

27 November 2009

Dear Sir/Madam

AMENDMENT OF CAP 168: LICENSING OF AERODROMES

Introduction

CAA requirements and guidance material are reviewed regularly to ensure they remain valid, up to date and relevant, and several factors have driven the need for and timing of this amendment. These include incorporating information from NOTALs into CAP 168, development of good practice from industry, changes to technology, AAIB Safety Recommendations, and aligning UK requirements to ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) where practicable.

The Aerodrome Standards Department (ASD) has adopted the format for notifying industry of proposed changes to Civil Aviation Publications in the form of a Notice of Proposed Amendment (NPA). This is consistent with the style adopted by the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) for their requirements amendment process and the format is intended to make it easier for recipients to review the document by including only the proposed changes.

Proposed changes

In brief, the main changes to CAP168 comprise:

- Adoption into CAP 168 of NOTALs covering nominated diversion aerodromes, 'On Notice' procedures, starter extensions, intersection take-off, code F for A380 aircraft, aerodrome boundaries, and RFFS initial emergency responder;
- Incorporation of ICAO standards and recommended practices as notified in State Letter AN 4/1.2.23-09/30 (Amendment 10 to Annex 14 Vol 1);
- Updated and enhanced guidance on aerodrome Safety Management Systems and Runway Incursion prevention;
- New requirements for aerodromes with a night use licence to provide at least one illuminated wind sleeve.

In addition, several administrative changes have been incorporated throughout this amendment to CAP168, such as additional glossary items. These are not consulted upon in the NPA.

Impact on Aerodrome Licence Holders

The proposed changes are considered as having a positive safety impact and a limited economic impact. However, some of the proposals may impact on the design and operating requirements of some aerodromes.

Consultation

The CAA would now like to invite stakeholders to review the proposals and comment on the draft revision as submitted. The document can be viewed via the Consultations area of the CAA website at www.caa.co.uk/consultations.

A comment form is included with the consultation details on the web page, for completion and submission to ASD via consultation.asd@caa.co.uk.

Comments must be received by no later than **20 February 2010**.

Yours faithfully

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