



**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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# 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**

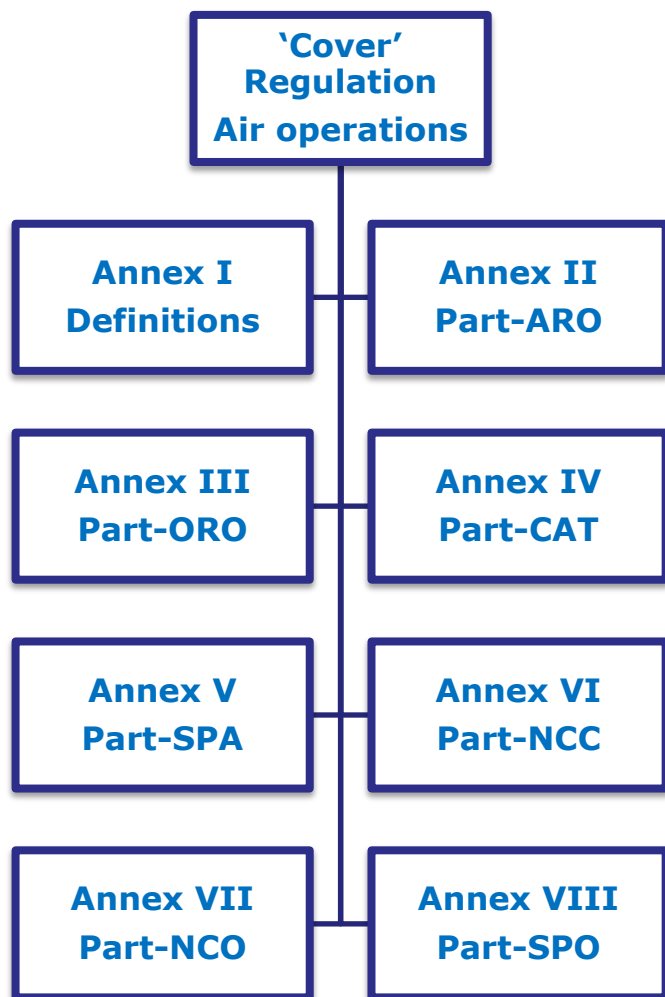


# European aviation regulatory system (2)

- **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 rule structure (Reg. 965/2012)



- **Part-ARO:** Authority requirements – AIR OPS
- **Part-ORO:** Organisation requirements – AIR OPS
- **Part-CAT:** Commercial air transport operations
- **Part-SPA:** Operations requiring specific approvals
- **Part-NCC:** non-commercial operations with complex motor-powered aircraft  
**Part-NCO:** non-commercial operations with other-than-CMPA
- **Part-SPO:** specialised operations, e.g. aerial work



