European Union Aviation Safety Agency

FAQ n.116508

FAQs:

Drones without class identification label ’open’ category , Open category, Drones (UAS), Regulations

Question:

I fall under the 'open' category will I be able to fly my old drone after 31 December 2020 ?

Answer:

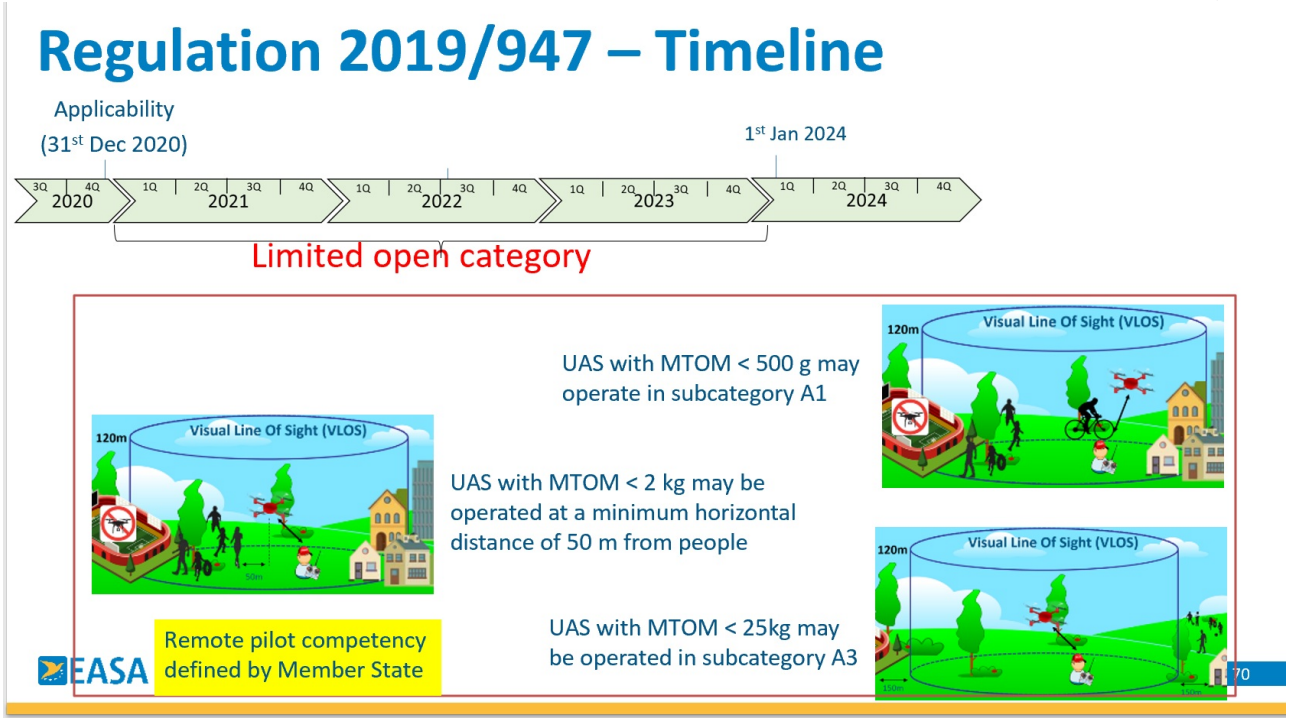
Yes, from 31 December 2020 to 1 January 2024, you may fly your drone without class Identification label in the ’open’ category under the following conditions:

- drones with less than 500 g MTOM cannot fly over people, and pilot competency is determined by your National Aviation Authority;
- drones with less than 2 kg MTOM can fly 50 metres or more (horizontally) from people and the pilot must undergo training equivalent to subcategory A2 (see the FAQ section on training);
- drones with less than 25 kg MTOM, can fly in areas free from people, 150 metres or more away from properties, and the pilot must undergo training equivalent to subcategory A3 (see the FAQ section on training).

After 1 January 2024, you can still fly your drone without class identification labels, however, only under the following subcategories of operation, for which you have to fully comply with:

- Subcategory A1 when the drone’s maximum take-off weight (MTOM) is less than 250 g; or
- Subcategory A3 when the drone’s maximum take-off weight is less than 25 kg.

You **will not need to apply any retrofit/sticker** to the drone in subcategories A1 or A3.



Regulatory reference: Article 20 and Annex part A of EU regulation 2019/947 and EU regulation 2019/945.

Last updated:

18/03/2022

Link:

https://www.easa.europa.eu/en/faq/116508