

**FAQ n.20103****FAQs:**

[Applications](#), [Design Organisations](#)

**Question:**

**When is an organisation, designing a product (aircraft, engine, propeller), exempt from having a DOA?**

**Answer:**

An Organization designing:

- a piston engine, or
- a fixed or adjustable pitch propeller, or
- an aircraft belonging to ELA 1 or ELA 2 Category, or
- an engine or a propeller installed in an ELA1 or ELA 2 aircraft

is exempt from being required to have a DOA. (See 21.A.14(b) and (c))

Following definitions apply (COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 748/2012, article 1):

“ELA1 aircraft” means the following manned European Light Aircraft:

- i. an aeroplane with a Maximum Take-off Mass (MTOM) of 1200 kg or less that is not classified as “complex motor-powered aircraft”;
- ii. a sailplane or powered sailplane of 1200 kg MTOM or less;
- iii. a balloon with a maximum design lifting gas or hot air volume of not more than 3400 m<sup>3</sup> for hot air balloons, 1050 m<sup>3</sup> for gas balloons, 300 m<sup>3</sup> for tethered gas balloons;
- iv. an airship designed for not more than four occupants and a maximum design lifting gas or hot air volume of not more than 3400 m<sup>3</sup> for hot air airships and 1000 m<sup>3</sup> for gas airships;

“ELA2 aircraft” means the following manned European Light Aircraft:

- i. an aeroplane with a Maximum Take-off Mass (MTOM) of 2000 kg or less that is not classified as “complex motor-powered aircraft”;
- ii. a sailplane or powered sailplane of 2000 kg MTOM or less;
- iii. a balloon;
- iv. a hot air ship;
- v. a gas airship meeting all of the following elements:
  - 3% maximum static heaviness,

- Non-vectorred thrust (except reverse thrust),
  - Conventional and simple design of: structure, control system and ballonet system
  - Non-power assisted controls;
- vi. a Very Light Rotorcraft.

An aeroplane, meeting the MTOM requirements for ELA 1 or ELA 2 Category, is nevertheless classified as “complex motor-powered aircraft ” when it is certificated for operation with a minimum crew of at least two pilots, or it is equipped with (a) turbojet engine(s) or more than one turboprop engine.

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**Link:**

<https://www.easa.europa.eu/et/faq/20103>