

## Executive Director Decision

**2022/008/R**

**of 22 March 2022**

**issuing the following:**

**Issue 4 of the Certification Specifications and Acceptable Means of Compliance for  
Airborne Communications, Navigation and Surveillance**

**‘CS-ACNS – Issue 4’**

THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE EUROPEAN UNION AVIATION SAFETY AGENCY (EASA),

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2018/1139<sup>1</sup>, and in particular Article 104(3)(a) thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 748/2012<sup>2</sup>, and in particular points 21.B.5(b) and 21.B.70 of Annex I (Part 21) thereto,

Whereas:

- (1) EASA shall, pursuant to Article 76(3) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1139, issue certification specifications (CSs) and acceptable means of compliance (AMC), as well as guidance material (GM), for the application of Regulation (EU) 2018/1139 and of the delegated and implementing acts adopted on the basis thereof.
- (2) Certification specifications (CSs) are non-binding technical standards issued by EASA, which indicate the means to demonstrate compliance with Regulation (EU) 2018/1139 and the delegated and implementing acts adopted on the basis thereof, and which are used by persons and organisations for the purpose of certification.
- (3) Acceptable means of compliance (AMC) are non-binding standards issued by EASA, which are used by persons and organisations to demonstrate compliance with Regulation (EU) 2018/1139 and the delegated and implementing acts adopted on the basis thereof, or with the certification specifications (CSs).

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<sup>1</sup> Regulation (EU) 2018/1139 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 4 July 2018 on common rules in the field of civil aviation and establishing a European Union Aviation Safety Agency, and amending Regulations (EC) No 2111/2005, (EC) No 1008/2008, (EU) No 996/2010, (EU) No 376/2014 and Directives 2014/30/EU and 2014/53/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council, and repealing Regulations (EC) No 552/2004 and (EC) No 216/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Council Regulation (EEC) No 3922/91 (OJ L 212, 22.8.2018, p. 1) (<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1535612134845&uri=CELEX:32018R1139>).

<sup>2</sup> Commission Regulation (EU) 748/2012 of 3 August 2012 laying down implementing rules for the airworthiness and environmental certification of aircraft and related products, parts and appliances, as well as for the certification of design and production organisations (OJ L 224, 21.8.2012, p. 1) (<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32012R0748&qid=1641972043877>).

- (4) Guidance material (GM) is non-binding material issued by EASA, which helps to illustrate the meaning of delegated or implementing acts, certification specifications (CSs) or acceptable means of compliance (AMC), and which is used to support the interpretation of Regulation (EU) 2018/1139, the delegated and implementing acts adopted on the basis thereof, CSs, and AMC.
- (5) With Decision 2013/031/R of 17 December 2013, the Executive Director issued Certification Specifications and Acceptable Means of Compliance for Airborne Communications, Navigation and Surveillance (CS-ACNS).
- (6) EASA shall, pursuant to Article 4(1)(a) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1139, reflect the state of the art and the best practices in the field of aviation and update its Decisions, taking into account worldwide aviation experience and scientific and technical progress in the respective fields.

EASA determined the need to revise CS-ACNS to correct and improve their content and ensure harmonisation and consistency between CS-ACNS and industry standards, based on industry feedback or issues raised by stakeholders. CS-ACNS Issue 4 addresses a number of issues, reported by applicants, in demonstrating compliance with CS-ACNS paragraphs.

The objective of CS-ACNS Issue 4 is to maintain a high level of safety, ensure interoperability compliance of aircraft with the requirements of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 1207/2011<sup>3</sup> laying down requirements for the performance and the interoperability of surveillance for the single European sky (the ‘Surveillance Performance and Interoperability (SPI) Regulation’), and provide consolidated acceptable means of compliance (AMC) for aircraft-manufacturing industries and aircraft modification industries.

- (7) EASA, pursuant to Article 115(1)(c) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1139 and Articles 6(3), 7 and 8 of the EASA Rulemaking Procedure<sup>4</sup>, widely consulted the interested parties on the content of this Decision, and provided thereafter a written response to the comments received through the consultation<sup>5</sup>,

HAS DECIDED:

### **Article 1**

The Annex to this Decision is issued as Issue 4 of the Certification Specifications and Acceptable Means of Compliance for Airborne Communications, Navigation and Surveillance (CS-ACNS).

<sup>3</sup> Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 1207/2011 of 22 November 2011 laying down requirements for the performance and the interoperability of surveillance for the single European sky (OJ L 305, 23.11.2011, p. 35) (<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A02011R1207-20200520>).

<sup>4</sup> EASA is bound to follow a structured rulemaking process as required by Article 115(1) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1139. Such a process has been adopted by the EASA Management Board (MB) and is referred to as the ‘Rulemaking Procedure’. See MB Decision No 18-2015 of 15 December 2015 replacing Decision 01/2012 concerning the procedure to be applied by EASA for the issuing of opinions, certification specifications and guidance material (<http://www.easa.europa.eu/the-agency/management-board/decisions/easa-mb-decision-18-2015-rulemaking-procedure>).

<sup>5</sup> <http://easa.europa.eu/document-library/comment-response-documents>



**Article 2**

This Decision shall enter into force on the day following that of its publication in the Official Publication of EASA.

Cologne, 22.3.2022

*For the European Union Aviation Safety Agency*

*The Executive Director*

Patrick KY