# 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)

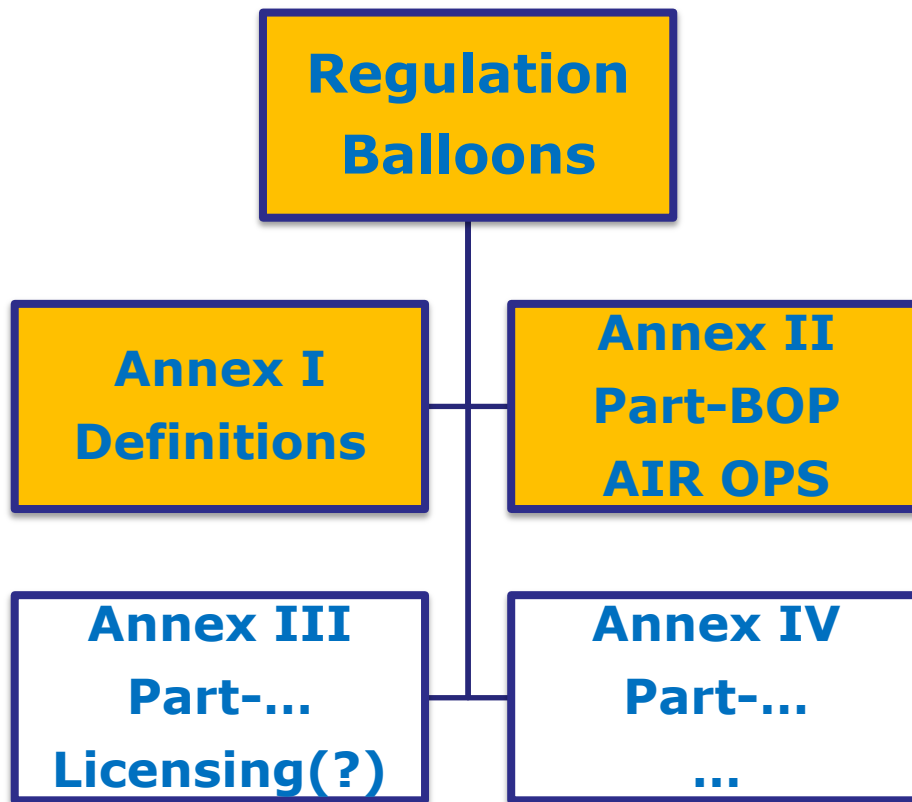


# Expert Group members

- **Member States/competent authorities**
  - Belgium
  - Czech Republic
  - France
  - Germany
  - Sweden
  - Turkey
  - United Kingdom
- **Manufacturer**
  - Balony Kubicek
- **Balloon association**
  - European Ballooning Federation (EBF)
- **EASA**



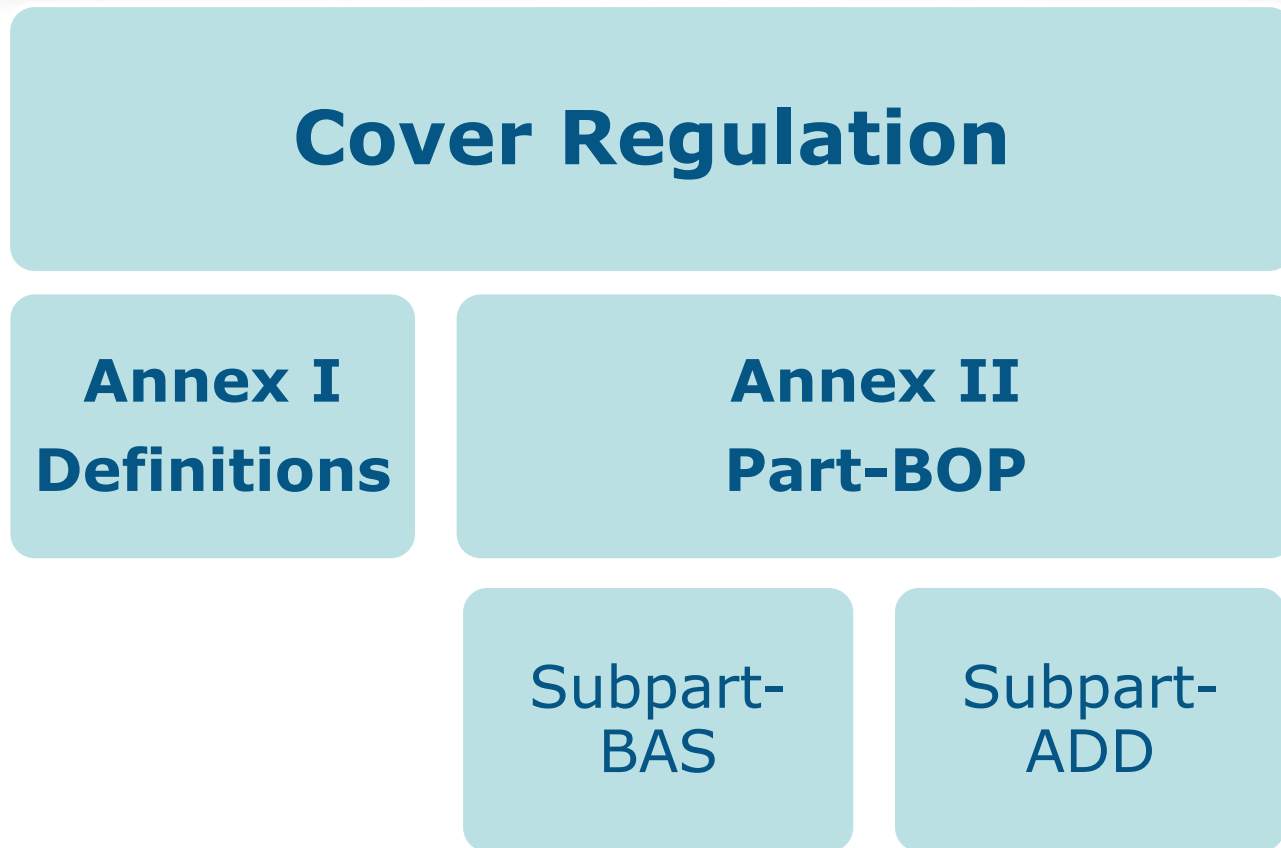
# Proposed new regulation for Balloons (1)



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
<b>BAS</b>  Basic operational requirements	1 – General requirements
	2 – Operating procedures
	3 – Performance and operating limitations
	4 – Instruments, data and equipment
<b>ADD</b>  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	<b>12</b>	14
Annex II, Subpart-ADD	<b>14</b>	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](mailto: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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European Aviation Safety Agency

# The End

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# Possible opt-out for balloons

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

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