European Union Aviation Safety Agency

FAQ n.19556

FAQs:

Applicability, Third Country Operators (TCO), Regulations

Question:

Leasing, scenario 4. Please specify which of the two operators must have a TCO authorisation in the following situation: A third country operator (lessee) uses an aircraft wet leased-in from an EU carrier (lessor) operating flights to the EU under the AOC of the lessor, and using the flight number of the third-country operator.

Answer:

Neither the lessee (TCO) nor the lessor (EU carrier) need a TCO authorisation, because the flights are performed under the responsibility of an operator that does not fall under the definition of a third country operator (GM1 TCO.100).

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Link:

https://www.easa.europa.eu/en/faq/19556