

**IRELAND**  
SAFETY REGULATION DIVISION  
IRISH AVIATION AUTHORITY  
THE TIMES BUILDING  
11-12 D'OLIER ST  
DUBLIN 2

**AERONAUTICAL  
NOTICE**

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Tel +353 1 6718655 Fax +353 1 6774068 AFTN *EIDWYOYX*

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**NATIONALITY AND REGISTRATION OF AIRCRAFT**

The Irish Aviation Authority in pursuance of Article 19 of the Irish Aviation Authority (Nationality and Registration of Aircraft) Order 2005, S.I. 634 of 2005 hereby makes the following Direction.

Classification of Aircraft: 'Definitions'

For the purpose of aircraft registration on the Irish civil aircraft register the following definitions apply.

1. Rotorcraft.<sup>1</sup>

A power-driven heavier-than-air aircraft supported in flight by the reactions of the air on one or more rotors.

2. Helicopter.

A heavier than air aircraft, supported in flight chiefly by the reactions of the air on one or more power-driven rotors on substantially vertical axes.

3. Gyroplane.

A heavier than air aircraft supported in flight by the reactions of the air on one or more rotors which rotate freely on substantially vertical axes.

4. Ornithopter.

A heavier-than-air aircraft supported in flight chiefly by the reactions of the air on planes to which a flapping motion is imparted.

5. Glider.

A non power driven heavier than air aircraft, deriving its lift in flight chiefly from aerodynamic reaction on surfaces which remain fixed under given conditions of flight.

6. Remotely Piloted Aircraft (RPA).

Is an unmanned aircraft, which is piloted from a remote pilot station.

Aircraft that are intended to be operated with no pilot on board shall be classified as 'Unmanned'. Unmanned aircraft shall include unmanned free balloons and remotely piloted aircraft.

Identification Plate: Shall be secured to the remotely piloted aircraft (RPA) in a prominent position near the main entrance or compartment or affixed conspicuously to the exterior of the aircraft if there is no main entrance or compartment, and shall include information regarding the operator of aircraft on the identification plate.

Lighter than Air Aircraft.

If a lighter than air aircraft does not possess parts of sufficient size to accommodate the marks as prescribed by Annex 7 Chapter 5 of the Chicago Convention, the measurements of the marks shall be determined by the Authority, taking account of the need for the aircraft to be identified readily.

Registration Marks not Issued by the Authority.

To avoid confusion, the five-letter combination used in the International code of signals and three-letter combination beginning with Q used in the Q code and distress signals or other similar urgent signals are not issued by the Authority to aircraft: for example PAN, SOS, XXX. The Authority no longer issues the letter Q in the registration mark.

This Direction revokes and replaces Aeronautical Notice G11 at issue 1 dated 03/02/2010.

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<sup>1</sup> The requirement for registration of "Rotorcraft" per Irish Aviation Authority (Nationality and Registration of Aircraft) Order 2005, S.I. 634 of 2005 also applies to "Helicopter" and "Gyroplane".