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European Aviation Safety Agency

# Drug & Alcohol testing policy

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# Background

- Air OPS rules already require the operator to take all reasonable measures to ensure that no person enters or is in an aircraft when under the influence of alcohol or drugs to the extent that the safety of the aircraft or its occupants is likely to be endangered (CAT.GEN.MPA.170)
- Workshop in December 2015 showed wide stakeholder support for drug and alcohol testing in limited cases



# Objectives

- Testing in the following limited cases:
  - upon employment by the CAT operator
  - after a serious incident within the meaning of Regulation (EU) No 996/2010
  - after an accident
  - with due cause, e.g. following reasonable suspicion
  - as part of a follow-up following rehabilitation and return to work
  
- No prescribed testing method



# Regulatory Proposals (draft IRs)

## **New IR CAT.GEN.MPA.170**

The operator shall develop and implement a policy for flight and cabin crew, with related testing procedures, to avoid and prevent the misuse of psychoactive substances so that the safety of the aircraft or its occupants is not endangered

## **New IR CAT.GEN.MPA.170**

- objective
- transparent and
- non-discriminatory testing procedure



# Regulatory Proposals (draft AMC)

## **AMC basic principles**

- Testing in 5 limited cases
- Operator to inform competent licensing authority in case of confirmed positive test result

## **AMC objective, transparent & non-discriminatory testing**

- Who is testing
- How is flight crew tested:
  - Testing standard in line with national requirements & recognised quality standards
  - How to deal with confirmed positive tests
  - Cut-off criteria to be developed by the operator
  - Internal appeal process



# Regulatory Proposals (draft GM)

## **GM policy and procedures**

- ICAO Manual references included in GM
- Focus on training and education programme



# Key points

- Applicable to flight and cabin crew
- Widely accepted by stakeholders
- Detailed reference to ICAO Doc 9654
  - Manual on Prevention of Problematic Use of Substances in the Aviation Workplace'– 1995
- Operator to establish:
  - List of psychoactive substances
  - Cut-off-criteria
  - Sound confirmation method
  - Internal appeal process for the crew member



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**Thank you !**

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