



# Sunny Swift

## "Be aware of TMZ +"

BOUDEWIJN ISN'T A TYPICAL EUROPEAN GA PILOT. HE MOSTLY FLIES IFR. THE WEATHER LOOKS BEAUTIFUL TODAY, SO HE HAS DECIDED TO **PRACTISE HIS VFR NAVIGATION SKILLS**.

PLANNING AND FLYING VFR IN BUSY AIRSPACE CAN BE CHALLENGING, DESPITE THE GOOD WEATHER.

WHICH AIRSPACE WILL YOU CROSS?

THE PLANNED TRAJECTORY AVOIDS BUSY CONTROLLED AIRSPACE, BUT IT CROSSES A FEW TRANSPONDER MANDATORY ZONES (TMZs)\*

\*SEE SERA.6005 (B)

I USUALLY RELY ON GNSS AND CERTIFIED AVIONICS TO HELP ME NAVIGATE.

THAT MAY NOT BE ENOUGH TODAY. DID YOU KNOW THE TMZs MIGHT NOT BE IN THE DATABASES? CERTIFIED NAVIGATION IS PRIMARILY DESIGNED TO HELP MANAGE THE FLIGHT PATH.

THE AIRSPACE, IF PROVIDED, IS ONLY AN ADD-ON LAYER OF INFORMATION, NOT SUBJECT TO CERTIFICATION.

REALLY? I WASN'T AWARE OF THAT.

Please send your comments and ideas to:  
[generalaviation@easa.europa.eu](mailto:generalaviation@easa.europa.eu)

Join the GA Community!  
[www.easa.europa.eu/community/ga](http://www.easa.europa.eu/community/ga)

I KNOW THAT IN TMZ, I NEED TO OPERATE TRANSPONDERS WITH ALTITUDE. BUT ARE THERE ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS?

THIS TMZ IN GERMANY REQUIRES OPERATION OF A SPECIFIC TRANSPONDER CODE, TO INDICATE TO AIR TRAFFIC SERVICE (ATS) THAT THE CREW IS MONITORING THE PRESCRIBED FREQUENCY.

YOU MAY NOT NOTICE THIS WHEN FLYING IFR, BECAUSE YOU HAVE CONTINUOUS CONTACT WITH ATS, AND YOU TRANSMIT A FLIGHT-SPECIFIC TRANSPONDER CODE. BUT WHEN FLYING VFR, IT IS UP TO THE PILOT ONLY TO DETECT THE TMZ AND COMPLY WITH ITS RULES \*\*

\*\* SEE ALSO SUNNY SWIFT: "TURN IT ON"

NO WORRIES, YOU CAN SOLVE IT BY GOOD FLIGHT PREPARATION\*\*\* BASED ON INFORMATION FROM AIPs AND OTHER VERIFIED SOURCES SUCH AS NOTAMS, AIP SUP OR AIC.

I ALSO RECOMMEND USING A NAVIGATION APP OR ELECTRONIC CHARTS DURING THE FLIGHT. THEY WILL HELP YOU TO MANAGE THE WORKLOAD AND TO ACCESS THE NECESSARY INFORMATION WHEN NEEDED.

\*\*\* SEE ALSO: SUNNY SWIFT: AIRSPACE COMPLEXITY - PARTS 1 AND 2  
SKYCLIP - AIRSPACE INFRINGEMENT AND AERONAUTICAL INFORMATION

You can find links to:

- The SERA regulation
- Sunny Swift "Turn it ON", Issue 5
- Sunny Swift "Airspace Complexity - Parts 1 & 2", Issue 19 & 20
- SKYclip - Airspace Infringement and Aeronautical Information

in the "Related Content" section