



EASA
European Aviation Safety Agency

Present and envisaged future European operational rules for balloons

Air Ops Balloon Workshop – Session 1
15 October 2015

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Your safety is our mission.

EASA is an agency of the European Union





AIR OPS balloons – overview

➤ **General**

- European aviation regulatory system

➤ **Balloons**

- Situation as of today
- Proposal for future rules
- Hot topics of discussion



Documents provided

Workshop paper	Content
#1	Overview
#2	Balloon Cover Regulation
#3	Annexes to Cover Regulation
#4	Acceptable Means of Compliance (AMC) and Guidance Material (GM)
#5	Slides for Session 2 (Envisaged new rules for balloons)



European aviation regulatory system (1)

➤ **Cover Regulation – WS Paper 2**

➤ Articles – ‘hard law – basics’

➤ **Annexes to Cover Regulation – WS Paper 3**

➤ ‘hard law – details’

➤ **Cover Regulation and Annexes**

➤ Developed by EASA

➤ EASA Opinion published and forwarded to Commission

➤ Commission Comitology

➤ Published as **Commission Regulation**



- **Acceptable Means of Compliance (AMC)/Guidance Material (GM) – WS Paper 4**
 - AMC – ‘soft law’
 - Developed by EASA
 - Published by EASA when Commission Regulation is published
 - Published as Executive Director **Decision**



AIR OPS rules - applicability for balloons

	CAT operator	NCO operator	SPO operator
Cover Reg.			
Definitions			
Part-ARO			
Part-ORO			 If commercial
Part-CAT			
Part-SPA	 *	 *	 *
Part-NCC			
Part-NCO			 If non-commercial
Part-SPO			 if commercial

* in principle



AIR OPS balloons

➤ **Concerns raised**

- Too complex
- Overregulating

➤ **Way forward**

- EASA GA Road Map (simpler, 'lighter' and better rules)
- RMT.0674 'Revision of European operational rules for balloons'
 - Simpler rules
 - All (AIR OPS) Balloon rules under 'one roof'
 - 'Fast track' rulemaking
 - Involve stakeholders and NAAs



Revision of European operational rules for balloons

ToR
published
April 2015

5 expert
group
meetings
March – Oct
2015

Workshop for
focussed
consultation
on draft
Opinion/
Decision
15 Oct 2015

Publication
of Opinion
Jan 2016

Publication of
Decision
approx. 1
year after,
pending
Commission
Comitology

RMT.0674

No formal Notice of Proposed Amendment (NPA)



Expert Group members

➤ **Member States/competent authorities**

- Belgium
- Czech Republic
- France
- Germany
- Sweden
- Turkey
- United Kingdom

➤ **Manufacturer**

- Balony Kubicek

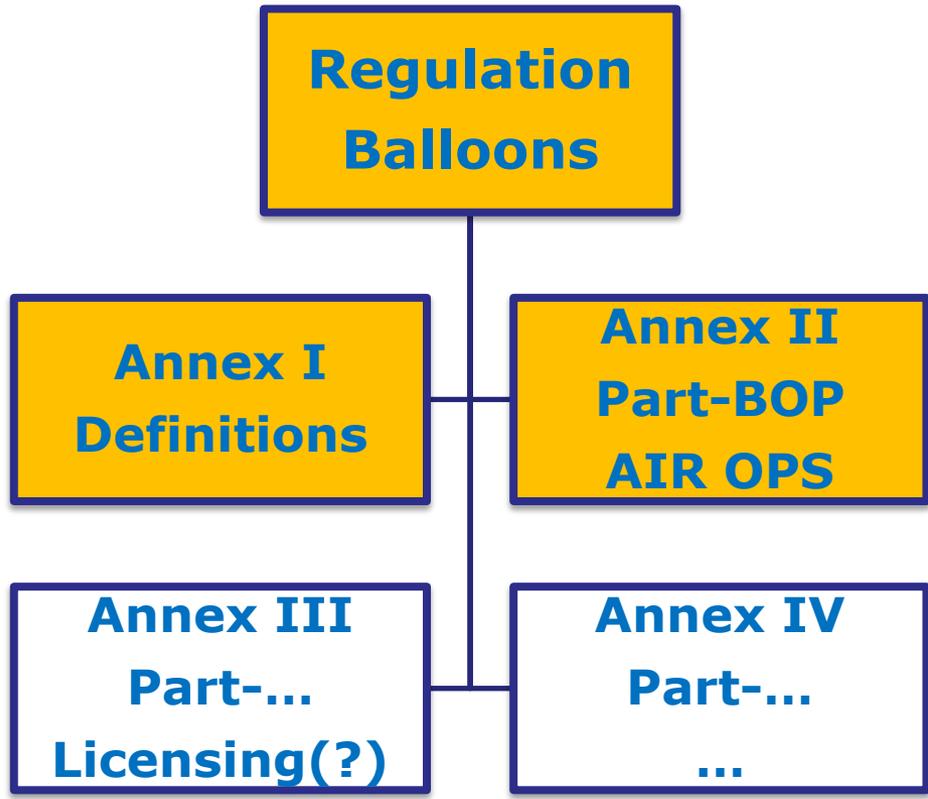
➤ **Balloon association**

- European Ballooning Federation (EBF)

