



SAFETY DECISION 2020-16

Issue 01

Date of Issue: May 07, 2020

SUBJECT:

FLEXIBILITY PROVISIONS DUE TO NOVEL CORONAVIRUS FOR AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE ENGINEER LICENCE HOLDERS, MAINTENANCE TRAINING ORGANISATIONS AND MAINTENANCE ORGANISATIONS

REFERENCE PUBLICATIONS:

SAFETY DECISION 2020-01

APPLICABILITY:

This Safety Decision shall be applicable up to 30 November 2020, unless otherwise specified.

INTRODUCTION:

The socio-economic impact of the novel coronavirus is yet to be assessed. It has already resulted in drastic restrictions and arrangements preventing licence holders, Maintenance Training Organisations and Maintenance Organisations from timely completing the necessary training, endorsing or revalidating licences, authorisations etc. and hence ensuring that their ratings and other privileges are revalidated prior to expiry.

As a result of the aforementioned unforeseen circumstances, the GCAA:

- a) found it necessary to reduce the severity of the disruptions; and
- b) would like to present today an immediate response to mitigate the socio-economic impact of the COVID-19 outbreak while assuring an acceptable level of safety.

This Safety Decision is issued to adopt additional provisions to:

- a) provide extensions and flexibility to licences, ratings, and certificates issued by the GCAA for CAR-66/CAR-145 (Requirement No.1)
- b) provide extensions and flexibility to licences, ratings, and certificates issued by the GCAA for CAR-147 (Requirement No.2)
- c) defer the GCAA fee payments (limited to Aviation Safety Activities) up to 1st July 2020 and (Requirement No.3)
- d) allow issuance of approvals, variations to the scope of approval or other authorisations issued by the GCAA by email (Requirement No.3); and
- e) provide extensions and flexibility to Certifying and Support Staff Individual Authorisation issued by a CAR-145 Organisation (Requirement No.5).

This SAFETY DECISION cancels and supersedes Safety Decision 2020-04 with regards to AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE ENGINEER LICENCE HOLDERS requirements and flexibilities, however any extension and flexibility given based on Safety Decision 2020-04 FLEXIBILITY PROVISIONS DUE TO NOVEL CORONAVIRUS – ISSUE 01 shall remain valid if extended before the entry into force of this SAFETY DECISION.

DISCLAIMER:

- a) **If any other flexibility provision is sought, organisations shall communicate the same to their principal inspector for future consideration.**



- b) This SAFETY DISCISION has been approved electronic by HE the Director General of the GCAA – hence it does not bear any stamp or signature. To verify its authenticity, kindly check on GCAA website: [https://www.gcaa.gov.ae/en/ePublication/Pages/OperationalDirectives.aspx?CertID=\(DIR\)](https://www.gcaa.gov.ae/en/ePublication/Pages/OperationalDirectives.aspx?CertID=(DIR))**

REQUIREMENT NO.1: CAR-66:

- a) Subject to fulfilling the applicable mitigating conditions as specified in point b) below, with regard to AMEL Licences, ratings or Temporary Validation issued by the GCAA under the provisions of CAR 66, the following shall apply:
- i) Provided that the regular validity period expires before 31 July 2020, that validity period is automatically extended by 8 months from the date of expiry of the licence. However, CAR 66 AMEL and Temporary Validation holders shall only exercise the certification privileges associated with their licence or Temporary Validation when no action is pending pursuant to revocation, suspension or limitation of the AMEL or Temporary Validation. This privilege does not apply to AMEL Licences, ratings or Temporary Validation that expired before 1st March 2020.
 - ii) For the conversion of a non UAE licence:
 - 1) Applicants who hold a non UAE licence identified as category 1 in GM 66.70(d), completion of module 10 examination (Aviation Legislation) may be substituted by the completion of a module 10 approved training course and assessment conducted by a CAR 147 approved Maintenance Training Organisation.
 - 2) Applicants who hold a non-UAE licence identified as category 2 in GM 66.70(d), completion of both module 9 (Human Factors) and module 10 (Aviation Legislation) examinations may be substituted by the completion of module 9 and 10 approved training course and assessment conducted by a CAR 147 approved Maintenance Training Organisation.
 - 3) The assessment required by (a)(ii)(1) and (a)(ii)(2) shall be determined by the MTO to assess the learning objectives and documented for further reference.
- b) To exercise the privileges of an AMEL or Temporary Validation extended as per point a) shall be subject to the issuance of a new authorisation by the AMO (refer to Requirement no. 5).

REQUIREMENT NO.2: CAR 147

CAR 147 Basic approved maintenance Training Organisations may be allowed some flexibility from the 90% attendance requirements provided that all the following conditions are satisfied:

- a) The GCAA is informed in writing to the nominated inspector;
- b) Students remain in direct contact with their school / college or University via distance learning methods (internet-based application such as online courses and webinar events) provided means to record is documented for further reference;
- c) The distance learning methodology for students is pre-approved by the GCAA;
- d) Attendance is recorded;
- e) Attendance requirement (other than learning methods) prescribed by the rule is complied with.
- f) Such practice is oversighted by the CAR 147 MTO's quality system;

REQUIREMENT NO.3

Payment of fees related to GCAA services for aviation safety activities (excluded Air Navigation Services) shall be deferred up to 1st July 2020. Fee related to the service not collected will be recollected at next transaction with GCAA.



REQUIREMENT NO.4

Due to the current unforeseen circumstance, certificates or other authorisations issued by GCAA may be processed by email.

REQUIREMENT No.5: CAR 145

AMO may extend, for a maximum period of 6 months, the validity of Individual Certifying or Support Staff Authorization (CAR-145.35(g)) expiring on or before 1st August 2020 subject to the following conditions:

- a) The organisation has established and implemented a documented and (internally) approved process for the issuance and monitoring of extended Individual Authorisation. Issuance and monitoring of those extensions shall be placed under the responsibility of the Quality Assurance System;
- b) The extension of Individual Authorisation is limited to existing scope of work. No extension of scope of work or removal of limitation shall be allowed;
- c) The organisation maintains individual's authorisation file/record in accordance with current approved record keeping system;
- d) The organisation provides the holder of an Individual authorization with an extension letter. Any new limitation arising from the risk assessment required below shall be stated, understood and acknowledged by the holder; and
- e) Prior to each extension, the organisation:
 - i) ensures that the holder of an authorization is unable to renew his/her authorization due to COVID-19 pandemic restrictions (mainly Continuation/Human Factor/Fuel Tank Safety/EWIS trainings not completed);
 - ii) ensures that the current authorisation is valid¹, not cancelled, not suspended or not revoked;
 - iii) conducts a Risk Assessment to identify and mitigate hazards created by the inability to comply with CAR-145.35(g) to ensure that the holder's competency (including knowledge of applicable regulation and organisation's procedures) and experience (including recent experience as per 145.35(c)) do not compromise safety. The organisation may decide to implement mitigation measures such as distance learning, self-reading, competency assessment, etc.. to verify competency; and
 - iv) ensures that the holder of the authorization has no records of any adverse residual finding/observation/concern related to his/her competency.

CONTACT: 3

Further instructions or guidance may be obtained through:

CAR 66 AMEL and CAR-147 MTO matters to send email to: Lamelicensing@gcaa.gov.ae

CAR 145 AMO matters to send email to: AirworthinessCAR145@gcaa.gov.ae

¹ Not applicable to authorisations that have expired since 1st March 2020.