

Issued: 03 April 2012

IMPLEMENTATION OF EASA AIRCREW REGULATION - CABIN CREW MEDICAL ASSESSMENT

This Information Notice contains information that is for guidance and/or awareness.

Recipients are asked to ensure that this Information Notice is copied to all members of their staff who may have an interest in the information (including any 'in-house' or contracted maintenance organisations and relevant outside contractors).

Applicability:	
Aerodromes:	Not primarily affected
Air Traffic:	Not primarily affected
Airspace:	Not primarily affected
Airworthiness:	Not primarily affected
Flight Operations:	All AOC Holders
Licensed/Unlicensed Personnel:	All Cabin Crew Training Organisations, All AMEs

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this Information Notice is to provide advance information to AOC Holders, Cabin Crew Training Organisations and AMEs about the changes to the requirements for cabin crew medical fitness assessment due to be implemented in the UK with effect from 8 April 2014.

2. Legislation

- 2.1 European Legislation is being enacted that will change the requirements for assessment of medical fitness for all UK cabin crew.
- 2.2 The 'Basic' EASA Regulation (Regulation (EC) No. 216/2008) contains the over-arching rules.
- 2.3 The EASA Aircrew Regulation (Regulation (EU) No. 1178/2011) has seven Annexes, including rules covering requirements for cabin crew medical fitness. Annex IV is known as Part MED and contains the Implementing Rules (IRs) for medical assessment of pilots and cabin crew. Subpart C of Part MED contains the IRs applicable to cabin crew medical assessment.
- 2.4 The EASA Aircrew Regulation is legally binding on EU Member States and is directly applicable within the UK, regardless of any UK domestic regulation.
- 2.5 EASA published Acceptable Means of Compliance and Guidance Material (AMC/GM) related to the IRs to Part MED on 15 December 2011. National Competent Authorities may publish Alternative Means of Compliance, which will be subject to scrutiny by EASA's Standardisation Directorate. The CAA will post the medical-related IRs, EASA's AMC, and any UK Alternative

Means of Compliance and Guidance Material on the CAA's web site along with other information on the implementation of Part MED.

- 2.6 The EASA Aircrew Regulation includes provisions that allow Member States to defer implementation of certain parts of the regulation so that the transition can be managed. The UK has notified the Commission that it will defer the date of implementation of all of the Annexes of the Aircrew Regulation in the UK until 1 July 2012. Subparts A, B and D of Part MED will be implemented from that date. The UK has also notified the Commission that the date of implementation of Subpart C of Part MED in the UK, the rules relating to cabin crew medical fitness, will be 8 April 2014.
- 2.7 EASA aeromedical assessments will replace the requirements for cabin crew medical examinations or assessments under Regulation (EEC) No. 3922/91 Annex III (EU-OPS) OPS 1.995 from 8 Apr 2014.

3. Requirements up to 8 April 2014

- 3.1 The requirements for cabin crew medical examinations or assessments under EU-OPS will remain in force in the UK until Subpart C of Part MED is implemented on 8 April 2014.
- 3.2 Under the EU-OPS requirements, UK operators are required to have a system for arranging periodic medical assessment of cabin crew, to maintain a medical record for each cabin crew member and to ensure that each crew member has passed a medical examination or assessment at the required intervals.
- 3.3 The EASA Regulation provides for derogation (an opt-out) from the requirements of Subpart C of Part MED by Member States of up to two years from 8 April 2012. The date of implementation of the EASA cabin crew medical requirements may be different in each State but they must be implemented in all States by 8 April 2014. Cabin crew attending for medical assessment in another State during this period should be aware that they may be issued with an EASA medical report, depending on the implementation date for that State, but that this would not be accepted as evidence of fitness by a UK operator before 8 April 2014.