➤ **EASA**



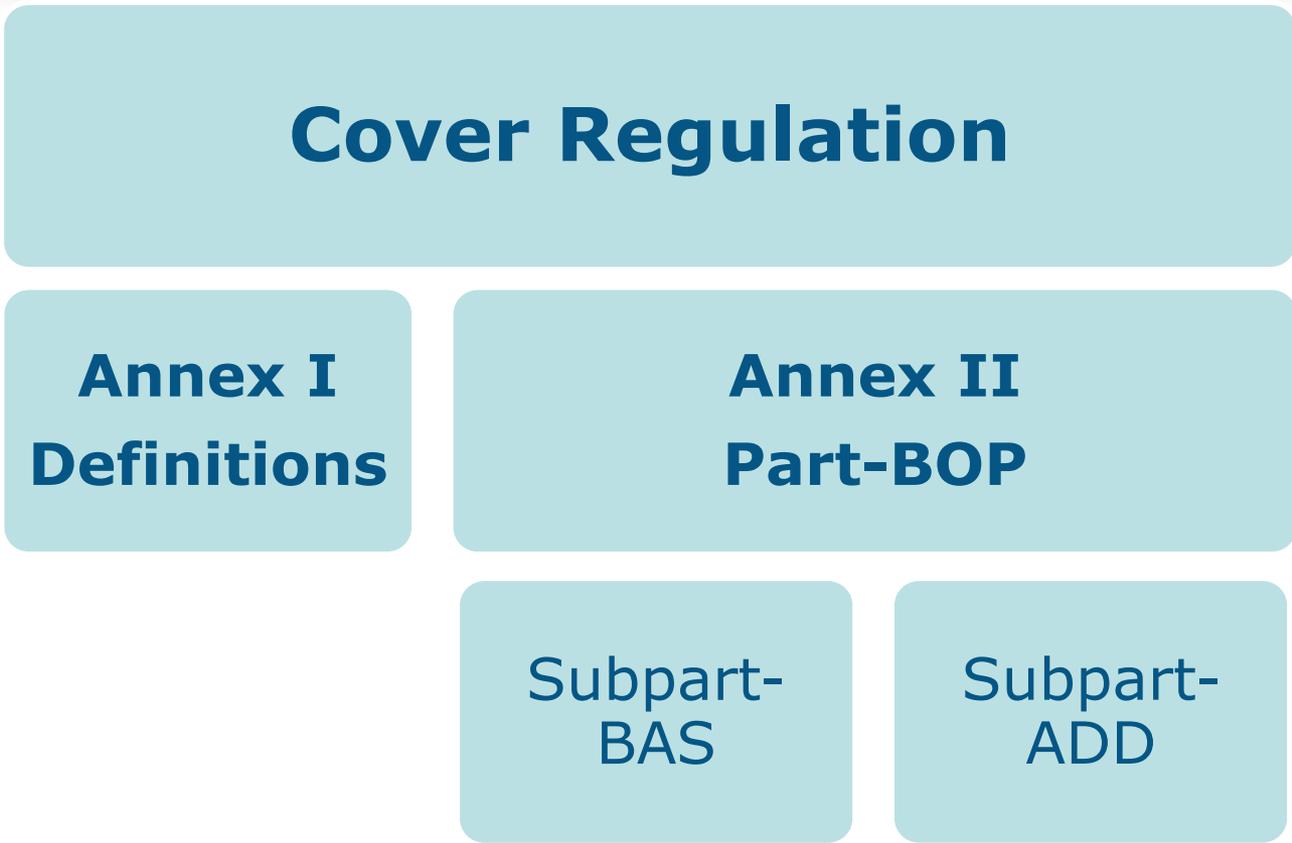
Proposed new regulation for Balloons (1)



BOP = Balloon Air Operations



Proposed new regulation for Balloons (2)



Subpart-BAS = basic operational requirements

Subpart-ADD = additional requirements for commercial operations



Structure of Annex II (Part-BOP)

Subpart	Section
BAS Basic operational requirements	1 – General requirements
	2 – Operating procedures
	3 – Performance and operating limitations
	4 – Instruments, data and equipment
ADD Additional requirements for commercial operations	1 – General organisation requirements
	2 – Balloon air operator certificate and declaration
	3 – Manuals and records
	4 – Flight crew
	5 – General operating requirements
	6 – Operating procedures
	7 – Performance and operating limitations



Improvement in handling

➤ Before:

- Approx. 120 pages out of 1600 pages to be checked (in Reg. 965/2012 and its AMC/GM)

➤ After:

Number of typed pages in new draft regulation

	Rules	AMC/GM
Cover Regulation	5	1
Annex I	2	0
Annex II, Subpart-BAS	12	14
Annex II, Subpart-ADD	14	18
Total number	33	33



Authority requirements and opt-out

➤ **Balloon authority requirements**

- To remain in Part-ARO of Reg. 965/2012
- To have all AIR OPS authority requirements under 'one roof'

➤ **Balloon opt-out ends**

- At present: in Aug 2016 (NCO) and April 2017 (CAT and SPO)
- Planned: in April 2018 for all balloon operations



➤ **Terminology**

- 'Commercial air transport (CAT) operation' vs. 'Commercial passenger ballooning (CPB)'

➤ **'3-level-approach' for passenger ballooning**

- cost sharing vs. declaration vs. balloon operator certificate (BOC)

➤ **Management system**



Your additional comments

- air_ops@easa.europa.eu
- Please use catchword 'AIR OPS Balloons'
- If possible, please until **23 October 2015**



This is your workshop!

➤ **You can**

- Complain
- Blame
- Demand

➤ EASA will listen

➤ ... but does it help?

➤ **You may**

➤ Acknowledge that EASA and the Expert Group

- Spend substantial resources
- Try to establish simpler and better rules

➤ Provide valuable input to further improve the drafts



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The End

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Possible opt-out for balloons

Balloons:	CAT operator	NCO operator	SPO operator
Enter into force:	April 2014	Aug 2013	April 2014
Opt-out ends:	April 2017	Aug 2016	April 2017

- Opt-out is possible up to the maximum time allowed by the transition measures of each Regulation
- Member States can choose within this limit