European Union Aviation Safety Agency

FAQ n.119358

FAQs:

Airspace requirements – SPI (Surveillance performance and interoperability), Airspace Usage requirements, Regulations

Question:

What is the deadline to equip my aircraft with a Mode S transponder?

Answer:

Operators operating as general air traffic under instrument flight rules are required to equip their aircraft with Mode S transponders, in accordance with the SPI IR requirements by the following deadlines:

Aircraft with a first CofA issued **prior to 7 June 1995**:

- Aircraft with a first CofA issued prior to 7 June 1995, have to be:
  - ELS capable prior to 7 December 2020

Aircraft with a first CofA issued **on or after 7 June 1995**:

- Aircraft with a MTOM of 5700 kg or less **and** with a maximum cruising TAS 250 kts or less have to be:
  - ELS capable prior to 7 December 2020
- Rotorcraft (e.g. helicopters) with a MTOM exceeding 5700 kg **or** with a maximum cruising TAS greater than 250 kts have to be:
  - ELS capable prior to 7 December 2020,
    and
  - ADS-B out capable prior to 7 December 2020 or 7 June 2023 (where there is a retrofit programme in place prior to 7 December 2020)
- Fixed wing aircraft (aeroplanes) with a MTOM exceeding 5700 kg **or** with a maximum cruising TAS greater than 250 kts have to be :
  - ELS capable prior to 7 December 2020,
    and
  - ADS-B out capable prior to 7 December 2020 **or** 7 June 2023 (where there is a retrofit programme in place prior to 7 December 2020)
    and
  - EHS capable prior to 7 December 2020 **or** 7 June 2023 (where there is a retrofit programme in place prior to 7 December 2020)

CofA means certificate of airworthiness.

ELS means Mode S elementary surveillance capability.

EHS means Mode S enhanced surveillance capability.

MTOM means maximum certified take-off mass.

TAS means true air speed.

Further information can be found in the AMC and GM to the SPI IR.

Last updated:

02/11/2020

Link:

https://www.easa.europa.eu/en/faq/119358