Helicopters AW139/169/189 helicopters operating under a SPA.HOFO Specific Approval are required to be fitted with HTAWS with enhanced capabilities from 1 January 2025. Helicopter Operators and the OEMs, Airbus Helicopters and Leonardo Helicopters, have indicated that the work to upgrade HTAWS cannot be completed in time to meet that implementation date.
- 2) Airbus Helicopters have proposed an alternative solution in their Technical Note ref. TN M001A0509E99 Issue A dated 30 September 2024. Leonardo Helicopters have proposed an alternative solution in their document No. MULP3440X001 Issue A dated 02 October 2024. Neither of these are considered to provide an equivalent level of safety to the requirement but may represent potential interim mitigations pending achievement of full compliance.
- 3) This exemption is granted to meet urgent operational needs to permit continued operation until 30 June 2025 while any mitigating provisions are agreed and implemented, and while programmes for achieving full compliance are produced and agreed with the respective OEMs.

Exemption

- 4) The Civil Aviation Authority ('the CAA'), pursuant to article 71(1) of UK Regulation (EU) 2018/1139, hereby exempts, subject to the conditions detailed in paragraph 6, the Operator of any Airbus Helicopters H175 helicopter or Leonardo Helicopters AW139/169/189 helicopters specified in paragraph 5 from the requirements of SPA.HOFO.160(c)(ii) of UK Regulation (EU) 965/2012 with regard to HTAWS.
- 5) This exemption only applies to Airbus Helicopters H175 helicopters and Leonardo Helicopters AW139/169/189 helicopters first issued with an individual C of A after 31 December 1999, used in CAT operations and operating under a SPA.HOFO Specific Approval.

- 6) This exemption is granted subject to the following conditions:
- a. Airbus Helicopters H175 helicopters and/or Leonardo Helicopters AW139/169/189 helicopters must be equipped with HTAWS meeting the requirements of SPA.HOFO.160(c)(i) of UK Regulation (EU) 965/2012;
 - b. Operators of Airbus Helicopters H175 helicopters and/or Leonardo Helicopters AW139/169/189 helicopters must implement any agreed mitigating provisions by 30 June 2025;
 - c. this exemption E 6244 shall be recorded in the appropriate aircraft records; and
 - d. Operators wishing to use this exemption must obtain prior approval from their assigned Flight Operations Inspector.

Date in Force

- 7) This exemption shall have effect from the date it is signed until 30 June 2025, both dates inclusive, unless previously revoked.

Rick Newson
for the Civil Aviation Authority

4 December 2024

Explanatory Note:

Paragraphs 4 and 6 of this exemption refer to specific parts of SPA.HOFO.160. At the time of writing the exemption the official version of the regulation is numbered as SPA.HOFO.160(c)(i) and SPA.HOFO.160(c)(ii). However, these references are due to be changed in the near future to SPA.HOFO.160(c)(1) and SPA.HOFO.160(c)(2) and in some (unofficial) published versions of the regulation this change has already been made.

For the sake of clarity, the following requirements are what are being referred to:

‘SPA.HOFO.160 Equipment requirements

- (c) Helicopter terrain awareness warning system (HTAWS)
- (i) Helicopters used in CAT operations with a maximum certificated take-off mass of more than 3175 kg or a MOPSC of more than 9 and first issued with an individual C of A after 31 December 2018 shall be equipped with an HTAWS that provides classic mode functionality and meets an acceptable standard.
 - (ii) From 1 January 2025, helicopters used in CAT operations with a maximum certificated take-off mass of more than 3175 kg or a MOPSC of more than 9 and first issued with an individual C of A after 31 December 1999 shall be equipped with an HTAWS configured for offshore operations as specified in an acceptable standard.’