



SAFETY REGULATION DIVISION

AERONAUTICAL SERVICES  
ADVISORY MEMORANDUM

ASAM No: 28/11

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Issue Date: 1/07/2011

## Approval of Unlicensed Aerodromes for Flight Training

### 1. Flight Training at Unlicensed Aerodromes

Flight training is an aerial work activity which may only be conducted at an aerodrome which is licensed in accordance with the Aerodromes and Visual Ground Aids Order (S.I. 355 of 2008) or an aerodrome which is otherwise prescribed as suitable by the Authority.

The Irish Aviation Authority will provide the means for Flight Training Facilities (RTFs), which are registered with the Authority and which also propose to provide flight training for the Private Pilot Licence (PPL), at an aerodrome which is not licensed in accordance with the Aerodromes and Visual Ground Aids Order (S.I. 355 of 2008).

This document sets out the criteria for the Authority to prescribe a certain aerodrome as suitable in accordance with clause 5(1)(b) of S.I 355 of 2008 to permit an RTF to conduct flight training without the requirement for the aerodrome to be licensed.

In the event the criteria are not met, a formal license under clause 5(1)(a) of S.I 355 of 2008 shall be required.

### 2. PROCEDURE

This procedure is intended to cater for a small Aerodrome which accommodates an RTF providing training for the Private Pilot Licence. The RTF shall nominate a person acceptable to the Authority who shall be responsible for the safe operation of the aerodrome during flight training operations.

If the nature of operations at an aerodrome are considered complex,(high traffic volumes, airspace restrictions and multiple RTF's operating at the aerodrome,) this procedure is not applicable and the aerodrome will need to be licensed to ensure a clear responsibility for the safe operation of the aerodrome.

RTF registration is processed by the General Aviation Section of the Flight Operations Department (GA - FOD). This section is responsible for the overall RTF approval, and will liaise with the aerodromes Section of ASD as appropriate and be the sole point of contact for the applicant.



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### 3. AERODROME REQUIREMENTS

The aerodrome at which flying training is being conducted shall have at least the following facilities:

(1) at least one runway or take-off area that allows training aircraft to make a normal take-off or landing at the maximum take-off or maximum landing mass authorised, as appropriate,

(i) under calm wind (not more than four knots) conditions and temperatures equal to the mean high temperature for the hottest month of the year in the operating area,

(ii) clearing all obstacles in the take-off flight path by at least 50 feet,

(iii) with the powerplant operation and the landing gear and flap operation (if applicable) recommended by the manufacturer, and

(iv) with a smooth transition from lift-off to the best rate of climb speed without exceptional piloting skills or techniques;

(2) a wind direction indicator that is visible at ground level from the ends of each runway;

(3) a means of air/ground communications as deemed appropriate by the Authority.

(4) Rescue and fire fighting equipment should be at least the "Special Category" defined in ALM 003.

(5) Have prepared an aerodrome manual which should contain the information specified in ALM 003.

### 4. APPLICATION

An applicant for an RTF or an existing RTF holder who wishes to avail of this aerodrome approval should submit:

(i) A chart of the aerodrome, indicating the runway, its orientation, dimensions, slopes, and any obstacles in the surrounding environment.

(ii) An Aerodrome Manual prepared in accordance with the requirements of ALM 003.

(iii) Evidence of aerodrome insurance conforming to the schedule contained in S.I. 138 of 1988.



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These should be added as appendices to the RTF operations manual and shall be submitted to the IAA for approval. The Authority may conduct a formal inspection of the site and its facilities.

Any deficiencies in the submitted information will be communicated to the applicant, who will then be afforded the opportunity to make amendments.

#### **5. NOTES**

An Aerodrome approval issued in accordance with this procedure will be issued by the Aerodromes Section of ASD and sent to GA - FOD who will forward the approval to the applicant as an attachment to the RTF registration. The approval will be valid for the duration of the validity of the RTF, provided there are no significant changes to the aerodrome.

An aerodrome so approved will still be considered as unlicensed and aerodrome data will not be promulgated by AIS.