

Supplementary Amendment CAP 670 ATS Safety Requirements

Safety and Airspace Regulation Group
Airspace, ATM and Aerodromes



Number: CAP670/SA/2026/01

Issued: 12 March 2026

Effective: 7 May 2026

Addition of SSR A7400 as a Special Purpose Code

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this Supplementary Amendment (SA) to the Air Traffic Services Safety Requirements (CAP 670) is to add the SSR code A7400 to the list of Special Purpose Codes. This Supplementary Amendment has been issued as a consequence of changes to the Manual of Air Traffic Services (MATS) Part 1 (CAP 493) and the associated Supplementary Instruction CAP493/SI/2026/01.

2. Background

- 2.1 The UK SSR Code Allocation Plan lists A7400 as 'UAS/RPA Lost Link', and notes that "*This conspicuity code shall be used by Unmanned Aerial [sic] Systems/Remotely Piloted Aircraft that have lost communications with their remote pilot and are following a pre-programmed Lost Link flight profile.*"
- 2.2 Unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) operating beyond visual line of sight (BVLOS) within controlled airspace are currently subject to prior coordination and pre-flight briefing between the operator and affected air traffic services (ATS) units. This briefing will include information on the procedure that the unmanned aircraft (UA) has been programmed to follow in the event of a loss of its command and control datalink (lost C2 link), which is specific to the individual flight path of the UA.
- 2.3 SSR code A7400 is a special purpose emergency code that indicates that a UA operating BVLOS is in a lost C2 link state.

3. Amendment to the ATS Safety Requirements (CAP 670)

- 3.1 With effect from 7 May 2026, the ATS Safety Requirements are amended as shown at Appendix B. This change will be incorporated into the CAP 670 at the next amendment.
- 3.2 An associated Supplementary Instruction CAP493/SI/2026/01 to the Manual of Air Traffic Services (MATS) Part 1 (CAP 493) has been published that reflects the changes made in this SA.

4. Queries

- 4.1 Any queries or further guidance required on the content of this SA should be marked for the attention of Airspace & ATM Policy and sent to ats.enquiries@caa.co.uk
- 4.2 Any queries relating to the availability of this SA should be marked for the attention of Safety & Airspace Regulation and sent to ats.documents@caa.co.uk

5. Cancellation

- 5.1 This SA shall remain in force until it is incorporated into CAP 670 or is cancelled, suspended or amended.

Appendix A**Impact Analysis in Relation to CAP670/SA/2026/01****1 Introduction**

- 1.1 CAP670/SA/2026/01 is intended to add the SSR 3A code 7400 to the list of Special Purpose Codes.

2 Impact Analysis**2.1 Safety Impact. Positive / Negligible / No / Negative**

- 2.1.1 This amendment improves safety by highlighting the loss of the command and control link, enabling ANSPs to take appropriate mitigating action.

2.2 Financial Impact. Positive / Negligible / No / Negative

- 2.2.1 This amendment might result in amendment to local ANSP documentation and equipment configuration.

2.3 Security Impact. Positive / Negligible / No / Negative

- 2.3.1 This amendment does not affect security.

2.4 Environmental Impact. Positive / Negligible / No / Negative

- 2.4.1 This amendment does not affect the environment.

2.5 Efficiency Impact. Positive / Negligible / No / Negative

- 2.5.1 This amendment improves efficiency by highlighting the loss of the command and control link, improving the situational awareness of ATS personnel.

2.6 Equality Impact. Positive / Negligible / No / Negative

- 2.6.1 This amendment does not affect people who are protected under the Equality Act 2010. While stakeholder comments referred to the use of the term 'unmanned', CAP 670 content must reflect regulatory terminology.

Appendix B

Part C

Section 3 : Surveillance

SUR 11: Display System Requirements for Surveillance Systems

Part 2 Requirements – Display System Technical Characteristics

Special Purpose Codes

SUR11.38 The equipment shall draw the attention of the controller by flashing the associated label if it detects one of the emergency codes listed below ~~(569)~~:

- 7700 : SOS
- 7600 : RT FAIL
- 7500 : HIJACK
- 7400 : LST LNK