¡*Conspicuity* Declaration

Introduction

This ¡*Conspicuity*[1] Declaration is a voluntary policy statement, jointly established by participating aviation authorities and other entities[2], specifically adressed to the **General Aviation (GA)** sector. Its primary objective is to facilitate and encourage the use of ¡*Conspicuity* devices and data (including ADS-B out[3], ADS-L[4], surveillance data, and similar information) by all stakeholders with the shared aim of improving operational safety and enhancing safety culture in GA[5].

The adoption of this ¡*Conspicuity* Declaration does not affect the application of Regulation (EU) No 376/2014 regarding the reporting, analysis and follow-up of occurrences in civil aviation and any other applicable European Union or national legislation[6].

Commitment

By adopting this ¡*Conspicuity* Declaration we, the signatories, express our commitment to foster the development of ¡*Conspicuity* devices and their use and utilisation of related data with the intention of improving aviation safety, fostering innovation and enhancing operational efficiency through collaborative analysis. We pledge to adhere to the following:

Key Principles:

1. **Promoting Safety Culture**: The initiative aims to facilitate and promote safety culture in GA in order to foster positive safety behaviours.

2. **Voluntary nature**: The initiative is a partnership that signatories join on a voluntary basis.

3. **System-wide insights**: Analysis of ¡*Conspicuity* data will focus on system-wide insights (big data approach) rather than the actions of specific situations. This encourages broad participation and fosters a safe aviation environment.

4. **360-Degree Collaboration**: All relevant stakeholders will be involved in the analysis of ¡*Conspicuity* data, ensuring a holistic and trusted approach to safety and operational improvements[7]. The collaborative analysis will lead to **jointly agreed actions** that will benefit all participants.

5. **Transparent Monitoring**: The process for analyzing and acting upon ¡*Conspicuity* data must be transparent, allowing all stakeholders to track progress and ensure alignment with safety improvement goals.

6. **Data protection**: The use of data and information derived from the initiative will comply with the EU's General Data Protection Regulation[8] (GDPR), which governs how the personal data of individuals in the EU can be processed and transferred.

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[1] ¡*Conspicuity* webpage
[2] Associations representing airspace users and relevant industry
[3] ADS-B stands for Automatic Dependent Surveillance–Broadcast. It's a technology that enables aircraft to broadcast their position, speed, and other data to other aircraft and ground stations, enhancing situational awareness and safety. ADS-B comes in two main types: ADS-B Out and ADS-B In.
[4] ADS-L is a lighter version (subset) of the ADS-B message content, originally developed to make manned aircraft electronically conspicuous when operating in U-space airspace.
[5] European Plan for Aviaiton Safety, Volume II., 2024 Edition, task MST.0027 - Promotion of safety culture in GA
[6] Manned aircraft are not required to be electronically conspicuous, except when operating as uncontrolled traffic in U-space airspace
[7] This can serve as preparation for future inclusion in the Data4Safety programme.
[8] Regulation (EU) 2016/679 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data.

Expected Benefits

The ¡*Conspicuity* Declaration is expected to offer several key benefits to the aviation sector:

- **Broader Equipage by Electronic Conspicuity Devices**: Encouraging more GA aircraft including rotorcraft to be equipped with interoperable and internationally compatible devices that transmit ¡*Conspicuity* data, leading to enhanced situational awareness.

- **Lower Risk of Airborne Collisions**: By using ¡*Conspicuity* data to track aircraft movements in real-time, the risk of mid-air collisions can be reduced, making airspace safer for an increasing amount of airspace users.

- **Improved Access to Airspace**: With better data on GA movements, airspace design can be optimized, improving access for all airspace users, including new technologies.

- **Comprehensive Exposure Data**: The availability of more comprehensive ¡*Conspicuity* data will provide valuable insights into GA activities across the EU, supporting safety initiatives like the European Union Aviation Safety Agency's Data4Safety program.

- **Faster Response to Emergencies**: Equipped aircraft can be located more quickly in emergency situations, enabling faster and more effective rescue and recovery efforts.

- **Near Real-Time Analysis of Incidents**: ¡*Conspicuity* data enables faster initial analysis of aviation incidents and accidents, contributing to timely safety improvements and preventive measures.

Conclusion

This ¡*Conspicuity* Declaration is a crucial step toward enhancing GA safety by fostering collaboration, transparency, and data-driven improvements. Signatories are encouraged to adopt and adhere to the principles outlined here, recognizing the importance of use of ¡*Conspicuity* devices and related data in building a safe and more efficient aviation environment.

Through this initiative, we aim to enable more robust incident and accident prevention measures, faster emergency responses, and ultimately, a safer airspace for an increasing amount of participants in Europe.