

Safety Regulation Group
Approvals and Quality Assurance



The Chief Executive / Head of Design
CAA BCAR Design Approval Holders
(See attached recipient list)

19 December 2003

Our Ref: 9/35/292J

Dear Sir/Madam,

URGENT INFORMATION WHICH MAY AFFECT YOUR APPROVAL

It has been brought to our attention that companies holding a CAA BCAR design approval may be unaware of new regulations relating to the approval of minor modifications and repairs, which have previously been issued under these approvals.

With effect from 28th September 2003, when the new European Regulation entered into force, the majority of minor modifications and repairs are subject to Part 21 rules which means that their approval can only be granted either directly by the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) or by an appropriately approved Part 21 design organisation approval (DOA) organisation. Modification/repair applications requiring EASA approval can currently be submitted via the CAA. However, delays have been experienced in obtaining such EASA approval and in order to avoid the unnecessary grounding of aircraft as a result, with the agreement of the Department for Transport, CAA may issue temporary exemptions allowing release to service, pending receipt of formal notification from EASA.

In order for a UK design organisation to be granted such an exemption, application must be made for a Part 21 DOA. If your organisation is currently involved in minor modification/repair activity and you wish to seek such an exemption, then please forward a request together with a declaration of your intent to progress a Part 21 DOA application by letter, fax (01293 573976), or e-mail (aqas@srg.caa.co.uk). It should be noted that the exemptions will only last initially for a two month period and therefore requests should only be made against an actual need.

Certain classes of aircraft have not been transferred to EASA and are therefore not subject to Part 21 requirements. Modifications and repairs to such aircraft may continue to be issued against your BCAR approval where permitted within the terms of the approval. Details of aircraft not transferred to EASA may be found on the CAA website at www.caa.co.uk/srg/easa (refer to item 11).

Yours faithfully

John Marshall
Head, Approvals and Quality Assurance Section
UK CAA DOA Manager