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**OPERATION OF AIRCRAFT**

**GENERAL**

**FORMAT APPROVAL FOR HELICOPTER  
EXTERNAL LOAD OPERATIONS**

☞ Indicates changes.

☞ This AIC replaces AIC 20-9 dated 00-01-15.

**INTRODUCTION**

- ☞ 1. The approval process and requirements for the approval of helicopter external load operations has been revised and all helicopter external load operations in built up urban areas require prior approval by the Commissioner.

**INFORMATION REQUIRED FROM THE OPERATOR REQUESTING HELICOPTER EXTERNAL LOAD OPERATION AUTHORISATION.**

2. The following information is to be provided by the operator requesting helicopter external load operations.
- (a) The time, date and place on which the load is to be lifted.
  - (b) A description of the load.
  - (c) The weight to be lifted on each flight.
  - (d) The location of the site from where the load is to be lifted.
  - (e) The route to be followed from the uplift site to the delivery site of the load
  - (f) The flight profiles to meet escape route requirements from the uplift and delivery of the external load.
  - (g) The relevant extract of the operators operations manual dealing with external load operations.
  - (h) The length of the strops to be used.
  - (i) Helicopter performance graph (by aircraft registration number) to indicate that the Out of Ground Effect (OGE) hover performance can be attained, taking into account the All Up Weight (AUW) of the helicopter.
  - (j) Certification that no flight is overhead a point within 50 meters, measured horizontally, from an open air assembly of people.
  - (k) The route along which the load is flown meets the requirements of the Rules of the Air 3.10(2).
3. Copies of the following arrangements /authorities are to accompany a request for helicopter external load operations:
- (a) Local Authority approval.
  - (b) Traffic and emergency service standby arrangements.

4. *Sketches or photographs of the uplift and delivery sites indicating entry and exit routes and the location of obstructions are to be submitted.*
5. *The operator must expect a CAA inspection of the sites to be used, at the cost of the operator, if deemed necessary by the Commissioner for Civil Aviation.*
6. *A request for helicopter external load operations is to reach the CAA Flight Operations Department at least 7 working days prior to the envisaged date of the uplift. Uplifts should take place over a weekend (preferably a Sunday or a public holiday).*
7. *A video recording must be made of the operation and forwarded to the Commissioner within 3 working days after completion of the operation.*
8. *A written report covering the success or otherwise of the uplift is to reach the CAA within three working days following the execution of the uplift.*

**CAA INTERNAL REQUIREMENTS**

9. *The Flight Operations Department is to keep a record, by operator name, of all request received, a copy of the authorisation and report on the lift provided by the operator. These records are also to be placed on the relevant operators files held by the CAA.*

**COMMISSIONER FOR CIVIL AVIATION**