

SACAR Part 147

APPROVED DESIGN ORGANISATION APPROVAL (ADO) FAQ

What is an Approved Design organisation (ADO)?

An ADO is an organisation that has been approved by the SACAA to carry out design activities design and certification of aircraft and aeronautical products, and design of changes to aircrafts and aeronautical products.

How do I get an ADO?

You need to send a Letter of Intent to Airworthiness Engineering Section on email address:

[Engineering Applications and Queries <Eng@caa.co.za>](mailto:Eng@caa.co.za)

The letter must include the following information;

- Name of the organisation, physical address and contact persons and contact details
Organisational background, experience and projects related to Design activities
- Details of experience and qualification of management personnel
- Details of qualifications and experience for people authorised to carry out design activities

Once this letter is received by the section, you will be contacted for further information or/and pre application meeting.

How long does it to have an organisation Approved as an ADO?

A five phase process is undertaken to certify a Design Organisation. The Technical Guidance material (TGM) for ADO Approval is also found on the SACAA website under Airworthiness.

The certification duration depends on the milestones specified in the schedule of events submitted by the applicant, and of course the authority will as well need equivalent amount of time to make necessary reviews and inspection. The applicant's readiness is basically the determining factor.

What are the requirements of obtaining an ADO?

- Any organisation that will be able to demonstrate their design capable through a demonstration project
- An organisation that has a facility, tool and equipment
- An organisation that has qualified and experienced management and personnel (for the minimum requirements refer to the TGM)
- An organisation that has a Quality management system

The TGM outlines all the requirements for an ADO

What is a demonstration project?

An Applicant of an ADO must also apply for a SACAA Part 21 approval. All ADO approval holders must also be holders Part 21 Approval. The following are examples of SACAA Part 21 Approval:

(a) a type certificate;

(b) a supplemental type certificate;

(d) a ZA - PMA

(e) a TSO authorisation.

For more information on how to obtain a Part 21 approval, refer to the Airworthiness section on the SACAA website for each Part 21 approval TGM.