
IRELAND

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AERONAUTICAL NOTICE

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NOTICE TO OPERATORS REQUIRING IRISH AVIATION AUTHORITY (IAA) AUTHORISATION TO CONDUCT HIGH RISK COMMERCIAL SPECIALISED OPERATIONS

GENERAL

Commission Regulation (EU) 965/2012 as amended, requires that: *The competent authority should make publically available a list of activities of high-risk commercial specialised operations so that operators are informed when to apply for an authorisation.*

The Authority requirements for issuing an authorisation for high-risk commercial specialised operations (SPO) are detailed in Annex II, and the operator requirements to conduct commercial SPO are detailed in Annex III and Annex VIII of Commission Regulation (EU) 965/2012 as amended.

Any Operator intending to conduct high-risk commercial SPO activity shall be required to obtain prior approval when:

- operations are conducted over an area where the safety of third parties on the ground is likely to be endangered in the event of an emergency or,
- the operation, as determined by the competent authority of the place where the operation is conducted, due to its specific nature and the local environment in which it is conducted, poses a high risk, in particular to third parties on the ground.

AUTHORISATION OF CROSS-BORDER HIGH RISK COMMERCIAL SPO

Cross-border high-risk commercial SPO means a high risk commercial SPO in a territory other than the Member State than where the operator has its principle place of business.

Operators should note that when submitting an application for the initial issue or amendment to an authorisation to conduct cross-border SPO, the competent authority of the operator shall review the operator's risk assessment documentation and standard operating procedures (SOP) in coordination with the competent authority of the place where the operation is planned to be conducted. When both authorities are satisfied with the application, the competent authority of the operator shall issue or amend the authorisation as appropriate.

LIST OF HIGH RISK OPERATIONS

The following is a list of activities, which include (but are not limited), to high-risk activities requiring the operator to hold an authorisation when conducting commercial SPO in Ireland:

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- HESLO/HEC operations
 - Towing of object(s) including aerial advertising.
 - Dropping or spraying of articles.
 - Power line inspections.
 - Surveying, including helicopter survey operations, aerial mapping, pollution control activity.
 - Air to air filming and air to ground filming over congested areas, including photography flights, news media flights, television and movie flights
 - Specialised Operations involving aerobatic manoeuvres/sensational flights, which pose a high risk, in particular to third parties on the ground.

Note: This list shall be amended by the Authority to include additional activities as deemed appropriate. If an operator is in any doubt regarding the requirement for an authorisation, clarification with the IAA Flight Operations Department (FOD) will be a prerequisite prior to commencement of the operation. For further information, please contact fod@iaa.ie

A high-risk authorisation may only be issued for a limited duration and each application will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. The conditions under which an operator is authorised to conduct one or more high risk commercial SPO shall be specified in the authorisation (Appendix VI to Annex II of Regulation 965/2012), including if applicable, those areas for which the operator has received the authorisation to conduct any cross-border high risk commercial SPO.

The verification process by the IAA for the issue of a high-risk commercial SPO authorisation will require the operator to submit their application and supporting documentation in a timely manner prior to the commencement of the operation, to facilitate any audits/inspections and demonstrations flights as deemed appropriate by the IAA.

Some high-risk activities may require prior permission from the Authority in accordance with Commission Regulation (EU) No 923/2012, SERA, as applicable. Requests for such a permission will require the operator to submit a specific risk assessment to support their application.

Operators from other member states intending to conduct high risk activities in Ireland are required to email the following operational information to fod@iaa.ie 48 hours in advance of the commencement of the activity: copy of high risk authorisation from EU Member State, aircraft type and registration, description of high risk activity to be conducted, and location and duration.

Fees for the issue and/or amendment to an authorisation and/or permission will apply in accordance with IAA Fees Order S.I. No. 523 of 2015.

**Chief Executive
Irish Aviation Authority**