


<p style="text-align: center;">SOUTH AFRICAN</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY</p>	<p>REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA</p> <p>CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY</p>	<p>CAA Private Bag x 73 Halfway House 1685</p>
<p>Tel: (011) 545-1000 Fax: (011) 545-1465 E-Mail: mail@caa.co.za</p>	<p>AERONAUTICAL INFORMATION CIRCULAR</p>	<p>AIC 20-21 19 SEP 2013</p>

OPERATION OF AIRCRAFT

GENERAL

TETHERED AEROSTAT DEPLOYMENT – VAAL REEF MINES – NEAR KLERKSDORP
(S265754.49, E0264655.72)

The Tethered Aerostat comprising of helium filled tethered zeppelin, carrying a payload inclusive of surveillance equipment, communications and Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) systems.

The purpose for the deployment of this Aerostat platform is to expand the security parameters and range of the operational Situational Awareness capacity at the said mine.

Actual dates, times and deployment details will be announced via Notice To Airmen (NOTAM) and coordinated via the Central Airspace Management Unit (CAMU) and the relevant Air Traffic Services Unit (ATSU).

Once airborne, the operations platform will be providing significant and relevant information to the ground based Mine Operations Security Team.

Deployment is planned as follows:

- (a) *Up to 1st October 2013, time will be required to ensure all affected members of the Air Traffic Management (ATM) Community and relevant stakeholders are briefed and adequately informed.*
- (b) *Initial launch is planned for 1st October 2013 from a fixed location at Vaal Reef Mines, near Orkney in the North West Province. The nearest Airfield to the site is Bothaville and Klerksdorp. The Aerostat will not exceed 1000 FT AGL. The Aerostat will be tethered from a specially prepared site within the Mine complex. The Aerostat will only be deployed in Visual Meteorological Conditions (VMC).*

It is imperative that air traffic, particularly low flying helicopters traversing the said area ensure that the location of the tethered aerostat is determined prior to flight.

General Information

The Tethered Aerostat System is white, approximately 25 metres in length and 8 metres in diameter. It will be configured with strobe lights and flags located every 75 feet along the length of the 1000 FT tether during its operations. In addition, the system employs navigation systems to provide locational information on the tethered aerostat. The flight director and the operators are in full control of the tethered aerostat from the mooring platform and have visible observation at all times.

In the interest of aviation safety it is imperative that all potentially affected stakeholders take note of this intended operation and its location.

For any further information, enquiries or suggestions during this operation, please contact Rob Purkiss of the Air Traffic Services Section of the CAA at purkissr@caa.co.za or by cell phone; + 27(0) 834616257


for **DIRECTOR OF CIVIL AVIATION**