



SAFETY ALERT 2019-03

Issue 01

Date of Issue: 4th November 2019

SUBJECT:

NON-ROUTINE OPERATIONS FOR ANSPs AND AIRCRAFT OPERATORS

REFERENCE PUBLICATIONS:

N/A

REASON:

In review of the outcomes of the accident occurred on 16th May 2019 related to a loss of control on approach during runway lighting calibration flight, there is opportunity for enhancing the management of non-routine operations.

This Safety Alert is to issue recommendations to Air Navigation Service Providers & Aircraft Operators.

'Non-routine operations' are by nature operations that require additional focus, such as but not limited to:

- Acrobatic/Aerobatic flights
- Aerial work, such as agriculture, construction, photography, surveying, aerial advertisement etc.
- Air shows/events
- Airship
- Calibration flights
- Cross-country flight
- Experimental and Test flights
- Formation flights
- Military Exercises
- Parachute Jumping Exercises
- RPAS, UAS, UAV and Drones and similar
- Spaceflights, e.g. space-tourism or high-speed transport
- Special events
- Special Head of State and VVIP/VIP flights
- Subsonic/Supersonic flights
- Unmanned free balloon
- Wingman

RECOMMENDATION 1:

- a) Air Navigation Service Providers should ensure that their management system takes into consideration the management of non-routine operations, based on a management of change process to determine:
- 1) the type of flight rules that will be used, i.e. IFR or VFR (including SVFR);



- 2) the conditions for provision of air traffic services and flight information services in applicable airspace classes;
 - 3) applicable separation minima to be applied;
 - 4) priorities in respect to all other traffic;
 - 5) need for sterilisation and protection of affected areas;
 - 6) arrival, departure and sector capacity;
 - 7) dedicated frequency to be used to reduce or prevent frequency congestion;
 - 8) requirement of passing of traffic information;
 - 9) requirement of issuing traffic information;
 - 10) any necessary wake turbulence procedures;
 - 11) phraseology guidelines with examples; and
 - 12) the level of training and competences required by ATCO when engaged in such types of operations.
- b) When necessary, pre-flight briefings should be held with relevant flight crew, ground staff and affected ATS personnel prior to the commencement to ensure they have a solid understanding of the operations, and their roles and responsibilities; and
- c) Air Navigation Service Providers should ensure that they have the ultimate authority to delay or suspend the operation.

RECOMMENDATION 2:

Aircraft operators engaged in non-routine operations should:

- a) have a mechanism to enhance collaboration with ANSP to ensure safe operations;
- b) conduct a risk assessment to provide adequate information to ATS on which to base management of change processes; and
- c) comply with all ATC requirements.

CONTACT:

General Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA)

Air Navigation & Aerodromes Department

Email: ana@gcaa.gov.ae

or

Flight Operations Department

Email: fops@gcaa.gov.ae