



Issued: 3 March 2016

CAA Information Bulletin on EASA Developments – 26 January to 3 March 2016

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:	All ATC, FIS and ANSPs
Airspace:	All NATMAC Members
Airworthiness:	All Airworthiness Organisations
Flight Operations:	All AOC Holders and General Aviation Pilots
Licensed/Unlicensed Personnel:	All Training Organisations, All Pilots and Maintenance Engineers

1 Introduction

1.1 This Information Notice provides highlights of EASA developments and CAA activities covering the period 26 January 2016 to 3 March 2016.

2 EASA Committee

2.1 The EASA Committee met on 17-18 February 2016. The agenda covered the following substantive items:

- i) Update on on-going Commission adoption procedures – *Information by the Commission*
 - **Regulation 1178/2011 Flight Crew Licensing, amendment delaying the implementation of the provisions for third country pilots licences.** The Commission advised that the amendment is moving through the Council and Parliament co-decision process and should be in place by 8 April 2016. The change is intended to allow additional time to conclude a change to the EU-US bilateral aviation safety agreement to include new arrangements for Flight Crew Licensing.

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- ii) Draft Commission Regulation amending Commission Regulation (EU) No. 965/2012 as regards operational approval of performance-based navigation, certification and oversight of data services providers and helicopter offshore operations, and correcting that Regulation – *Discussion and possible vote*
 - Following changes made to entry into force provisions to address Member States' concerns arising from the last EASA Committee meeting, Member States voted on the revised proposal. A positive vote was made with only one State voting against the proposal.
 - iii) Draft Commission Regulation amending Commission Regulation (EU) No. 1321/2014 as regards the introduction of B2L and L Part-66 licences, the modification of the acceptance procedure of components from external suppliers and the modification of the Part-147 organisation privileges - *Discussion and possible vote*,
 - The Member States present voted unanimously for the proposal.
 - iv) Draft Commission Regulation amending Commission Regulation (EU) No. 452/2014 as regards the technical requirements and administrative procedures relating to air operations of Third Country Operators - *Discussion and possible vote*
 - The Member States present voted unanimously for the proposal.
 - v) EASA Opinion No. 01/2016 on revision of the European operational rules for balloons – *Orientation discussion*
 - The Commission briefed Member States on their proposals for a specific regulation addressing the Balloon Operations. The Member States considered the proposals to be an appropriate and proportionate response for the ballooning Community.
 - vi) EASA Opinion No. 06/2015 on commercial air transport aeroplane operations at night or in IMC using single-engine turbine aeroplanes (CAT SET/IMC) – *Orientation discussion*
 - The Commission briefed the Member States on their proposals. The response was broadly positive with some States asking for some more detailed information before committing to all aspects of the proposal.
 - vii) Drones: EASA technical opinion of 18 December 2015 on the introduction of a regulatory framework for the operation of unmanned aircraft and further steps – *Discussion*
 - EASA presented their proposed framework for the operation of drones within the Community. The presentation was based on the content of A-NPA-2015-10 and the comments received through the A-NPA consultation process. The Member States welcomed the proposals and looked forward to the Commission synchronising the development of this proposal with the changes being proposed to the EASA Basic Regulation. This would enable the establishment of a harmonised European regulatory framework to be brought into effect shortly after the Basic Regulation is amended.
 - viii) EU-ICAO Synchronisation: update – *Information by the Commission*
 - EASA and the Commission are keen to ensure that Member States' responses to ICAO State letters are well coordinated. They explained how they intend to improve their communication protocols to ensure that there is sufficient time for a common European position to be agreed before Member States respond to State Letters. EASA also briefed on their recent updates to the ICAO Annex compliance checklists produced by the Agency for most annexes, which are intended to help Member States compile their detailed compliance submissions to ICAO.
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ix) Any Other Business (AOB)

- **Update on BASAs (Bilateral Aviation Safety Agreements) – Information by the Commission**

EASA briefed on proposals from the Commission to start discussions with China and Japan on new bilateral aviation safety agreements. The discussions are intended to be limited to aircraft certification and maintenance at this stage.

