

**SUBJECT** : Interconnected Fuel Tanks without Interconnected Tank Airspaces

**REQUIREMENTS incl. Amdt.** : CS 23.975 (a)(4) Amdt. 04

**ASSOCIATED IM/AMC<sup>1</sup>** : Yes ☐ / No ☒

**ADVISORY MATERIAL** : none

**INTRODUCTORY NOTE:**

The following Equivalent Safety Finding has been classified as important and as such shall be subject to public consultation in accordance with EASA Management Board decision 12/2007 dated 11 September 2007, Article 3 (2.) which states:

*"2. Deviations from the applicable airworthiness codes, environmental protection certification specifications and/or acceptable means of compliance with Part 21, as well as important special conditions and equivalent safety findings, shall be submitted to the panel of experts and be subject to a public consultation of at least 3 weeks, except if they have been previously agreed and published in the Official Publication of the Agency. The final decision shall be published in the Official Publication of the Agency."*

**IDENTIFICATION OF ISSUE:**

The provision CS 23.975(a)(4) requires that airspaces of tanks with interconnected outlets must be interconnected. In previous time, this was traditionally complied with, by providing a physical interconnection line.

With the new technologies, the applicant might propose other means than physical interconnection line.

The intent of the provision CS 23.975(a)(4) is:

1. To prevent fuel flow from one tank to the other one due to a difference in pressure between the tanks potentially resulting in an imbalance.
2. The interconnection line provides a second vent source for each tank, in the event that the primary venting device is blocked.
3. To prevent the introduction of air into the fuel feed line due to a single vent failure, when multiple fuel tanks are interconnected, which may potentially lead to engine stoppage.

Considering all the above, the following Equivalent Safety Finding is proposed:

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<sup>1</sup> In case of SC, the associated Interpretative Material and/or Acceptable Means of Compliance may be published for awareness only and they are not subject to public consultation.