4. Transition arrangements from 8 April 2014 to 7 April 2019

- 4.1 Following implementation of Subpart C of Part MED in the UK, there will be a transition period from 8 April 2014 to 7 April 2019, to allow for the phased introduction of the EASA requirements.
- 4.2 Under EASA, the medical record will be held by the AME or Occupational Health Medical Practitioner (OHMP) who carries out the aeromedical assessment. The crew member will be provided with a medical report confirming the date of the assessment, whether they are assessed as fit or unfit, the period of validity and any limitations. The crew member must provide a copy of the medical report to the operator.
- 4.3 All existing cabin crew for whom the UK operator holds a medical record, and who have been assessed as fit for cabin crew duties under EU-OPS requirements before 8 April 2014, will have 'grandfather rights' for the remaining period of validity of the EU-OPS assessment. These cabin crew will require an EASA periodic aeromedical assessment and report at the first revalidation/renewal date after 7 April 2014.
- 4.4 All existing cabin crew for whom the UK operator holds a medical record and who have previously worked as cabin crew with that operator, but who have not been assessed as fit for cabin crew duties under EU-OPS requirements before 8 April 2014 eg, staff who have taken a career break or had a period of employment in a ground role, will require an EASA periodic aeromedical assessment and report before acting as cabin crew.
- 4.5 Cabin crew who have been assessed as fit for cabin crew duties under EU-OPS requirements before 8 April 2014 and transfer to another UK operator will also have 'grandfather rights' for

the remaining period of validity of the EU-OPS assessment, provided that the crew member's medical record has been transferred to the new employer and the new operator's medical adviser has confirmed that they are fit for cabin crew duties. These cabin crew will require an EASA periodic aeromedical assessment and report at the first revalidation/renewal date after 7 April 2014.

- 4.6 Cabin crew who join or transfer to a UK operator but who have not been assessed as fit for cabin crew duties under EU-OPS requirements before 8 April 2014, or who have been assessed as fit under EU-OPS requirements before 8 April 2014 but for whom the new operator does not hold the previous medical record, or who do not already hold a valid EASA medical report, will require an EASA initial aeromedical assessment and report.
- 4.7 All new entrant cabin crew who have not been assessed as fit for cabin crew duties under EU-OPS before 8 April 2014 will require an EASA initial aeromedical assessment and report before acting as cabin crew.
- 4.8 All cabin crew members must hold a valid EASA medical report from 8 April 2019.
- 4.9 No assessment of fitness for cabin crew duties under EU-OPS requirements will remain valid after 7 April 2019.

5. Procedures for cabin crew

- 5.1 When attending for an initial EASA cabin crew aeromedical assessment, the cabin crew member must show the AME or OHMP proof of identification. When attending for a periodic EASA aeromedical assessment, the cabin crew member must show the AME or OHMP proof of identification and either their current EASA medical report (or previous report, if expired), or confirmation from an operator of previous satisfactory assessment under EU OPS (including period of validity), or confirmation from their current UK operator of previous employment as cabin crew by that operator.
- 5.2 Holders of an EASA cabin crew medical report who experience a decrease in medical fitness should seek the advice of the AME or OHMP who issued their report.
- 5.3 Cabin crew members who do not fully meet the medical requirements may be assessed as fit for cabin crew duties if complying with one or more limitations. The limitations may be applied by an AME or OHMP, but may only be removed by an AME or by an OHMP in consultation with an AME.

6. Conduct of cabin crew medical examinations and assessments

- 6.1 All UK AMEs will be authorised to conduct EASA cabin crew aeromedical assessments and to issue medical reports from 8 April 2014.
- 6.2 An OHMP who wishes to conduct EASA cabin crew aeromedical assessments must notify the CAA of their intended activity at least 2 working days in advance of their first aeromedical assessment. Details of the web-based notification procedure will be published on the CAA web site in advance of the implementation of the EASA Regulations.
- 6.3 Cabin crew will be able to apply for an EASA aeromedical assessment with an AME or OHMP of any EASA State. A UK operator should accept a cabin crew medical report issued by an AME or OHMP of another EASA State, but only after the implementation of Subpart C of Part MED in the UK on 8 April 2014.

7. Further information

- 7.1 Further information on cabin crew medical requirements and medical limitations will be published on the CAA's website on the medical homepage under 'What's New' <http://www.caa.co.uk/default.aspx?catid=49&pagetype=87> when available.

7.2 Sample aeromedical assessment forms and a sample medical report form will be provided with the AMCs and Guidance Material in due course.

8. Queries

8.1 Any queries or further guidance required as a result of this communication should be addressed to medicalweb@caa.co.uk

9. Cancellation

9.1 This Information Notice shall remain in force until further notice.