EU-US

It is expected that the Technical Implementation Procedures for aircraft, engine and equipment certification will be revised by Bilateral Oversight Board decision during February 2016. This will allow reciprocal acceptance of TSO and ETSO items without validation by the other party; and the validation of basic STCs through a new non-technical review process. These changes are intended to reduce the burden and costs to organisations, the FAA and EASA.

EU-Canada Agreement

There is an intention to create a new annex to the agreement addressing Flight Crew Licensing. Discussions are at an early stage.

EU- Brazil Agreement

The EU and Brazilian authorities are pleased with progress made on the initial application of the new safety agreement. The first oversight board meeting will be held soon. This may result in changes to the Maintenance Annex Guidance being agreed that will address minor issues identified during the initial implementation of the agreement.

3 Other Rulemaking Topics3.1 *Carriage of special categories of passengers*

EASA published [Executive Director \(ED\) Decision 2016/004/R](#) on Carriage of special categories of passengers amending AMC and GM to Commission Regulation (EU) No. 965/2012, on 22 January 2016.

3.2 *Single European Sky (SES)*

Progress on all SES activities is covered in the [SES Bulletin](#) which is published periodically.

4 CAA Responses to NPAs and CRDs4.1 The CAA made comments on the following EASA consultations since the last update ([IN-2016/014](#)) was published:

NPA 2015-17	Airworthiness Review Process
NPA 2015-18	Update of the Rules on Air Operations (Air OPS Regulation – all Annexes and related AMC/GM) – Parts A and B
NPA 2015-19	Executive Interior Accommodation
NPA 2015-20	Review of the Aircrew Regulation in order to provide a system for private pilot training outside Approved Training Organisations (ATOs), and of the associated acceptable means of compliance and guidance material

4.2 The CAA had no comments on the following EASA consultation since the last update was published:

NPA 2015-18	Update of the Rules on Air Operations (Air OPS Regulation – all Annexes and related AMC/GM) – Part C
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4.3 [CAA responses on NPA and CRD consultations](#) can be viewed on the CAA website.

5 Commonly used Abbreviations in EASA Bulletin

- 5.1 A list of commonly used abbreviations used in our EASA Bulletins and their meanings are provided as an **Annex** to this Information Notice. The Annex also includes a link to the standard list of terms used to describe the high-level EASA regulations.

6 Queries

- 6.1 Any queries as a result of this communication should be addressed to the **European.Affairs@caa.co.uk** e-mail address.

7 Cancellation

- 7.1 This Information Notice will remain in force until 2 September 2016.

Annex Commonly used Abbreviations in CAA EASA Information Bulletin

ACAS	Airborne Collision Avoidance System
AMC/GM	Acceptable Means of Compliance / Guidance Material
ANS	Air Navigation Services
AR/OR	Authority Requirements / Organisation Requirements
ATCO	Air Traffic Control Officer
ATM	Air Traffic Management
CC	Cabin Crew
CRD	Comment Response Document
EAB	EASA Advisory Board
EASP EASp	EASA Aviation Safety Programme EASA Aviation Safety Plan
FABS	Finance and Business Services
FCL	Flight Crew Licensing
FTL	Flight Time Limitations
GA	General Aviation
IMC	Instrument Meteorological Conditions
IR	Implementing Rule
MED	Medical
NAA	National Aviation Authority
NPA	Notice of Proposed Amendment
NSA	National Supervisory Authority
OJEU	Official Journal of the European Union
OPS-NCO/NCC	Operations - non-commercial operations with other than complex motor-powered aircraft / non-commercial operations with complex motor-powered aircraft
OPS-SPO/CAT (S+B)	Operations - specialised operations / commercial air transport operations for sailplanes and balloons
OPS-CAT/SPA	Operations - Commercial air transport operations and specific approvals
OSD	Operational Suitability Data
RAG	Rulemaking Advisory Group
SERA	Standardised European Rules of the Air
SES	Single European Sky
SSCC	Safety Standards Consultative Committee
TAG	Thematic Advisory Group
TCO	Third Country Operators

Note: A further list of standard terms used to describe the EASA Regulations can be found at: [EASA Terminology](#).