Directorate of Airspace Policy

All NATMAC Representatives

2 Jun 2006

Ref: 8AP/65/02/66

NATMAC CONSULTATIVE LETTER

Dear Colleague,

PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE AIR NAVIGATION ORDER 2005 FOR THE PURPOSE OF IMPROVING THE TECHNICAL INTEROPERABILITY OF ALL AIRCRAFT IN THE UK

This proposal comprises the second phase of the CAA initiative to update the technology that is used for the surveillance of UK airspace in support of ATC. The first phase saw the introduction of SSR Mode S technology in major terminal and en route airspace. The aim of this second phase is to achieve a common level of technical interoperability between aircraft from all sectors of the aviation community. This will be achieved by maximising the equipage of aircraft with on-board avionics that will interact with Airborne Collision Avoidance Systems and ATC surveillance systems.

The objective of this proposal is to create an aircraft-operating environment that will improve safety throughout UK airspace. These improvements will be a vital enabling step in the efforts being made to safely manage the future increase of air traffic in UK airspace. This proposal will contribute significantly towards this safety target.

DfT has cleared this proposal, in the form of a Partial Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA), for a mandatory 12-week public consultation that will commence on 3 June and end on 29 August 06. This consultation has been produced in accordance with the principles of the Government's "Code of Practice on Consultation" which are included in the preface of the Partial RIA, which is also accompanied by a comprehensive response document that will allow all of your comments to be recorded and then considered. It is currently envisaged that the subsequent Full RIA, detailing the CAA's final proposal, will be forwarded to the Secretary of State for Transport by the end of 2006.

All responses to the Partial RIA should be submitted by 1700 on 29 August 2006, using any of the methods detailed in the Partial RIA Consultation Response Document. If you have any queries concerning the detail of this proposal, your point of contact is Andy Knill, Surveillance and Spectrum Manager (extension 6530) here at CAA House.

Yours sincerely

John Arscott

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Director

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