European Union Aviation Safety Agency

FAQ n.21600

FAQs:

Applications for TCO a Authorisation, Third Country Operators (TCO), Regulations

Question:

What is the difference between the EASA TCO Authorisation and an operating permit issued by an EASA member State?

Answer:

The TCO Authorisation is a safety authorisation issued by EASA following a technical assessment. This technical authorisation issued by EASA is a mandatory prerequisite when applying with any EASA Member State for commercial traffic rights (operating permits), which continue to be issued directly by Member States.

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Link:

https://www.easa.europa.eu/en/faq/21600