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AIRWORTHINESS

MAINTENANCE

CONTINUED AIRWORTHINESS – MAINTENANCE AWAY FROM BASE

1. This AIC clarifies the requirements in CATS 43.02.08 concerning aircraft maintenance conducted away from base, specifically regarding the maintenance of aircraft away from base. Below is an extract of the affected regulation:

CATS 43.02.08 section A

(6) When mandatory inspections are to be carried out away from base, the Accountable Manager referred to in Part 145 shall indicate what tools, spares, and documentation have to be on hand to satisfactorily carry out the work on the aircraft.

(7) Prior to the commencement of scheduled maintenance away from base, the AMO or facility shall advise the Director of its intention to carry out the maintenance and supply the following information:

- (a) Aircraft registration;
- (b) Name of the organisation to carry out the maintenance, and approvals held;
- (c) Location where the intended maintenance is to be performed;
- (d) Type of maintenance to be carried out;
- (e) Name and licence or approval number(s) of the person(s) responsible for the maintenance;
- (f) Failure to comply with any applicable mandatory requirement or part of a maintenance programme invalidates the validity of the aircraft's certificate of airworthiness unless exemption has been obtained from the Director in terms of Part 11 of the CAR; and
- (g) The applicable aircraft logbooks must be available when scheduled maintenance is carried out. Should the aircraft logbooks not be available for perusal and completion, the aircraft may not be released to service.

2. There is a need for organisations to support aircraft operations at un-approved locations (i.e. a short term or seasonal contract). The use of occasional and temporary satellite-station privileges set out are limited to those instances where the Part-145 Maintenance Organisation has a contract (as per Maintenance agreement or approved Maintenance Control Manual (MCM)) to support an operator of South African registered aircraft. The operators must be listed in the Maintenance Organisation Procedures Manual (MOP) and the AOC holder's MCM.

When the Part-145 Maintenance Organisation intends to use this privilege, the scope of work section of their MOP must state that the organisation may perform work away from approved facilities. The MOP must also contain procedures for performing work away from approved facilities.

An Alternative Means of Compliance (AMOC) may be considered where an organisation can demonstrate that its proposed method ensures an equivalent or higher level of safety while performing maintenance away from approved facilities. Organisations intending to implement an AMOC must include the alternative procedures and risk mitigation measures in their MOP. These procedures should clearly outline how compliance with CATS 43.02.08 requirements will be maintained, ensuring that maintenance activities remain in line with Part 145 regulatory standards. The AMOC must be formally reviewed and approved by the Director before implementation.

3. Occasional Satellite-Stations:

- a) Occasional satellite-stations at unapproved facilities are understood by this Department to be those instances where the need to provide support is infrequent or irregular. The support may only be provided for a limited duration, and it is not intended to include scheduled maintenance.
- b) The use of an unapproved facility is limited to a maximum of 10 consecutive days. The approval to use a particular facility can be issued by the Quality Manager and Safety Manager based either on an on-site audit or a desktop review and risk analysis.
- c) Organisations must have processes and procedures in place to demonstrate how they establish that it is safe to commence work at an unapproved facility. Procedures must account for the local environmental conditions and ensure that appropriate manpower is on-site to accomplish the intended work. The provision of a suitable site, ground equipment, tooling, maintenance documentation and spares support must also be addressed by the risk analysis.
- d) The Part-145 organisation is not required to inform the SACAA when it establishes an occasional satellite-station, although all records/documentation should be kept, demonstrating how it established compliance with Part-145 at that location. Processes, procedures and records may be reviewed during Part 145 audits.
- e) Where the use of occasional satellite-station provisions cannot fulfil the operator's operational requirements, the Part-145 organisation should establish either a temporary or a permanent satellite-station.
- f) This privilege is used to support an operator with which the AMO is already in contractual relation, when this operator needs line maintenance service for a short period at a new location due to a special occasion or particular reason (e.g. one-time flights, short term contracts/flight destination, flight schedule changes, special event).

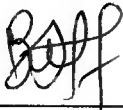
4. Temporary Satellite-Station

- a) When a temporary satellite-station is established, this department must be notified in writing prior to commencement of the operation; the notification must include a copy of the audit of the location carried out by the organisation's Quality Assurance department and risk assessment by Safety Department, corrective actions for any findings and a copy of the Organisation's MOP temporary revision adding the Satellite-Station to its list of approved locations.
- b) A temporary satellite-station may only remain in operation for a maximum of three months or 90 days. If it is established that there is a need to continue to provide support beyond this point, an application must be made to this Department for approval as a permanent satellite-station. If an application is not made, the station must be closed.
- c) The repetitive use of the privilege at the same facility is not permitted. In this case approval of a permanent satellite-station must be obtained.
- d) Temporary Satellite-Station facilities may only be approved without the direct involvement of this Department when it is confident that the organisation's Quality System can demonstrate that it can ensure compliance with the applicable Part-145 requirements at the new facility. Organisations must have the appropriate processes and procedures set out in their MOP and must be able to satisfy this Department of their ability to fully comply with this material before being permitted to use this indirect approval process.
- e) Organisations that do not have approved procedures to establish a temporary satellite-station approval using an indirect approval process will be required to make an application to this Department to add a temporary satellite-station. The SACAA may decide to audit the location before any maintenance is performed.

5. A, B, C, E, W, X and NDT Rated Maintenance Organisations

- a) Maintenance performed away from approved facilities by Part 145 rated organisations shall be limited as per approved OPS Specs, to activities carried out "on-wing" to support an aircraft.
- b) In these instances, it is the A/E rated organisation that is responsible for establishing the appropriate Satellite-Station. The MOP of the A/E rated organisation must include procedures for working with contracted B, C, W, X and NDT rated maintenance organisations, including the co-ordination and support to be provided at the location.

- c) *The MOP of B, C, W, X and NDT rated maintenance organisations must include procedures that permit the organisation to perform work away from approved facilities. These must address co-ordination with the A/E rated organisation responsible for releasing the aircraft to service. It must also have procedures to ensure that it meets the requirements of Part-145 for facilities, certifying staff, tools, equipment, materials, and maintenance data whilst on site for the work being performed.*
 - d) *The organisation is not required to inform the SACAA of the use of this procedure, although records should be kept demonstrating how it established compliance with Part-145 at that facility. Processes, procedures and records may be reviewed during company audits.*
6. *The following must be available when the aircraft is being serviced at either an Occasional Satellite-Station or Temporary Satellite-Station*
- a) *Certificate of Airworthiness;*
 - b) *Certificate of Registration;*
 - c) *Certificate of Safety for Flight (to be issued);*
 - d) *Flight Manual;*
 - e) *Flight Folio;*
 - f) *Aircraft logbooks (to be transported separately);*
 - g) *Radio Station license;*
 - h) *Mass and balance data & load sheets;*
 - i) *Compass deviation cards;*
 - j) *Inspection reminder (as required);*
 - k) *Applicable maintenance manuals;*
 - l) *Aircraft Maintenance Programme; and*
 - m) *Maintenance Control Manual (If applicable).*



Ms. POPPY KHOZA
DIRECTOR OF CIVIL AVIATION